

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018

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"This is the largest deal ever in the Permian Basin"

— Tim Leach, Concho's CEO



Tim Leach, president and CEO of Concho Resources, is seen here during the Buffalo Trail Council's Distinguished Citizen Dinner in 2014.

Concho agrees to buy RSP Permian for \$9.5 billion

By Mella McEwen
mcewen@mrt.com

Concho Resources and RSP Permian offered an extra-caffinated jolt Wednesday morning when the two companies announced Concho will acquire RSP in an \$8 billion all-stock transaction plus \$2.5 billion of RSP's net debt for a total of \$9.5 billion.

The deal was approved by the boards of both companies and now undergoes regulatory and shareholder approval and is expected to close in the third quarter. When completed, Concho shareholders will own 75 percent and RSP shareholders 25 percent.

"This is the largest deal ever in the Permian Basin," Tim Leach, Concho's chairman and chief executive officer told the Reporter-Telegram in a phone interview.

The announcement caught the attention of investment analysts. "Has the sleeping bear awoken?" said Grant Swartzwelder, founder and managing director of PetroGrowth Advisors, in an email to the Reporter-Telegram. "It's been quiet out there for a couple of years, and now this big transaction. There is definite speculation that this is the beginning of a significant consolidation wave. For it to really continue, I think the majors will have to play a role."

"The price of the acquisition requires a significant amount of drilling to justify the acquisition, and especially the acquisition of the price they are paying," Swartzwelder said. "I doubt there are enough large independents that have that capital and operational ability to ramp up as much as they need to do. The Chevroons and Exxons need to be the ultimate consolidation forces."

"I believe this combination will be beneficial to all of our shareholders," said Steve Gray, chief executive officer of RSP, on a conference call with investment analysts discussing the deal. "I see a compelling strategic fit between the two companies and this deal combines two teams of people

By the numbers

■ \$9.5 billion:
The total
cost of the
acquisition

■ 2.2 billion
barrels of oil
resource potential
will be added

■ \$60 million:
Expected annual
corporate savings

Please see RACE/2A

Please see CONCHO/2A

Concho deal could start 'arms race' in Permian, analyst says

By Alex Nussbaum
Bloomberg

Oil-industry watchers have been predicting a wave of buyouts among U.S. shale drillers for years. Has the starting gun finally fired?

Concho Resources' \$8 billion buyout of rival RSP Permian, announced Wednesday, is being hailed by analysts as a sign the era of consolidation is at hand for explorers buoyed by rising oil prices. At the least, it could pump up stock prices that have lagged crude's recovery over the last year, as investors doubted the staying power of the rally.

The deal also raises the question of which other companies may be ripe for the plucking in the fertile Permian shale play.

"The market will likely shift its attention as it always does immediately after an acquisition to who could be next," John Freeman of Raymond James said in a note.

According to recent analysts' reports, here are likely targets:

■ Centennial Resource Development, Energen, Jagged Peak Energy, Laredo Petroleum, Matador Resources and

Pioneer selling part of Eagle Ford acreage

By Rye Druzin
San Antonio Express-News

Irving-based Pioneer Natural Resources is selling part of its Eagle Ford Shale acreage for \$102 million.

Denver-based Sundance Energy Inc. will buy the 10,200 acres that are worth roughly \$10,000 an acre. The land is located in Atascosa, La Salle, Live Oak and McMullen counties in the western portion of Pioneer's Eagle Ford Shale holdings.

Total production from the land being sold by Pioneer is 1,100 barrels a day. Sundance Energy, which is a subsidiary of Australian-based Sundance Energy Australia Ltd., holds nearly 43,000 acres in the Eagle Ford Shale, according to its website.

The sale is part of Pioneer's plan to divest its Eagle Ford Shale holdings, which



A rig is drilling a well for Pioneer Natural Resources in the Eagle Ford Shale formation near Victoria.

is announced in February. The company will have 59,000 acres remaining in the Eagle Ford after the deal with Sundance closes.

Pioneer is a major operator in the Permian Basin in West Texas, where it holds a

785,000-acre position.

It's also working to sell its Basin Basin position in Colorado and its holdings in the Pecos Basin. Those holdings include

Please see PIONEER/2A

Iraq says OPEC to decide on cuts by the end of the year

By Sanaa Salahuddin
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The OPEC cartel and a group of allied oil-producing nations will decide by the end of this year whether to extend production cuts and by how long, Iraqi and OPEC officials said Wednesday.

In Dec. 2016, OPEC and non-OPEC members reached an agreement to cut production by 1.8 million barrels a day. Since then, the deal has been extended multiple times but is set to expire by the end of this year.

"By the end of this year we are going to assess the market and the results and accordingly we will decide whether to go

Please see OPEC/2A

TODAY IN MIDLAND

WORD OF THE DAY



ebullience

[ebul-lence]
noun
: the quality of lively or enthusiastic expression of thoughts or feelings
: exuberance



Midland Reporter-Telegram AT YOUR SERVICE

A Midland Newspaper
Published each morning by the
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland,
TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at
Midland, TX 79701. POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to the
Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E.
Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

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Things to do

Watercolor art classes by Sam Drescher, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. artscouncilmidland.org.

Meditation and Finding Balance by the Lifestyle Medicine Center, 6-7 p.m., Midland Memorial West Campus, 4214 Andrews Highway 35. Eventbrite.com. Limited space so online registration is required.

House of Friends benefiting Casa de Amigos, 6:30-9 p.m., Petroleum Club, 501 W. Wall St. casadeamigosmidland.org.

Pasta Night, 6 p.m., Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1000 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allman Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. 86. For more information call 682-6585.

Bingo Nights, 7 p.m., American Legion, 501 Veterans Airport Lane. 682-5511.

Adult Paint and Sip: "Stained Glass Cross," 7 p.m., Kidd's and Camen Parties, 3303 N. Midland Road. 335. kiddart.com.

Copacabana Art Gallery Fundraiser by Midland Young Life, 7:30 p.m., Midland Young Life Copacabana, 925 W. Wadley Ave. The event will help fund special needs students attending summer camp.

DJ Ryan, 9 p.m., Supernova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive.

Easter events

Photos with the Easter Bunny will be taken at Midland Park Mall through Saturday.

Easter Egg Eggstravaganza by the Midland Parks and Recreation Department, 6 p.m. today, Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 1415 E. Schaefer Drive. Egg hunts and activities for age groups: 3 and younger, 4-5, 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Free. midlandtexas.gov.

Easter Spring Fest, 4-8:30 p.m. Friday, Ashton Medical Lodge, 601 S. Loop 250 West. Easter egg hunt, hot dogs and cotton candy, face painting and balloon animals, and photos with the rabbit. 689-2100.

Easter Bash Car Event will include egg hunt, bicycle giveaway, car show and more, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at Best Park, 5200 W. Wall St. Hosted by Model Citizens of West Texas.

The eighth annual Community



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Trinity students hold a ceremonial check showing a donation to Breaking Bread Kitchen. The presentation was part of an event with Jenna Bush Hager.

Egg Hunt hosted by First Christian Church, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Hill Park, 1301 W. Calhoun Ave. The event will feature free hot dogs, cotton candy and more than 25,000 eggs to hunt for.

Meetings

Midland County Hospital District

11:45 a.m. Thursday

Administration boardroom

Today in history

Today is Thursday, March 29, the 89th day of 2018. There are 277 days left in the year.

Today's highlight: On March 29, 1943, World War II rationing of meat, fats and cheese began, leading consumers to store purchases of a week for meat, pork, lard and butter using a coupon system. (The Associated Press noted, "From the consumer viewpoint, the rationed costs of food will be the restaurant or other public eating place.")

On this date: In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted in New York of conspiracy to commit espionage for the Soviet Union. (They were executed in June 1953.)

In 1982, Jack Paar hosted NBC's "Tonight" show for the final time.

(Johnny Carson debated as host the following October.)

In 1971, a jury in Los Angeles recommended the death penalty for Charles Manson and three female followers for the 1969 Tate-La Bionca murders. (The sentences were later commuted.)

In 1973, the last United States combat troops left South Vietnam, ending America's direct military involvement in the Vietnam War.

In 1984, under cover of early morning darkness, the Baltimore Colts football team left its home city of three decades and moved to Indianapolis.

In 1982, Democratic presidential front-runner Bill Clinton acknowledged experimenting with marijuana

"a time or two" while attending Oxford University, adding, "I didn't inhale and I didn't try it again."

Today's birthdays: Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Earl Campbell is 63. Model Elle Macpherson is 55. Source: The Associated Press

Know a member of the military coming home?

Military families can call 352-0785 or email Vickie Gomez (vgoz@cablone.net) when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Airport so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 3-0-3

Pick 3 day: 6-8-2

Pick 3 evening: 4-7-9

Pick 3 night: 8-9-3

Daily 4 morning: 2-0-6-1

Daily 4 day: 5-5-4-9

Daily 4 evening: 7-9-3-2

Daily 4 night: 1-4-1-8

Cash Play: 6-10-12-31-37

Wish Chance: 1-2-6-7-11-14-

15-24-35-38

Lottery Times: 3-13-15-22-27-38

Powerball: 6-8-28-52-53 BB:

21 Power Play: 2

All or Nothing morning: 1-2-

4-7-9-11-12-13-14-16-17-22

All or Nothing day: 1-2-9-10-

11-12-16-18-20-22-23-24

All or Nothing evening: 1-2-3-

6-7-9-10-12-15-16-22

All or Nothing night: 4-10-11-

12-13-14-15-16-18-19-21-24

Weather

Wednesday's temperatures

High: 66

Low: 48

Normal high: 74

Normal low: 44

March 28's records

Record high: 92, set in 1963

Low: 19, set in 1931

Precipitation

Saturday: 0.02 in.

Sunday: 0.08 in.

Month total: 0.11 in.

Year total: 0.16 in.

Normal total (year to date): 1.81 in.

Winds

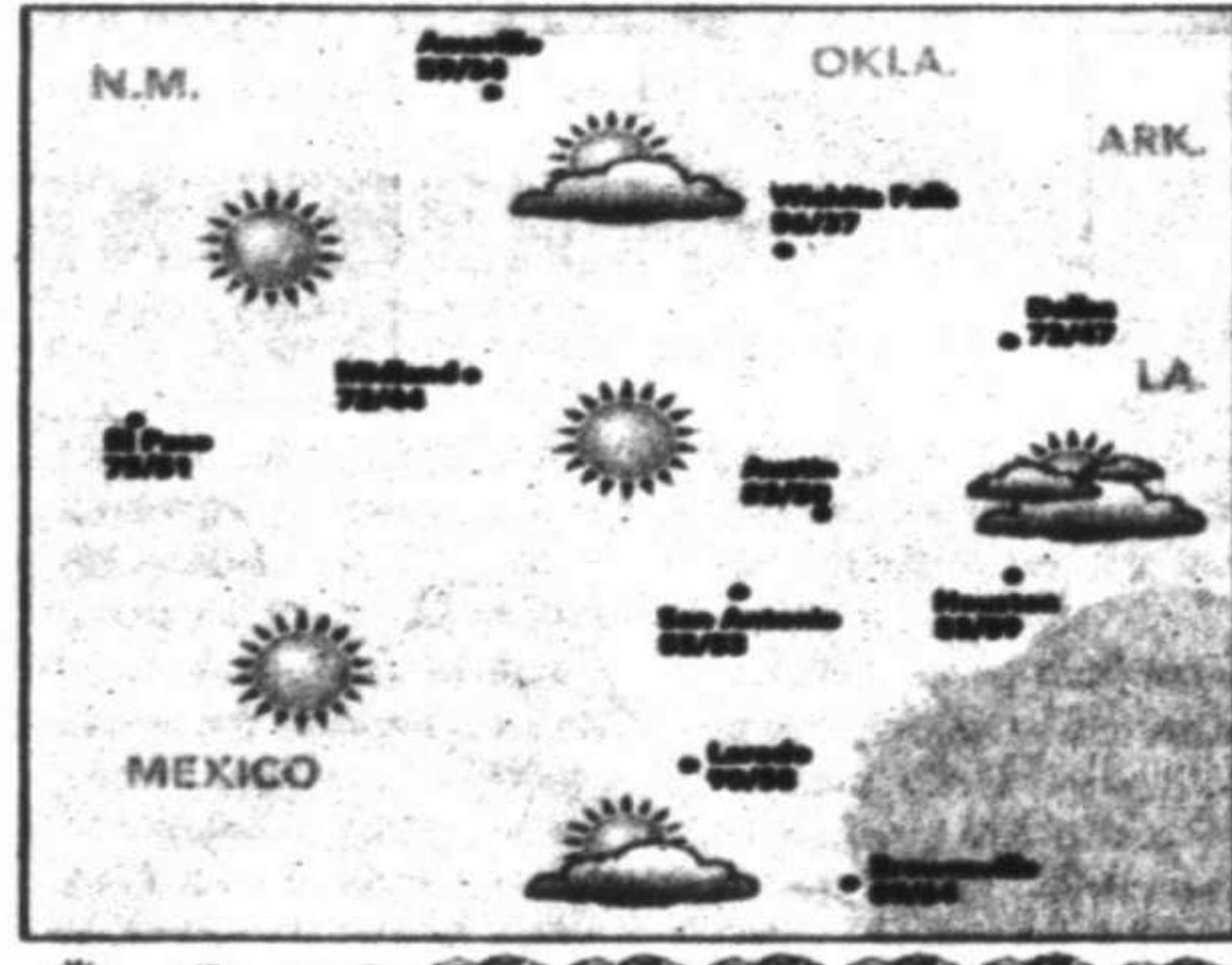
Wind speed: 21 mph

Gust speed: 25 mph

Today's forecast

High: 70

Forecast for Thursday, March 29, 2018



Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy Showers Tornadoes Rain Flurries Snow Ice

Low: 43

Conditions: Sunny today/

mostly clear tonight

Winds: Northwest 15-20

mph today/north 5-10 mph

tonight

Chance of rain: None

Sunrise: 7:41 a.m.

Sunset: 8:06 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

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

Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Aries and a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, March 29, 2018:

This year you must change positively and with determination to make the most of a sudden opportunity. Much goes on behind the scenes. Your instincts take you down an interesting path. You will differentiate your feelings from your fear. If you are single, you could meet someone who makes you smile from ear to ear. This person could move into your life after the summer. If you are married, you enter a rather intense period this fall, when you love being together. A mutual warmth draws you and your spouse closer together. VIRGO understands you well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★☆☆ You focus intensely on getting the job done. Your dedication and serious attitude make you a star in the work arena. You could be confused about a situation that surrounds a co-worker or your role in that matter. Tonight: Do not fight an adjustment that could affect your plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★☆☆ You have news that could have you taking another

look at a situation happening around you. Someone from a distance could be involved. Why you think you are upset might have nothing to do with why you actually are upset. Tonight: Change gears, and let the fun begin.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★☆☆ If you can, stay close to home. There might be an issue that tests its ugly head and demands your attention. A partner seems to be unwilling to deal with the matter at hand. You might have to handle the situation by yourself. Tonight: Listen to an older person who gives you advice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★☆☆ You will want to step back before making any calls. Follow your sixth sense when it comes to the timing of discussions. You could find that you are not speaking the same language as a partner or loved one. Review your thinking about this person. Tonight: In the meantime,

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★☆☆ You could be busy handling a financial matter. You keep hitting an obstacle as you try to move on an issue that affects your daily life. Your frustration could build and build. Imagine what it would take to get your points across. Give that idea a shot. Tonight: Balance your checkbook.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★☆☆ You are on top of your game, but a loved one

could be hindering your progress. Any attempt to move this person will need to be done with hard, concrete facts. A loved one whom you have put on a pedestal appears once more. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★☆☆ Your playful mood delights many people, except for a key individual in your personal life. This person has been cold, withdrawn and overly serious as of late. You might not be able to get the approval you want from him or her. Avoid a power play at all cost! Tonight: Stay sane.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★☆☆ You feel more upbeat than you have in many years. However, trying to communicate those feelings might be difficult. Be more aware of what others want, and try to address their needs more completely. Do that, and you'll sail to success. Tonight: Have some fun with your friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★☆☆ Your finances could play a significant role in your decision-making process. You might be eyeing a purchase for your home. Be as direct as possible when getting quotes and estimates. This expenditure could considerably increase your investment. Tonight: Out on the town.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★☆☆ If you pull back and see the big picture, you might make a decision. Sometimes you are too focused on your goals and not as grounded in reality as you should be. Don't let yourself obsess over a desire that might not ever materialize. Tonight: In the swing of things.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★☆☆ A low-level depression might be stopping you from putting your best foot forward. If you never make the effort, you

won't know what could have been possible. Our on-one relating is highlighted. Coming to an understanding about money will be critical. Tonight: Out late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★☆☆ You feel down to a situation that you would like to know more about. You might want to back out of plans, especially if they revolve around a very controlling individual. You could be sorry that you have ignored a key person in your life. Tonight: Do not have any regrets.

BORN TODAY Actor Scott Wilson (1942), actress Lucy Lawrence (1906), actor Brandon Green (1955)

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Bond set for MHS student who allegedly brought gun to campus

From staff reports

Bond has been set for a Midland High student who was arrested Tuesday for allegedly bringing a loaded gun to campus.

Bryce Alexander Sanchez, 17, was being held Wednesday on a \$10,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of placing weapons prohibited.

A third-degree felony charge of exhibit firearm campus, school was dismissed.

Midland ISD police were dispatched Tuesday at about noon in reference to a report of threats made, according to his arrest affidavit.

A few students at MHS got into a verbal altercation, and one allegedly made the comment that he was leaving campus to get a gun, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

The student — Sanchez — did leave campus, and students notified campus administration about the

altercation and his remarks, according to the article.

Sanchez allegedly made threats of "popping someone and putting them in the hospital," according to the affidavit.

MISD police searched Sanchez and his backpack, and in the backpack the officer found a black Sig Sauer P220 inside green a Crown Royal bag, according to the affidavit.

The gun had a loaded magazine with six rounds, and the chamber was empty, according to the affidavit.

The campus was not placed under lockdown because of the timeliness of securing the student, according to school officials.

This is at least the third incident involving a gun and a Midland ISD student this

calendar year, according to previous Reporter-Telegram articles.

On Feb. 22, LHS administration received a Crime Stoppers tip that a student had a weapon on campus. A campus police officer found a weapon in the student's pocket, according to an MISD report. The student was arrested and was charged with "places weapon prohibited" and "possession of a stolen firearm." MISD officials said there was no evidence supporting a threat or intent to harm.

A week before, a 17-year-old Midland High student was arrested after allegedly having a firearm on school grounds. The student told officers "he had (a gun) but gave it to another person," according to the arrest affidavit.

If convicted of the third-degree felony charges, Sanchez could face up to 10 years imprisonment.



Sanchez



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

The Rev. Jon Stacey, and his therapy dog Hollis, read the Bible on Jan. 10, 2013 outside Planned Parenthood as they and others protest outside.

Planned Parenthood receives \$9 million gift to open new clinics in West Texas

By Sabriya Rice
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — An unnamed Texas donor has promised \$9 million to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas to help construct two new health centers in West Texas within the next year, the nonprofit confirmed this week. The group has not said whether the new clinics would be abortion providers.

Planned Parenthood has had no clinics to offer abortion or other services in the region since 2013, shortly after Texas passed a law placing tough restrictions on groups that perform abortions.

The laws were eventually struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court. But advocates say the damage had already been done as many clinics did not reopen.

The group, which provides health services such as preventive care, contraception, sexually transmitted disease testing and abortions, has faced an uphill battle over the past few years.

It was forced out of Texas' Women's Health Program in 2011, which left \$30 million in federal Medicaid dollars on the table. The state became "ground zero" in a national debate over whether public money

should go to abortion providers.

There are currently 35 Planned Parenthood health centers in the state, of which six offer abortions. The majority of its locations are clustered around major metro areas, including Dallas-Fort Worth, San Antonio and Austin.

Two previous centers in West Texas — in San Angelo and in Midland — closed in 2013.

The CEO of the Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, Ken Lambrecht, announced the donation from a longtime supporter and plans for the new West Texas centers during a recent luncheon in Dallas for which the keynote speaker was Cynthia Nixon, an award-winning "Sex and the City" star now running for New York governor. That event, to benefit the Dallas chapter, raised \$1.15 million.

However, the organization is in the early phase of a broader campaign to raise funds for construction of new facilities and the continued updating of existing ones.

Besides the \$9 million dollar gift, a separate donor has committed \$800,000. The construction timeline and specific locations of the two centers have not been determined.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Odessa man dies in 1-vehicle wreck

A 34-year-old Odessa man died Monday night in a one-vehicle wreck on Loop 250, according to a press release from the Texas Department of Public Safety. Habbom G. Tekle was driving a Freightliner truck tractor towing a tanker-trailer south on the loop less than a mile south of Midland.

He was approaching a curve at an unsafe speed for the curve and grade, lost control and rolled, according to the release that was received on Wednesday.

Tekle died at the scene of the wreck that occurred about 11 p.m. Monday. It is not known if he was wearing a seat belt.

Tekle is the fifth person to die on roads in Midland County this year and the third this month, according to Reporter-Telegram

records. In the most recent fatality, a 31-year-old man died March 20 in a two-vehicle wreck in the 2500 block of the West Interstate 20 north service road, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

Fundraiser puts focus on special-needs students

A fundraiser for the benefit of Young Life Capernaum is planned for 7:30 p.m. today at the Johnny Warren Young Life Building, 925 W. Wadley Ave. Capernaum Art Gallery Fundraiser will feature a silent auction of more than 30 pieces of original art by special-needs students at Lee High, Midland High and Bynum School. The student artists will be at the event.

There also will be a live auction of student artwork and opportunities to pur-

chase gifts of plane tickets, bus seats and backpacks for the students' summer camping trips.

Capernaum is a ministry of Young Life Midland that focuses on outreach and opportunities for adolescents with physical and mental disabilities.

For more information, call Grace Mason, Capernaum director, at (806) 367-1091 or email ylmidland41@gmail.com.

Applications being accepted for Houston

Houston College Prep is accepting applications through April 6. Two meetings about the new school are planned for next week.

The sessions are 6-7 p.m. Tuesday and 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the school, 2000 W. Louisiana Ave.

To apply, visit www.midlandhst.net/samhouston application.

Texas agency overrides judge due to outdated alcohol rules

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The agency regulating Texas' alcohol industry reversed a judge's advisory decision that it said could have shuttered most of the state's booze business.

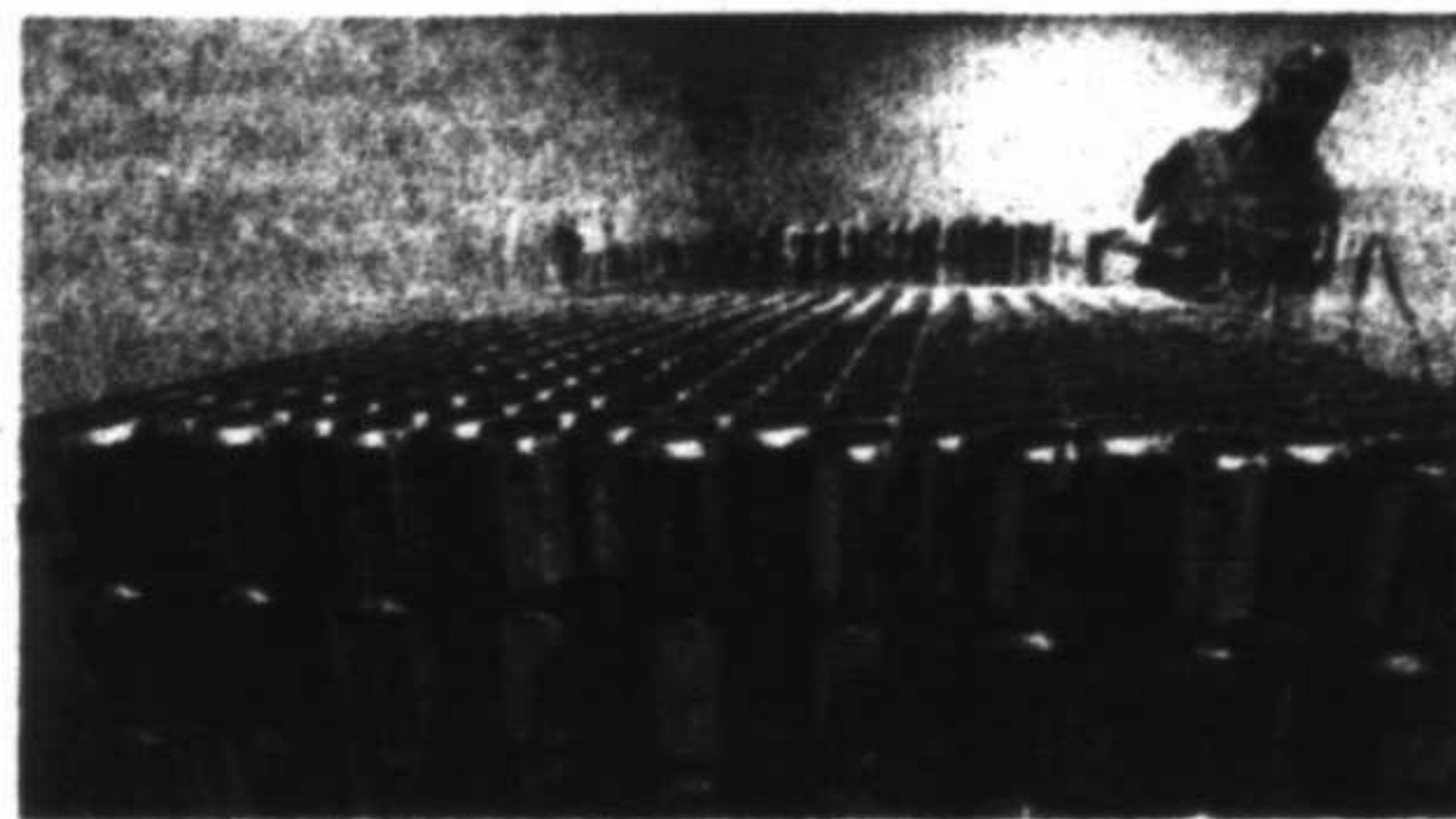
The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission cast aside the ruling this month, saying lawmakers didn't intend large-scale disruption of the industry, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Administrative Law Judge Robert Jones Jr. issued the legal opinion last fall while acknowledging the decision could shut down the state's alcoholic beverage industry. But he said the opinion follows Texas law, which hasn't been updated since the end of the Prohibition era.

The ruling would have meant that companies like Anheuser-Busch and Molson Coors Brewing couldn't legally operate in the state. It's the latest indication of Texas' outdated alcoholic beverage rules.

Texas has what the law calls three-tier regulation, which requires companies that make, distribute or retail alcohol to remain independent from each other. An individual with an interest in one tier can't also hold interest in another, according to state law.

The current dispute began six years ago when Molson Coors, a \$48 billion supply chain business based in Tampa, applied for a license to distribute alcohol. At the time, another large distributor, California-based Constellation, applied for a license renewal.



J. Pablo Schneider/Houston Chronicle

Bennett Goodman prepares cans for filling at the new Karbach Brewing Co. on Feb. 14, 2012 in Houston.

The state's alcoholic beverage commission approved Constellation's application but rejected Molson Coors' application. The reasoning was that Nebraska billionaire Warren Buffett's company, Berkshire Hathaway, owned Molson Coors as well as a 2 percent interest in Weizen, a retailer that sells alcohol in Texas.

Berkshire's stakes in both companies appeared to violate the cross-tier rules.

Mc Lane then pushed back against Constellation's application, noting that the publicly traded company was owned by large investors who had stakes in companies with permits to sell or manufacture alcohol in Texas, including Constellation's, Bud, Beck and Beyond, and Molson Coors Brewing Co.

The issue shows how drawing boundaries has become increasingly difficult as corporate structures grow more sophisticated.

The judge's advisory decision would have resulted in "no legal alcoholic beverage industry in Texas," said Matthew Chaplin, the

commission's deputy executive director.

The commission said it would allow hands-off ownership of different-tier companies by institutional investors, including mutual funds, in the future.

LUBBOCK School booster club to raffle semi-automatic weapons

A Lubbock high school booster club plans a fund-raising raffle that will include as prizes two semi-automatic weapons similar to one used in a recent school shooting.

Kevin Woolf is president of the booster club for the Cooper High School band in Lubbock. He told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal that the AR-15-style weapons are among five firearms available as part of the "sportsman's raffle."

He says previous raffles involving firearms have proved popular and that if other items would guarantee sales benefiting the band, the club would consider raffling those.

Woolf says the club isn't affiliated with the school and raffle winners undergo background checks.

The suspect in the February deadly shooting at a Parkland, Florida, high school was armed with an AR-15-style rifle.

HOUSTON 60 years in prison for man trying to sell 4-year-old for sex

A Wisconsin man has been sentenced to 60 years in a Texas state prison for trying to sell his 4-year-old daughter for sex.

A statement from the

Harris County District Attorney's Office says 30-year-old Andrew Turley was convicted Friday of trafficking of a child and compelling prostitution of a minor. The statement says Turley advertised on Craigslist in 2015 and exchanged emails with undercover Houston police officers offering a girl "younger than 10" whom he would drug before the encounter.

Turley told an undercover officer he would be charged \$1,000 for two hours with his daughter. When the cash was delivered and Turley led the officer to a bedroom where his daughter was lying drugged, he was arrested.

Turley won't be eligible for parole for 45 years.

SAN ANTONIO Man arrested in shooting death of teenage son

Police in San Antonio have arrested a 44-year-old man two weeks after authorities say he fired several shots from inside his home, striking and killing his teenage son.

Andres Delgado III was arrested Tuesday on a charge of second-degree manslaughter. He was being held without bond Wednesday. Online court records did not indicate whether he has an attorney.

Police responded to Delgado's home March 14 on several reports of shots being fired from inside.

Authorities said at the

time that 14-year-old Andres Delgado IV was shot in the torso while in bed. He later died at a hospital.

Police found shell casings in every room of the house. Police Chief William McManus said at the time that it wasn't clear "what was going through the father's head."

FORT WORTH Texas judge revokes bond for mother of 'altruista' teen

A Texas judge has revoked bond for the 50-year-old mother of a teenager who used an "altruista" defense regarding a fatal drunken-driving wreck.

Tonya Couch was booked into the Tarrant County jail Wednesday. Court documents show that she failed a urine test required as a condition of her bond but don't specify the substance the urinalysis revealed.

State District Judge Wayne Salvant had warned Couch last June to "use common sense" pending her trial on hindering apprehension of a felon and money laundering charges. She was charged after she and son, Ethan, fled to Mexico in 2015.

Ethan Couch is to be released Monday after spending two years in jail on a probation violation. A psychologist at trial blamed "altruism" or acting irresponsibly due to wealth for his actions in a 2013 North Texas wreck that killed four.

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Trump says Second Amendment won't be repealed

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump tweeted Wednesday that the Second Amendment "WILL NEVER BE REPEALED" and called on voters to elect more Republicans in this fall's congressional elections because the GOP "must ALWAYS hold the Supreme Court."

Trump's statements came a day after retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens wrote in an essay in The New York Times that repealing the

amendment would make it easier for Congress to enact gun control legislation.

Last month's shootings that killed 17 people at a high school in Parkland, Florida, have galvanized young people, liberals and Democrats for a renewed push to curb firearms. That has included demonstrations that have drawn hundreds of thousands of marchers in cities across the country.

"THE SECOND AMENDMENT WILL NEVER BE REPEALED!" Trump tweeted early Wednesday. "As much as Democrats would like to see

this happen, and despite the words yesterday of former Supreme Court Justice Stevens, NO WAY. We need more Republicans in 2018 and must ALWAYS hold the Supreme Court!"

As with many issues, Trump's stated position on guns has been inconsistent. In a televised meeting after the Parkland massacre with shooting survivors, lawmakers and others, he suggested letting authorities confiscate guns from people considered dangerous even without court permission and expanding required background checks to also cover

private gun sales. He's since abandoned those views.

There is no current, major push to repeal the Second Amendment. Any effort to do so would be unlikely to succeed in today's divisive political climate. Under the most common way to amend the Constitution, the House and Senate would both need to approve the proposal by two-thirds majorities. It would then need to be ratified by three-fourths of the states.

Political parties do not

technically "hold" the Supreme Court like they control Congress.

Justices are nominated by presidents and must be confirmed by the Senate. It is true justices often reflect the political views of presidents who select them, but that is not always the case.

Of the current nine justices, the four considered to comprise the court's conservative wing were appointed by GOP presidents and the four more liberal judges were selected by

Democratic presidents. The ninth, often considered the crucial swing vote, is Anthony Kennedy, who was nominated by Republican President Ronald Reagan.

Trump would have an easier time filling the next Supreme Court vacancy if Republicans can expand their current 51-49 Senate majority in November's elections.

The Supreme Court ruled in 2008 that the Second Amendment lets people own guns for self-defense.

AP FACT CHECK: Trump wrongly claims GOP can hold top court

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is urging voters to back Republicans in the mid-term elections, saying the party "must ALWAYS hold the Supreme Court." But the Supreme Court, while shaped by political changes, is the unelected branch of government that can't be held by any party.

Trump was responding Wednesday to an op-ed column in The New York Times written by retired Justice John Paul Stevens, who called for the repeal of the Second Amendment to allow for gun control legislation.

A look at Trump's tweet and its accuracy:

TRUMP: "THE SECOND AMENDMENT WILL NEVER BE REPEALED!" As much as Democrats would like to see this happen, and despite the words yesterday of former Supreme Court Justice Stevens, NO WAY. We need more Republicans in 2018 and must ALWAYS hold the Supreme Court!"

THE FACTS: Gun rights activists have seized on the column by Stevens, who was a registered Republican but a member of the court's liberal wing, as proof that Democrats are trying to undermine the Second Amendment guaranteeing the right to bear arms. Democratic leaders haven't called for repealing the amendment, which they say does not preclude reasonable gun control measures.

And unlike the elected branches of government, no party holds the Supreme Court. Presidents nominate justices, who must be confirmed by the Senate.

Until recently, party label and ideology did not always go hand in hand. Chief Justice Earl Warren was the bane of conservatives in the 1950s and 60s, but he was



AP file photo

Retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens April 30, 2014, on the ever-increasing amount of money spent on elections as he appears before the Senate Rules Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington. Stevens is calling for the repeal of the Second Amendment to allow for significant gun control legislation. The 97-year-old Stevens says in an essay on The New York Times website, that repeal would weaken the National Rifle Association's ability to "block constructive gun control legislation."

appointed by Republican President Dwight Eisenhower. Justice Byron White, appointed by Democratic President John F. Kennedy, was one of two dissenting votes against a woman's right to abortion in the landmark Roe v. Wade case. Stevens and David Souter, two of the dissenters in the court's 2008 decision in favor of gun rights, also were Republican appointees.

But Trump is right that Republican-nominated justices have formed a majority of the Supreme Court for nearly 50 years and, since Stevens' retirement in 2010, ideology and party have aligned. The five more conservative justices were appointed by Republicans, while the four more liberal justices were Democratic nominees.

That's why the stakes were so high after conservative Justice Antonin Scalia died in 2016. If President Barack Obama's nominee, Merrick Garland, had been confirmed, it would have flipped the ideological and partisan majority of the court.

Republican senators kept the seat open and, when Trump unexpectedly won election in 2016, were

delighted to confirm Trump's nominee, Neil Gorsuch, over Democratic objections. Trump has pointed to his nomination of Gorsuch and other federal judges as among his biggest accomplishments.

Republicans would have the opportunity to cement control of the court if Justice Anthony Kennedy — the most moderate of the conservatives — or one of the older more liberal justices, Stephen Breyer or Ruth Bader Ginsburg, were to retire with Trump in office and Republicans in control of the Senate.

Recently changed Senate rules make it relatively easy for the president to get his pick confirmed since Trump's fellow Republicans control the Senate and Democrats have little ability to delay a nomination.

The worry for Trump is that Republicans have the barest Senate majority and could lose control of the chamber in the November elections. Trump nominees would find it considerably more difficult to be confirmed in a Senate run by Democrats still seething over the Republican refusal to consider Obama's Garland nomination.

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Good Friday Liturgy at 7:00 pm
Liturgy of the Word
Veneration of the Cross
Holy Communion

HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday, March 31
Easter Vigil at 8:30 pm
First Mass of the Resurrection

EASTER SUNDAY

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Thursday, March 29, 2018 | Page 6A

Omnibus spending bill is no betrayal of Trump

■ It's interesting when people who insist that the president is the greatest negotiator in history also insist that he got rolled

President Trump signed the \$1.3 trillion omnibus spending deal on Friday, averting another government shutdown. Written largely in secret and passed without any time to read its 2,232 pages, the bill violated pretty much everything the GOP had promised about reforming the process of legislating.

But the sausage was even uglier than the sausage-making. For conservatives, with the exception of a large increase in defense spending, the bill is a hot mess. It raises discretionary spending 13 percent, advances almost no GOP domestic priorities while fulfilling many Democratic ones. There's a pittance for border security and some new fencing, but nothing for the president's coveted "big, beautiful wall."

It was reportedly this fact that prompted Trump to tweet a veto threat on Friday morning, sending White House and Hill staffers scrambling.

Then, in a shambling press conference cum signing ceremony later that day, he grudgingly said he'd sign what he called "crazy" legislation. But, he added, he would "never" sign another bill like this again. The key message of the day: It's not

JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Service



my fault!

So whose fault was it? Those backstabbing blackguards of the Beltway.

"Total betrayal by the Senate and House leadership," said Fox News host Jeanine Pirro, one of Trump's most reliable unofficial spokeswomen. "The president and the people who voted for him have been betrayed by Speaker Paul Ryan and Leader Mitch McConnell. And the people in Kentucky and Wisconsin need to make sure that these guys are defeated in the next election so this president can carry on the agenda that we elected him to do."

Pirro went on: "Folks, I want to be real clear. This is not on Donald Trump. This is on the leadership of the Republican Party, the very people this president should be able to count on. In truth, the president is surrounded by inept, incompetent warriors. And this bill is a reflection of just that..."

It's interesting when people who insist that Trump is the greatest negotiator in

history and the most farsighted three-dimensional chess player since Commander Spock also insist that he got rolled.

But that is the new party line, apparently, and it must be told. "The president was really sold a bill of goods here," Trump confidante Chris Ruddy told the Washington Post.

There's just one problem: It's a lie. Or, to be more charitable, it's untrue, even if those saying it believe it (in some cases, no doubt, because that's what Trump tells them).

A source who was involved in drafting the bill tells me that the White House was in the loop on the negotiations. Trump's legislative affairs director, Marc Short, signed off on the deal — and seemed to be as surprised as anyone by the veto threat. The president was briefed on the major pieces all along. And let's not forget: Trump agreed to, lobbied for and signed into law the budget framework for the legislation in February.

Why the lie? Undoubtedly for some people, it's too hard to process the idea that the president deserves blame or is out of his depth. Many of the same people decrying all the wasteful spending in the bill haven't noted that Trump's stated reason for threatening a veto was that it didn't spend more on a wall or include a fix for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

But cognitive dissonance is only part of the story. This stabbed-in-the-back narrative — Dolchostoss in German — is not merely a cynical excuse for letting Trump off the hook. It also lays essential groundwork for Trump to escape blame if the GOP loses the House in the 2018 midterms.

It's worth recalling the political climate the week before the omnibus was released. Democratic Rep. Conor Lamb had just won a special election deep in Pennsylvania's Trump country, and the air was thick with predictions that the GOP would get crushed in November. Despite a booming economy, anti-Trump sentiment was fueling a Democratic wave.

The Dolchostoss myth solves that problem. Amy Kremer, co-founder of the super PAC Women Vote Trump, and countless others have insisted that betrayal — not Trump — is why the GOP will lose in November. "Democrats just won November #midterms," Kremer tweeted when the bill was passed. "No point in wasting my time between now and then."

Conservative discontent over the omnibus spending bill will surely make things harder for the GOP, and for the president. But the most important priority has been saved: the ability to say Trump is not to blame.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

OUR VIEW

Commissioners, fire marshal make right choice on burn ban

Sometimes it appears that God has a sense of humor. On the same day that the Commissioners' Court signed off on a burn ban for Midland County, the skies opened up and more rain fell at Midland International than had fallen in months.

We hope our readers give thanks for the rain, say a prayer for more and then realize what the commissioners did Tuesday at their special meeting was every bit as valuable today as it was two days earlier.

For the record, the National Weather Service reported 0.1 of an inch of rain late Tuesday and Wednesday morning. And while that total more than doubles the previous total of the year, it is hardly enough to eliminate the need for a burn ban. The court was right to make Midland County the 94th county in the state — according to the Texas A&M Forest Service — to prohibit or restrict outdoor burning for public safety.

The court and Emergency Management Coordinator/Fire Marshal Dale Little know the situation is greater than what relief an evening shower can provide. Earlier this week, the Keotch-Byrum Drought Index in Midland County was between 400 and 600. The index, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service, is used to determine forest fire potential. Its measurements go from zero to 800.

A score of 400 to 600 indicates that "lower litter and duff layers contribute to fire intensity and will burn actively," according to the drought index. "Wildfire intensity begins to increase significantly. Larger fuels could burn or smolder for several days. This is often seen in late summer and early fall."

A measurement of 400 to 600 also means it would take 4 to 6 inches of precipitation to fully saturate the soil, so yes, we are a long way from being out of danger. The earth below our feet is parched, and wildfires will be a threat for the entire 45 days that the burn ban is in effect unless God blesses the county with more rain.

The following is a reminder to readers. The burn order, according to the county, does not prohibit outdoor cooking in approved containers or outdoor burning related to public health and safety, including:

- firefighter training;
- public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations;
- planting for harvesting of agricultural crops; and
- burns that are conducted by a certified prescribed burn manager.

The order is effective beginning Sunday and will continue through May 15. A violation of this order is a class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500, according to the county.

The National Weather Service on Wednesday showed the next chance of rain could come on Sunday and Monday as there is a slight chance of precipitation both days.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

A Tribune newspaper

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Trade war with China is suicidal

■ Remember this: Tariffs are really taxes on the citizenry

Getting in a trade war with China or anyone else is economically suicidal, a way to disrupt everything and anything, and here is hope that what we are really seeing is the art of the deal. What you do is make egregious demands and then back down as the other side sees the hurt of obstinance and the benefit of concessions.

Maybe that's what the Trump administration is really up to in its talk about \$60 billion worth of tariffs on China, and there are signs of such a thing. China, in addition to saying it will fight back mightily, is also mumbling it will sit down and talk. Our treasury secretary has said talk sounds good to him, and although there has been no follow-up, the United States has already told the European Union and most other allies to relax, that the tension and steel tariffs will not apply to them.

The thing is that nervousness about China still reigns supreme, and maybe it should, considering that the famous Trump book, "The Art of the Deal," was co-authored (actually written) by someone who thinks Trump is a klutz of a bargainer. His name is Tony Schwartz, he once spent lots of time with Trump working on this book, and familiarity bred contempt.

Trump has been worried to death about our trade deficit, the amount of money we spend for imports compared to the lesser amount of money we get for exports. The concept is meaningless. Nothing would be traded if it were not for mutual advantage. For every dollar we spend, we get something in return, an asset, something useful, maybe something essential in making products here.

It is true that some specific industries have been hurt by globalization, but the main cause of fewer jobs for the unskilled is technology and too little training. Globalization is an overall benefit, although the Chinese are cheats. They have broken lots of rules by way of their own tariffs and subsidies. They have also stolen a lot of our intellectual property. We should sit down to straighten things out, but the way to do it is for the United States and a whole big bunch of the rest of the world to

confront China as a body.

Our allies in Asia and Europe seem to be willing, and China will be a whole lot more impressed by this gang than by facing one nation that accounts for a fraction of 1 percent of its GDP.

To see what a trade war could do, consider the example of farmers. China imports lots of food for its 1.4 billion people and our farmers say thank you very much for not letting our plows rust. Any number of other businesses could face going out of business if things really got going, and remember this: Tariffs are really taxes on the citizenry. Less competition means not just fewer jobs but higher prices. Purchasing power is what's important for consumers, and prices are as much a factor in purchasing power as wages.

Interestingly, Trump is getting more support from Democrats on his trade stance than Republicans, many of whom are furious. For instance, Elizabeth Warren, a Democratic senator from Massachusetts and someone who thinks enterprise should not be all that free, says look, let's not be afraid of tariffs. One reason Republicans could not get the two-thirds vote necessary to override a Trump veto of a congressional bill thwarting his ambitions is that too many Democrats would refuse to go along.

The good news is that the new director of the National Economic Council is Larry Kudlow, a conscientious, highly able economist who is not just another person who agrees with Trump on everything. He disagrees on this issue and communicates tactfully. Maybe, by employing some version of the other of the art of the deal, he can change Trump's mind.

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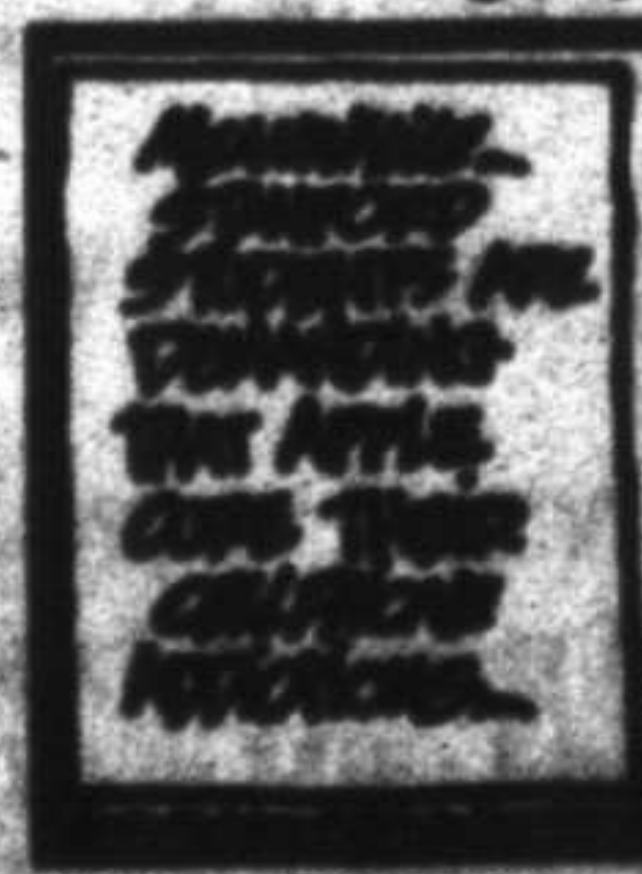
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This image released by CBS News shows Stormy Daniels, left, during an interview with Anderson Cooper that aired Sunday on "60 Minutes."

Stormy Daniels seeking Trump's answers under oath

By Catherine Lucey
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Cranking up pressure on the president, porn actress Stormy Daniels wants Donald Trump to answer her attorney's questions under oath about a pre-election payment aimed at keeping her quiet about their alleged tryst.

If she's successful, it would be the first deposition since Bill Clinton in 1998 had to answer questions about his conduct with women.

Daniels' attorney, Michael Avenatti, is seeking sworn testimony from Trump and his personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, about a \$130,000 payment made to Daniels days before the 2016 presidential election as part of a nondisclosure agreement she is seeking to invalidate. Avenatti filed the motion in U.S. District Court in California on Wednesday.

Trump has kept a low profile all week, as has first lady Melania Trump, who is spending the week in Florida. White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump had denied the allegations and directed further questions to outside counsel. Cohen's attorney, David Schwartz, told CBS that the filing was a "reckless use of the legal system."

Despite the pushback, the persistent focus on Daniels is a troubling distraction for a White House already struggling with an exodus of top staffers, a floundering agenda and the looming threat from the Russia investigation.

Avenatti is just one on a growing list of lawyers looking to question Trump. Attorneys for a former "Accession" contestant have said they want to depose the president as part of a defamation suit. And the president's legal team continues to negotiate with special counsel Robert Mueller over the scope and terms of an interview with the president.

A hard-charging attorney maintaining a near-constant presence on television news, Avenatti wants to question Trump and Cohen for "no more than two hours." In the filing, he says the depositions are needed to establish if Trump knew about the payment, which Avenatti refers to as a "hush agreement," and if the future president consented to it.

"We're looking for sworn answers from the president and Mr. Cohen about what they know, when they knew it and what they did about it," Avenatti told The Associated Press.

While he noted that "in every case you always have to be open to settlement," Avenatti said that "at this point we don't see how this case would possibly be settled."

A former businessman, Trump is no stranger to high-stakes litigation, citing for depositions in contract and defamation lawsuits over the years. Those interviews show his deep experience in giving statements to lawyers, but also reveal a witness who could be volatile, belligerent, and, at times, combative.

Georgetown University law professor Michael L. Susskind said a deposition presented risks because it is the way to get the president

in a vulnerable position. "And President Trump is a particularly vulnerable president," Mezey said.

Daniels, whose legal name is Stephanie Clifford, detailed her alleged 2006 tryst with Trump in a widely watched interview with CBS' "60 Minutes" broadcast Sunday. She said she'd had sex with him once, shortly after Melania Trump gave birth to the president's youngest son.

Daniels also said that a man approached her in a Las Vegas parking lot in 2011 when she was with her infant daughter, and threatened her with physical harm if she went public with her story.

The interview prompted a flurry of new legal action, with a lawyer for Cohen demanding that Daniels publicly apologize to his client for suggesting Cohen was involved in her intimidation. Daniels responded by filing a revised federal lawsuit accusing Cohen of defamation.

Cohen has said he paid the \$130,000 out of his own pocket and that neither the Trump Organization nor the Trump campaign was part of the transaction. Avenatti has argued that the "hush agreement" Daniels signed in October 2016 is invalid because it was not signed by Trump.

A hearing before Judge S. James Otero in the federal court's Central District in Los Angeles is set for April 30.

The motion notes that Clinton was deposed while in office in 1998 during Paula Jones' sexual harassment suit. That came after the Supreme Court ruled that a sitting president was not immune from civil litigation on something that happened before taking office and was unrelated to the office.

In that deposition, Clinton sat at an oval conference table at a law firm and answered questions for six hours on Jones and other women her attorneys hoped would prove a pattern of sexual misconduct.

Jones' case was dismissed by a judge, then appealed. The appeal was still pending when Clinton agreed to pay \$250,000 to Jones to settle the case. He did not admit wrongdoing. Later in 1998, Clinton also gave grand jury testimony about his relationship with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Clinton was impeached by the House later that year. One of the approved charges alleged that he committed perjury before the grand jury when asked about Lewinsky. He was acquitted in the impeachment proceedings.

Daniels is not the only woman accusing Trump. Former Playboy model Karen McDougal said in a recent CNN interview she had an affair with Trump that began at a bachelor party at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2005. McDougal said she ended the relationship in 2007 out of guilt concerning Mrs. Trump.

McDougal has filed suit in Los Angeles seeking to invalidate a confidentiality agreement with American Media Inc., the company that owns the conservative tabloid National Enquirer. It paid her \$150,000 during the 2016 presidential election and did not publish a story on her relationship with Trump.

Facebook revamps privacy tools as tighter EU rules draw near

By Barbara Ortutay
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook is giving its privacy tools a makeover as it reels from criticisms over its data practices and faces tighter European regulations in the coming months.

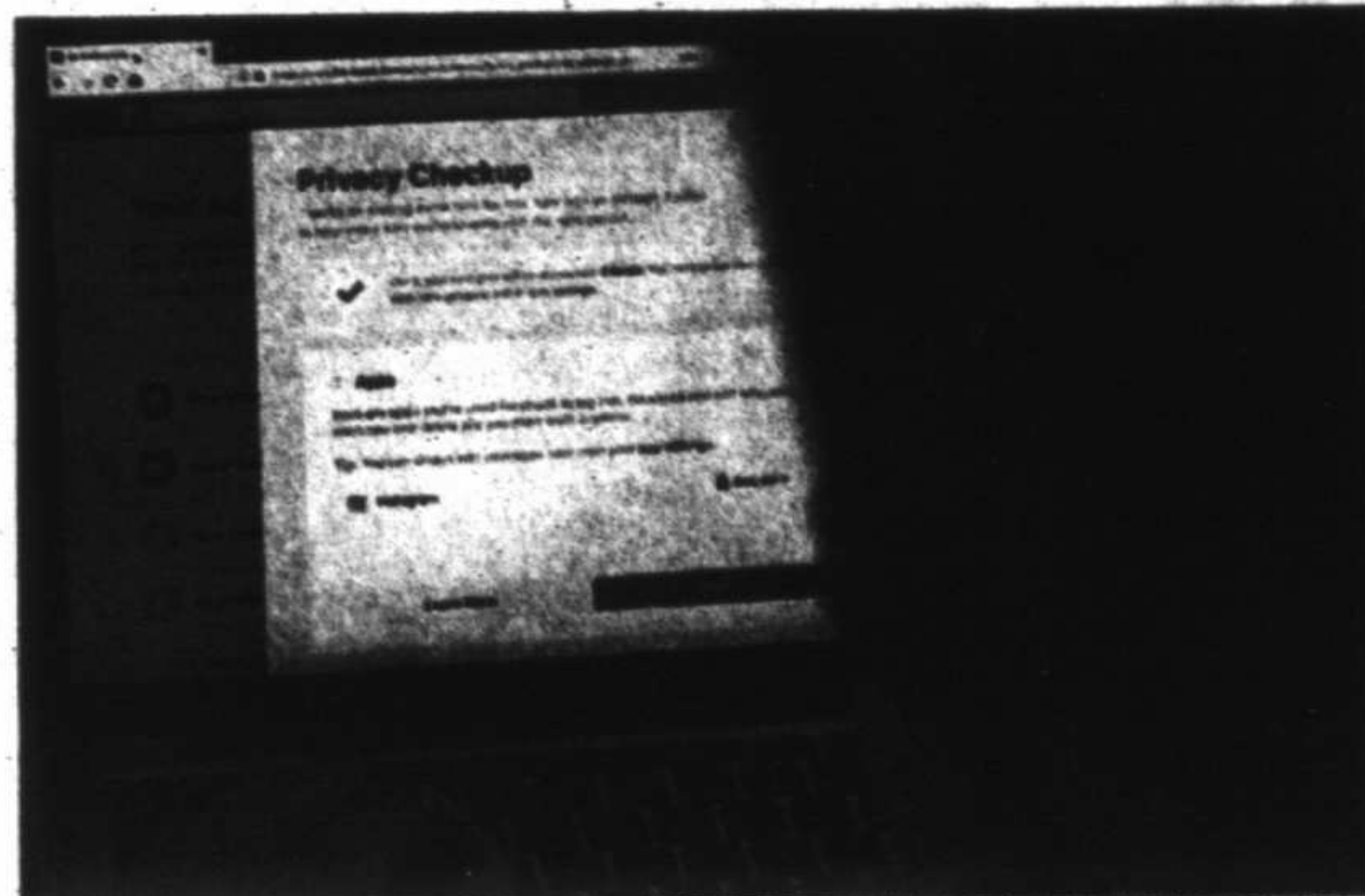
The changes won't affect Facebook's privacy policies or the types of data it gathers on users. But the company hopes its 2.2 billion users will have an easier time navigating its complex and often confusing privacy and security settings. Facebook says it also wants to give users a simpler way to access and download the data it collects on them.

Wednesday's announcement follows revelations that a Trump-affiliated consulting firm, Cambridge Analytica, got data on millions of Facebook users. That included information on friends of people who had downloaded a psychological quiz app, even though those friends hadn't given explicit consent to sharing. In addition, Facebook is also facing widespread criticism for collecting years of contact names, telephone numbers and call and text histories from Android users. The company has not said exactly what it used such data for or why it needed it. On Monday, the Federal Trade Commission said it is investigating Facebook over its privacy practices.

Facebook's chief privacy officer, Erin Egan, said in a blog post that most of the privacy updates have been in the works for "some time, but the events of the past several days underscore their importance."

Facebook also said it plans to update its privacy policy and terms of service in the coming weeks, but gave no further details.

The company has tried over the years to simplify its privacy settings, yet the controls remain hard to find and use for many people. For example, Facebook announced in 2009 that it was consolidating six pri-



Jeff Chiu/Associated Press

A man poses for photos Monday in front of a computer showing Facebook ad preferences pages in San Francisco. Facebook is giving its privacy tools a makeover as it reels from criticisms over its data practices and faces tighter European regulations in the coming months.

vacuity pages and more than 30 settings on to a single privacy page.

Yet mobile users still had to go to nearly 20 different places to access all of their privacy controls. Now, Facebook says they will be accessible from a single place. Facebook says it is also adding "clearer explanations" about how its privacy controls work.

Chris Cox, Facebook's chief product officer, called the new settings "the first of many steps" the company is taking to address privacy concerns.

Facebook has been working on the changes in preparation for the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation, which was approved two years ago and takes effect May 25. The rules are designed to make it easier for consumers to give and withdraw consent for the use of their data. They apply to any company that collects data on EU residents, no matter where it is based.

To comply with this, Facebook is adding a section called "access your information," a secure way for users to manage data they've shared with the company, including status updates, comments and things they have searched for. That's where people can go to delete information or download a copy. While this download was already possible, it took some time to figure out how to do it. Cox said the changes let people browse through their information in detail, without having to download it. For example, users will now be able to look up a post from a specific date in the past.

Cox said that while the changes are "in line with the principle of GDPR," there's also a "batch of stuff that goes above and beyond that."

Facebook also said it will propose updates to its terms of service in the coming weeks and update its privacy policy, but gave no further details.

US economic growth revised up to 2.9 percent rate

By Martin Crutcher
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy grew at a solid 2.9 percent annual rate in the final three months of last year, a sharp upward revision that caps three quarters of the fastest growth in more than a decade. The Trump administration is hoping the economy will accelerate further this year, aided by stable tax cuts and increased government spending.

The gross domestic product, the country's total output of goods and services, grew at a faster clip than its previous estimate of 2.5 percent, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday.

That 2.9 percent fourth quarter advance followed gains of 3.1 percent in the second quarter and 3.2 percent in the third quarter. It's the strongest nine-month stretch of growth in a dozen years, since the economy expanded at rates of 3.7 percent, 3.5 percent and 4.3 percent from the third quarter of 2004 through the first quarter of 2005.

Wednesday's revision, the government's third and final look at GDP in the quarter, was better than analysts had been expecting.

"The economy's wheels were spinning faster than we thought in the fourth quarter," said Chris Rupley, chief financial economist at MUFG Union Bank in New York. "There is nothing in today's report that holds the economy back from its historical run to beat the

10-year expansion of the Clinton years in the 1990s."

The current expansion is already the third longest on record and will become the second longest, surpassing the expansion of the 1960s next month. If it lasts through June 2019, it will become the new record-holder, surpassing the 10-year expansion from March 1991 to March 2001.

The updated growth figure reflected in part more spending by consumers in services including auto repairs.

Overall consumer spending grew at the fastest pace in three years. The revision also reflected less of a slowdown in inventory rebuilding than previously thought, stronger business spending on new structures and more spending by state and local governments.

For the year, the GDP expanded 2.5 percent, a solid rebound from a 1.5 percent GDP increase in 2016, which had been the weakest showing since the last recession ended in 2009.

President Donald Trump often points to the pickup in growth last year as evidence that his economic program of tax cuts, deregulation and stronger enforcement of trade deals is already having a positive impact.

During the 2016 campaign, Trump promised to double growth, which has averaged a lackluster 2.2 percent annually since the recession ended.

While Trump has talked about hitting GDP growth of 4 percent or better, his budget is based on an expectation that the economy will expand at average annual

rates of 3 percent over the next decade. That forecast has been challenged as overly optimistic by private forecasters who point to the retirements of the baby boom generation and lagging productivity as factors likely to constrain growth.

But economists have been revising up their GDP forecasts for this year and 2019 based on Trump's success in winning approval in December of \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts over the next decade and a February budget deal that will boost government spending on the military and

domestic programs by \$300 billion over the next two years.

Private economists do not expect the burst in government stimulus to last, forecasting that expected growth around 2.9 percent this year and 2.7 percent in 2019 will be followed by a return to slower rates closer to 2 percent. Interest rate increases from the Federal Reserve to guard against inflation and rising rates triggered by increasing government deficits are expected to slow growth in coming years.

HENRY

John 13:34

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

Holy Week Calendar

St. Nicholas
Episcopal Church
4000 W Loop 250 N, Midland

Maundy Thursday 6:30PM - Thursday, March 29th

Washing of the feet (Optional)

Communion, followed by the traditional stripping of the Altar

Good Friday Service 12:00 Noon - Friday, March 30th

Festive Easter Service 9:30am - Sunday, April 1st

(Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt for the kids following)

The Rev. Canon Mike Ebner will be the Officiant at all services!

Trump suggests paying for US border wall with Pentagon funds

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Still angry about the budget deal he signed last week, President Donald Trump has floated the idea of using the Pentagon budget to pay for his long-promised border wall with Mexico, despite the fact that such spending would likely require approval from Congress.

Trump raised the funding plan with House Speaker Paul Ryan at a meeting at the White House last Wednesday, according to a person familiar with the discussion who wasn't authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

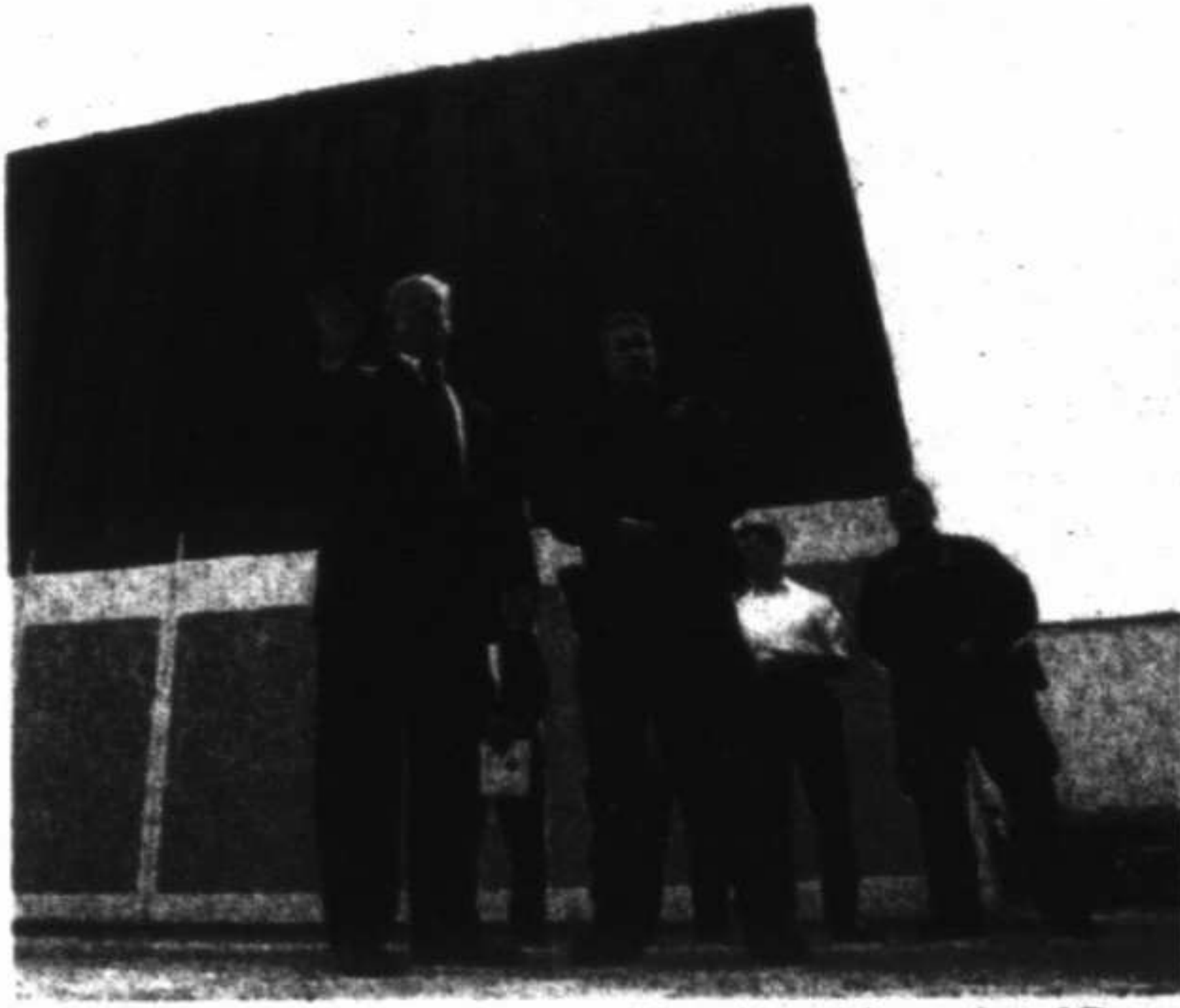
And he has tweeted that building "a great Border Wall" is "all about National Defense" and has called to "Build WALL through MI!" — the military.

Departments, however, have limited authority to reprogram funds without congressional approval. Pentagon spokesman Chris Sherwood referred all questions on the wall to the White House, where spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders deflected them, saying she was "not going to get into the specifics of that."

Trump threw Washington into a tizzy on Friday when he threatened to veto the omnibus spending bill, in part because it didn't include the \$25 billion he'd tried to secure for the wall in a last-minute bargaining spree.

The \$1.3 trillion funding package did include \$1.6 billion in border wall spending. But much of that money can only be used to repair existing segments, not build new sections. Congress also put restrictions on the types of barriers that can be built.

Trump has tried to justify signing the deal by pointing to the boost in funding it provides for the



Evan Vucci/Associated Press

President Donald Trump talks with reporters March 13 as he reviews border wall prototypes in San Diego. Trump is floating the idea of using the military's budget to pay for his long-promised border wall with Mexico. Trump raised the idea to House Speaker Paul Ryan at a meeting last week, according to a person familiar with the discussion who spoke on condition of anonymity.

military. But he nonetheless remains frustrated, according to people familiar with his thinking who weren't authorized to discuss private conversations and who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Trump first publicly floated the idea of having the Pentagon pay for the rest of construction in an obscure tweet that left many confused.

"Building a great Border Wall, with drugs (poison) and enemy combatants pouring into our Country, is all about National Defense," he wrote Sunday. "Build WALL through MI!"

He retweeted his message again Monday night.

Some people close to the president have also suggested creating a GoFundMe campaign that Trump could use to raise money from the public to fund construction. The White House did not immediately respond to questions about the idea, and it's unclear whether it has gained any serious traction.

Congress, under the Constitution, has the power to determine federal appropriations, and the administration has little

authority to shift funding without congressional approval. The Senate Appropriations Committee was not aware of any authority that would allow the Defense Department to fund the wall without congressional approval, said a GOP aide.

Sanders said Tuesday that Trump would work with the White House counsel to make sure any action taken was within his executive authority. And she insisted the "continuation of building the wall is ongoing and we're going to continue moving forward in that process."

Building the wall was one of Trump's top campaign promises, and the idea that drew the loudest cheers from supporters at his rallies. Trump also insisted he'd make Mexico pay for the construction. But Mexico has made clear it has no intention of doing so.

Trump has also proposed making Mexico pay for the wall indirectly through measures such as increasing visa fees, imposing new tariffs and targeting remittances.

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CALENDAR

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

CLASSES, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Meditation and Finding Balance by the Life-style Medicine Center. Limited space so online registration is required. 6-7 p.m. today at Midland Memorial West Campus, 4214 Andrews Highway \$5. Eventbrite.com.

Growing Grapes and Salt-Tolerant Grass in Midland with Texas A&M professor and Extension horticulturist Steve George. Hosted by the Permian Basin Master Gardeners. 6-9 p.m. today at PBMG, 10101 E. Eighth St., Odessa and 9 a.m.-noon Friday at the Midland Extension office, 2445 E. Highway 80, \$10. westexasgardening.org.

Open Shop Nights are hosted by the Midland Gem and Mineral Society and open to the public. Visitors can watch members cut rock and work on lapidary projects. 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays at 602 S. Main St. midlandgemandmineral.org.

Palette Club Painting. 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays at the Palette Club, 907 W. Wadley Ave. paletteclubmidland.com.

Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher. The class is for all levels. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. acmidland.org.

EVENTS

Easter Egg Extravaganza by the Midland Parks and Recreation Department. Egg hunts and activities for age groups: 3 and younger, 4-5, 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12. 6 p.m. today at Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 1415 E. Scharbauer Drive. Free. midlandtx.gov.

House of Friends benefiting Casa de Amigos. 6:30-9 p.m. today at the Petroleum Club, 501 W. Wall St. casadeamigosmidland.org.

Adult Paint and Sip: "Stained Glass Cross." 7 p.m. today at Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3303 N. Midland Road. \$35. kiddart.com.

Capernaum Art Gallery Fundraiser by Midland Young Life. The event will help fund students attending summer camp. Cocktail attire requested. 7:30 p.m. today at Midland Young Life Capernaum, 925 W. Wadley Ave.

Easter Bash Car Event will include egg hunt, bicycle giveaway, car show and more. Hosted by Model Citizens of West Texas. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at Beal Park, 5200 W. Wall St.

Easter Spring Fling and SK Run hosted by City of Odessa Parks and Recreation. 9 a.m.-noon Saturday at UTFB soccer fields, E Loop 338, Odessa. odessaparks.org.

The eighth annual Community Egg Hunt hosted by First Christian Church. The event will feature free hot dogs, cotton candy and more than 25,000 eggs to hunt for. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at Hill Park, 1301 W. Cuthbert Ave.

Acrylic Painting Event: "Abstract Elephant." Noon-2 p.m. Saturday at Art Smart Studio, 2517 Neely Ave. \$35.

Author signing: Local pastor Tyler Frick signs copies of his book "Prevaling Soul." Noon Saturday at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

Family & Youth

Easter Bunny at Midland Park Mall. Children can visit and take photos with the Easter Bunny through Saturday at 4511 N. Midland Road. Reservations can also be made online. Smokey.com.

Reading Storytime at the Library. 4:30 p.m. (2-4 years) Friday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Youth Game Night. 5-8 p.m. Friday at Alamo Heights Baptist Church, 1305 N. Midland Drive.

Easter Cookies and Games for kindergarten through sixth graders.

Parents can drop off children for this event. 10 a.m. Saturday at The Orchard Church, 6112 N. State Highway 349. \$10. Register by texting "paint" to 432-535-5013.

"The Duckling Gets a Cookie!" storytime. 11 a.m. Saturday at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

Evening Family Storytime offers songs, stories and literacy activities for ages 2 to 6 and their caregivers. 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Storytime at the Library. 10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-4 years), Wednesdays. Tickets required for later sessions due to limited space. Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

FINE ART & DANCE

CLOSING: "On with the Show, This is It!" Chuck Jones and the Animation Art of Looney Tunes through Sunday. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays (open to 8 p.m. Thursdays), 2-5 p.m. Sundays. At the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

"Modern Frescos: All Cavernaught" through May 13. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays (open to 8 p.m. Thursdays), 2-5 p.m. Sundays. At the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

"Captured by Detail: Camille Engel" exhibition runs through May 20. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays (open to 8 p.m. Thursdays), 2-5 p.m. Sundays. At the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music. 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Crown Royal Club, 1110 E. Scharbauer Drive. \$6. For more information, call 638-3707 or 250-8215.

FOOD & DRINK

Pasta Night. 6 p.m. Thursdays at Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Strawberry-picking Field Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday at Plants and Produce, 3412 S. County Road 1130. Call 559-5978 to reserve a spot. \$3 per pound.

Crawfish Boil. 5-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Nemo's Cocina Fresca, 4401 N. Big Spring St.

Friday Night Fish Fry. 6 p.m. Fridays at Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Night Market with food by Bus 22, vendors and live DJ. 6:30 p.m. Friday at 312 N. Colorado St.

Classic Cars and Coffee. 9 a.m.-noon Saturday at Higher Grounds Coffee Shop, 483 Andrews Highway.

Steak Night. 6 p.m. Saturdays at Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Easter Brunch will feature a carving station, omelet and waffle station, breakfast buffet, Mexican cuisine and more. 10 a.m. Sunday at The Shrimp Boat, 5200 E. University Blvd., Odessa. \$29.99 adults, \$14.99 children 6 to 11.

Easter Brunch will feature a carving board, a variety of sides, desserts and more. Open to the public. 11:30 a.m. Sunday at Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. \$27.99 adults, \$12.99 children 12 and younger. Reservations required and can be made by calling 982-3725.

When Newton Red Meets. The new event will explore various types of when on the menu and learn about different types and flavors. 6:30 p.m. Friday at Bone and Grapes, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. \$30. Reservations can be made by calling 695-4945.

Plant the Flag Beer sampling. 5 p.m. Tuesday at Little Woodrow's 3415 N. Loop 250. 21 and older.

Littlewoodrows.com. Steak Night, 6 p.m. Wednesdays through April 18 at Little Woodrow's, 3415 N. Loop 250.

GAMES

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

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

Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m. Fridays at The Detour, 1709 Rankin Hwy.

Bridge lessons. 10 a.m. Saturdays at Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$3. Permianbridgeclub.com.

Yuglio tournaments. 6-10 p.m. Saturdays at Entertainment, 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave. \$5.

Bingo. 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays at the Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

Bridge game play. 6:45 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 1 p.m. Tuesdays; 10:30 a.m. Saturdays; 1:30 p.m. Sundays. Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.

Monday Mayhem features unlimited bowling for \$14.09 with free shoe rentals after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Basin Burger House, 607 N. Colorado St.

Two-Dollar Tuesdays with the same price for games, shoes, select beers and arcade card after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

Trivia Game Night. 7 p.m. Wednesdays at True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway. Free.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Torino's, 3303 N. Midland Road. challengeentertainment.com.

MUSIC

COUNTRY Parker McCollum, 8 p.m. Today at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. \$10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Chet Johnson Band. 9 p.m. Friday at Detour Bar, 1709 Rankin Highway.

John Pysant. 9 p.m. Friday at the Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

Wicked West Band. 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.

Miles Williams. 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Riley's Bar and Grill, 3421 W. Wall St.

COVER/THEATRE Free Spirit, 9 p.m. Saturday at Gabby Doo Saloon, 6009 N. Golder Ave., Odessa. \$10.

DJ/DANCE DJ Brynne, 9 p.m. Thursdays at Supanova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive.

DJ Widdman. 9 p.m. Friday and Sunday at the Lit on 7th, 1401 E. Seventh St. Odessa.

DJ BOSDown. 9 p.m. Friday at Supanova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive. \$10.

DJ Alex Shock. 9 p.m. Saturdays at Supanova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive. \$10.

894ngoverSundays. 7 p.m. Sunday at Arham Lounge, 3704 W. Wall St.

DJ/DANCE "Red Hot Drag Race" viewing party with host Ayva Nevada. 7 p.m. Thursdays through Monday at the Recovery Room, 2802 N. County Road West, Odessa. Facebook: @therecoveryroom432.

KARAOKE Karaoke, 9 p.m. Sunday at The Detour Bar, 1709 Rankin Hwy. thedetourbar.com.

Karaoke and pool tournament, Tuesdays at The Lone Star Bar 621 W. Wall St.

Karaoke Wednesdays with DJ Savage and host Ayva Nevada. 9 p.m. Wednesdays at The Recovery Room, 2802 N. County Road West, Odessa. Facebook: @therecoveryroom432.

METAL

The Anchor, Apothica, Broken Jaw Philosophy, Auslander. 7 p.m. Friday at Gabby Doo Saloon, 6009 N. Golder Ave. \$10.

OUTDOORS, SPORTS & FITNESS

Free skateboarding lessons. noon-1:30 p.m. Thursdays at RTD Skatepark. Rtdskatepark.com.

National Barrel Horse Association TX 08 series features youth, novice, open and senior runs. 5:15 p.m. Friday at Martin Arena, 10200 E. County Road 95.

Championship boxing: Anthony Joshua versus Joseph Parker for the unified heavyweight title. The match will air at 4 p.m. Saturday at Triple Threat Sports Bar and Grill, 12 Meta Drive.

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

Midland AVA White about Volleport Club meeting. 6 p.m. Monday at Murray's Deli, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. Call 210-9506 for more information.

ROAD TRIP

Alpine Gem and Mineral Show. Friday-Sunday at the Alpine Civic Center, 801 W. Holland Ave., Alpine.

NASA West Texas Classic hosted by the WTAU Powerlifting Club. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at Virgil Hanson Activity Center on 2620 Russell Long Blvd., Canyon.

STAGE, COMEDY & FILM

"Best F(r)iends" Vol. 1 by Tommy Wisau. 8 p.m. Friday and Monday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250. \$13.50. fathomevents.com.

"Cool fan tette" by The Met: Live in HD. The Mozart comedy opera gets a refresh with this production inspired by 1950s Coney Island. 11:55 a.m. Saturday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250. \$23.77 adults, \$21.60 seniors, \$17.28 children. fathomevents.com.

Sensory-friendly Screening: "Sherlock Gnomes." This screening is hosted in auditorium dedicated to guests on the spectrum and with sensory processing disorders. 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Cinergy, 1917 Liberty Drive.

All or Nothing: True Stories of Talking Big Risks. Local storytellers recount true stories of aiming high. 7 p.m. Hosted by West Texas and Marie Public Radio. 7 p.m. Monday at the Rose Building, 415 N. Grant Ave., Odessa. lowt.org.

Improvisation: Standup and improv comedy. 8 p.m. Monday at The Herringway, 3952 E. 42nd St., Odessa.

"Fly Backyard" dome show. 1 p.m. Recommended for ages 3-5. Tuesdays-Saturdays in February. Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museum.org.

"Robot Explorers" 3D dome show. 4 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays in February. Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museum.org.

"Buddy — The Buddy Holly Story." 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Vagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Broadwayinthebasin.com.

COMING SOON

APRIL

Midland Volunteer Networking Mixer. Learn about volunteer opportunities in Midland. Produced by Leadership Midland Chamber. 5 p.m. April 5 at First Capital Bank of Texas, 310 W. Wall St.

Author signing: William Matson will sign copies of his book "Crazy Horse: The Lakota Warrior and Legacy" and discuss the subject with the Edward Clown family, the nearest living relatives to the famous historical figure. 5:30 p.m. April 5 at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

Celebrating Champions of Education with guest lecturer Tim Brown. The event is hosted by Educate Midland and ... also feature an Educator Resource Fair by United Way. 5:30 p.m. April 5 at Stonegate Fellowship, 6000 W. Wadley Ave. educatemidland.org.

Spring exhibit art opening and reception. The show features works by the Midland Arts Association, Palette Club of Midland and Sibley Camera Club. The event will also welcome MSS' new executive director. 5:30-7 p.m. April 5 at The Gallery at Midland Shared Spaces, 3500 N.A. St.

Yappy Hour with microchip clinic by the Midland Humane Coalition. 6:30 p.m. April 5 at Midland Beer Garden, 7112 W. Highway 80. midlandhumane.org.

"Eating You Alive." This documentary explores the relationship America has with food. 7 p.m. April 5 at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250. \$13.50. fathomevents.com.



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www.bushchildhoodhome.org

FREE - Laura Bush Literacy Program reading event, Thursday, April 19th, from 4:30-5:30 PM in our Visitor Center, **for kids of all ages.** We will read several books including "Mr. Cornell's Dream Boxes". Each child will get a free copy of the feature book, snacks and a gift from **Whataburger**.

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ON SCREEN & EVENTS



Mozart's 'Cosi' meets Coney Island in Met Opera production

By Mike Silverman
Associated Press

NEW YORK — "Cosi" comes to Coney Island in the latest "Live in HD" presentation from the Metropolitan Opera.

It's Phelim McDermott's whimsical take on Mozart's bittersweet comedy "Cosi fan tutte," set in a boardwalk amusement park much like a 1950s version of New York's Coney Island.

That means the story of two pairs of young lovers whose loyalties are tested plays out not in the 18th-century Naples of the original but rather amid a bustling world of snake charmers, sword swallowers and fire eaters.

"It's unusual for me to go, 'Let's set this in such-and-such a period,'" McDermott said in an interview earlier this month at the Met. "But when Tom (set designer Tom Pye) suggested the idea, it felt like it would hold the story well and would help the suspension of disbelief that you have to create."

That suspension is crucial to the plot, in which a cynical older gentleman bets his two young friends that their sweethearts will betray them if given a chance. In the original, the men pretend to go off to war, reappear disguised as wealthy Albanians and promptly begin wooing each other's girlfriends.

"One of the things people did say to me about 'Cosi' was, 'You

IF YOU GO

"Cosi fan tutte" by The Met: Live in HD. The Mozart comedy opens gets a refresh with this production inspired by 1950s Coney Island. 11:55 a.m. March 31 at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250. \$23.77 adults, \$21.60 seniors, \$17.28 children. fashomevents.com.

know I never believe those girls would not recognize those guys," McDermott said. "For me, the Coney Island sideshow world is a slightly magical world where people get swept up in a romantic dream that actually, if you scratch the surface, it's not real."

"If you set it in that setting, the audience realizes it's a game. So for me it's like 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' you get swept up in the dream. The girls don't know what's going to happen, the boys don't know what's going to happen next, it's a roller coaster they're on."

Instead of Albanians, the men return disguised as carnival workers. "It's a particular idea of a so-called sexy man that buttoned-up ladies get turned on by," McDermott said. "Like the boys who stand on the back of the bumper cars and kind of flirt with the girls as they jump from ride to ride."

The production, which originated in 2014 at the English National Opera in London, will be broadcast live to movie theaters around the world on Saturday.

HAPPILY EVER AFTER?

In the libretto by

Lorenzo da Ponte, after the disguises come off and the deceptions are exposed, the lovers reconcile with their original partners.

Some productions have suggested they might instead stick with their new lovers, but McDermott said that directorial liberty didn't appeal to him.

"I think the piece is ambiguous at the end," he said. "What, they're back with their original lovers? What's THAT going to be like? I find that more interesting than solving it or making a specific statement."

WHERE TO SEE IT

"Cosi fan tutte" stars soprano Amanda Majeski and mezzo Serena Melfi as the young women, tenor Ben Bliss and baritone Adam Plachetka as their suitors, baritone Christopher Maltman as Don Alfonso and Broadway star Kelli O'Hara as the witty maid Despina. The performance, conducted by David Robertson, will be shown Saturday. A list of theaters can be found at the Met's website: <http://www.metopera.org/hd>. In the United States it will be repeated on April 4.

COYLE

From Page 1B

blockbuster legacy and the more digitally versed generations of fantasy-seekers that have followed him. In the OASIS, there are solo players called "gunners" like Parzival and his VR-crush Art3mis (Olivia Cooke), who believe deeply in the game and its maker. And there are companies, specifically one called Innovative Online Industries led by a slick suit named Nolan Sorrento (Ben Mendelsohn), who sends armies of players into battle in hopes of capturing the lucrative company and — in the most sinister of anti-nerd plots — open up OASIS to advertising.

When it's not careening through '80s references from Footie Roll Pop commercials to Buckaroo Bananas, "Ready Player One" is an Internet parable. There's mention of prior "bandwidth riots"

ahead of this battle over keeping OASIS an open playground to all. "Ready Player One" is both game and war, the stakes of which are occasionally lessened by the fact that it's a land of make-believe. Much of "Ready Player One" also promotes a tie-some-gamer-culture-where "real" fanboys outrank "haters," geeks vie with suits, and tech wizards are slavishly worshipped. In between the book and the movie, Gomerate exposed the toxicity of the video-game culture lionized here.

As eye-popping as is the kaleidoscopic OASIS — a shinier, bigger-budget, less funny pop-culture soup than the one stirred in "The Lego Movie" — "Ready Player One" is best when it keeps a foot in the real world. That's clearly where Spielberg's heart is, and it's where, you can feel, he longs to land his film. (Sorry, "movie.") Still, Spielberg shows

that he's just as capable as he ever was in making a rip-roaring spectacle. The momentum is headlong, the visual fireworks are brilliant and despite all the reality-flipping, every scene is perfectly staged. For a backward-looking movie, it's incredibly forward-moving. Spielberg makes this stuff look easier, and register more clearly, than anyone else in blockbuster-making.

But if choosing between vintage Spielberg and meta Spielberg, I still — not to sound too fanboy-ish about it — prefer the genuine article.

"Ready Player One," a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "sequences of sci-fi action violence, bloody images, some suggestive material, partial nudity and language." Running time: 140 minutes. These stars out of four.

STORYTELLERS

From Page 1B

was in February at Brew St. Bakery. Pepple said similar events can be expected because public radio is about the human voice.

"We celebrate one of the oldest things we have as humans — storytelling," she said. "With these events, our goal is to hear more voices of West Texas and connect people through radio. This is our kind of community engagement and event."

Within the last decade, the art of storytelling has had a resurgence, perhaps mostly through The Moth Radio Hour and The Moth Podcast. Pepple said the trend is important. With the language of social media and smartphones, she described it as an opportunity to connect with strangers and neighbors.

"She also says it's another way. Humans love to gossip, so this is a sort

of sanctioned form of that," she said. Along with Pepple, "All or Nothing" storytellers are Nick Fowler, Jeremy Ferguson, Gabbie Paulo, Bill Dinger and Corey Paul.

Pepple said anyone can make a good storyteller, and the station can help with the story's structure and elements.

"We're always looking for storytellers. The goal is to make sure there is a wide range and a combination of Midland and Odessa and Big Bend residents. Think about this overlap of people and stories and values we get to hear," she said.

The event kicks off the spring membership drive, with a goal of raising \$150,000.

"We're invested in our Permian Basin listeners, and our hope is to grow our membership and our relationships in general," Pepple said.

'Sherlock Gnomes' doesn't stand out from pack of family-friendly film boom

There's a current boom of family-friendly film fare inspired by beloved British literary characters, which makes this moment ripe for the animated "Sherlock Gnomes," the sequel to 2011's "Gnomeo and Juliet." In terms of ranking these adaptations, "Sherlock Gnomes" is quite a bit more pleasant than "Peter Rabbit," but doesn't touch the wonder of "Paddington 2." It's a fairly serviceable animated feature, with a few inspired elements, and more than enough gnome puns to go around.

The beloved British literary characters are, of course, Sherlock Holmes and Watson, as well as Romeo and Juliet. They offer enough rich, recognizable lore to pad out this London-set mystery, directed by "Kung Fu Panda" director John Stevenson, written by Kevin Cecil, Andy Riley and Ben Zazove. As for the appeal of using garden gnome characters, well, it's anyone's guess. Perhaps the Travelocity Roaming Gnome was an inspiration?

It's essentially "Toy Story" mashed up with "Sherlock Holmes," with a dash or two of "Romeo and Juliet." The garden gnomes and lawn ornaments come to life while their owners are away, ruling over their bucolic backyard domains. Gnomeo (James McAvoy), Juliet (Emily Blunt), and their garden menagerie have been uprooted from the country to the city, and just as they're settling in to London life, they learn the hard way about the harsh realities of urban crime.

When all the gnomes are kidnapped, Sherlock Gnomes (Johnny Depp), the guardian of all the gnomes in London, swoops in to investigate with his trusty, long-suffering helper/partner Watson (Chiwetel Ejiofor), while Gnomeo and Juliet join up to help find their gnome clan. Sherlock instantly suspects his nemesis Moriarty (Jamie Demetriou), whom he thought he vanquished in a great museum caper.

Their race around London looking for clues follows the format of British crime films like "Snatch" as the team encounters various seedy characters of the dolls and ornaments underground, including the Barbie madam of a doll museum, Irene (Mary J. Blige), armies of Asian-inspired waving cat figurines and various

KATIE WALSH

Tribune News Service



bench-gargoyles. While the plot spins out of control, stopping every now and then for an Elton John dance party (he is a producer on the film and lends his catalog), the pairs learn a lot about learning to demonstrate proper appreciation for their partners, particularly the logic-driven Sherlock and Juliet.

Depp's voice performance as the quirky Sherlock Gnomes is unrecognizable and rather uninspired. His character only takes off during fantasy sequences done in a lively black and white line-drawing animation style that illustrates his peculiar brain and ways of thinking. But the true standout among the voice performances is Demetriou as the demented, devious Moriarty, who takes the form of an adorable, but evil little pie boy figurine — sort of like if Bob's Big Boy wore less clothes, had less hair and sported a devilish grin and cackle. This kind of surrealism is what "Sherlock Gnomes" is largely lacking in terms of personality, and the screen comes alive when Moriarty is on screen in a way that it doesn't otherwise.

There are some fun bits and bobs to be found in the amusing enough "Sherlock Gnomes." But the overall picture doesn't have the kind of true wow factor that would make this one stand out from the rest of the pack.

'SHERLOCK GNOMES'

2 stars

Cast: Johnny Depp, James McAvoy, Emily Blunt, Mary J. Blige, Jamie Demetriou, Chiwetel Ejiofor.

Directed by John Stevenson.

Running time: 1 hour, 29 minutes.

Rated PG for some rude and suggestive humor.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

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ON SCREEN

Reeled & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

Engaging detective drama doesn't play by the rules

PICK O' THE WEEK

"Small Town Crime" (R) So many of the elements seem familiar — boring, even, but a genuinely well-told story emerges after all the stereotypes and generalizations fade. **B+**

ICK O' THE WEEK

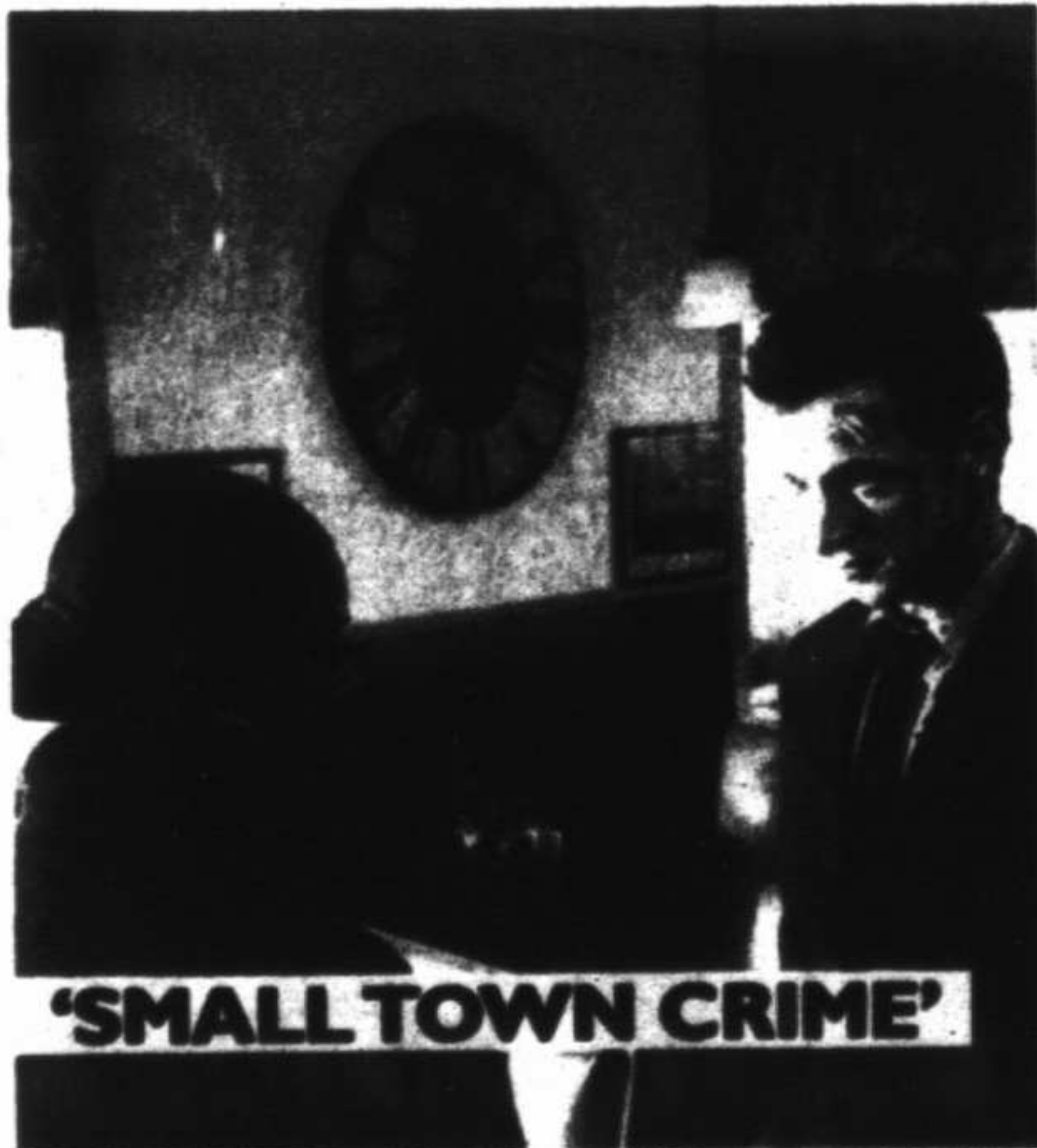
"Children of the Corn: Runaway" (unrated) Back in 2001, Ben Affleck and Matt Damon, still giddy over their writing Oscar for "Good Will Hunting," embarked on a mission to "give back" by taking part in "Project Greenlight," an HBO reality series aiming to find fresh new faces to make movies. Both writers and directors were honored, and in season three, a short film and documentary cinematographer named John Gulager won the directing prize. He got to direct the winning screenwriter's project, and the film, "Feast," actually made a little money and became a horror cult classic. It even spawned two sequels. However, none of the films did much for Gulager's career. In fact, "Children of the Corn: Runaway" is only the seventh film he's directed and, sadly, it's a wonder he's made it this far. Heavy on splatter and light on script, this is not one that Stephen King — who wrote the original book about the kid cult — is likely to be happy with. Oh, he'll still cash the checks, I'm sure, but not with much joy. **D**

MORE REVIEWS

Downsizing (R) The concept is so brilliant, but at 135 minutes, this film heads in so many different directions without ever getting anywhere. What is worth watching, though, is the vibrant performance of Hong Chau, who steals the show playing a Vietnamese refugee. She is magnificent. **B-**

"Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" (PG-13) There apparently are two trains of thought regarding this film. It's either just OK or an affront to all things Jumanji and should be destroyed immediately for daring to recapture the magic of the beloved 1995 original. First, I am not one of those big fans of the original. Its overall Metacritic score — out of a possible 100 — is a dismal 39. It gets a 53 percent from the Rotten Tomatoes Tomatometer, so I suspect there's some revisionist history going on. Regardless, I am definitely in the camp that thinks this sequel of sorts is OK. A little above OK, in fact. Kevin Hart's Fridge gets his share of the laughs but Jack Black's Bethany is the funniest thing he's ever done. **B**

The Strange Ones (R) This is a film that eschews conventionality but is not necessarily the better for it. You may not see all the twists coming but they don't shock and awe when they are revealed. **B-**



'SMALL TOWN CRIME'



'READY PLAYER ONE'

FILM CAPS

"Acrimony" (R) Taraji P. Henson stars as a woman wronged by her husband. With Lyric Bent, Crystle Stewart, Ajiona Alexus, Antonio Madison. Written and directed by Tyler Perry.

"Black Panther" (PG-13) Chadwick Boseman stars as the King of Wakanda faces external threats to his peaceful home. With Michael B. Jordan, Lupita Nyong'o, Danai Gurira, Martin Freeman. Written by Ryan Coogler & Joe Robert Cole. Directed by Coogler.

"Game Night" (R) A weekly get-together levels up when the couples participate in a murder-mystery party. With Jason Bateman, Rachel McAdams, Billy Magnussen, Sharon Horgan, Kyle Chandler. Written by Mark Perez. Directed by John Francis Daley & Jonathan Goldstein.

"God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness" (PG) A fire and subsequent pressure from a local university threatens a congregation's existence and challenges its pastor. With David A.R. White, John Corbett, Shane Harper, Ted McGinley, Jennifer Taylor, Tatum O'Neal. Written and directed by Michael Mason.

"I Can Only Imagine" (PG) Faith-based drama based on the life of MercyMe singer Bart Millard. With J. Michael Finley, Madeline Carroll, Trace Adkins, Priscilla Shirer, Cloris Leachman, Dennis Quaid. Written by Jon Erwin & Brent McCordie, based on the song by MercyMe. Directed by the Erwin Brothers.

"Love, Simon" (PG-13) A teenager frisks about coming out to his family and friends and over the identity of the unknown classmate for whom he has fallen for online. With Nick Robinson, Katherine Langford, Alexandra Shipp, Jennifer Garner, Josh Duhamel. Written by Isaac

Aptaker and Elizabeth Berger. Directed by Greg Berlanti.

"Midnight Sun" (PG-13) Teen love is threatened by a 17-year-old girl's life-threatening sensitivity to sunlight. With Bella Thorne, Patrick Schwarzenegger, Rob Riggle, Quinn Shephard. Written by Kenji Bando. Directed by Scott Speer.

"Pacific Rim Uprising" (PG-13) A new generation of the gigantic, human-piloted fighting machines must vanquish monstrous beasts to save humanity. With John Boyega, Scott Eastwood, Jing Tian, Callee Spaeny, Rinko Kikuchi, Burn Gorman, Adria Arjona, Charlie Day. Written by Emily Carmichael & Kira Snyder and Steven S. DeKnight and T.S. Nowlin; story by DeKnight and Nowlin; based on characters created by Travis Beacham. Directed by DeKnight.

"Paul, Apostle of Christ" (PG-13) Luke struggles to spread the Gospel as Paul is held captive during the reign of Roman emperor Nero. With Jim Caviezel, James Faulkner, Olivier Martinez, John Lynch, Joanne Whalley. Written and directed by Andrew Hyatt.

"Ready Player One" (PG-13) An immense virtual reality universe of the future is the location of a treasure hunt after its creator dies and leaves his fortune to be found within. With Tye Sheridan, Letitia Wright, Olivia Cooke, Ben Mendelsohn, T.J. Miller, Simon Pegg, Mark Rylance. Written by Zak Penn and Ernest Cline, based on the novel by Cline. Directed by Steven Spielberg.

"Sherlock Gnomes" (PG) Garden gnomes Gnomo and Juliet and their family and friends return, aided by the famous detective in this animated sequel. Voices by James McAvoy, Emily Blunt, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Maggie Smith, Michael Caine, Johnny Depp. Directed by John Stevenson.

"Tomb Raider" (PG-13) Alicia Vikander stars as Lara Croft, who searches for her long-missing father in this reboot of the action adventure series based on the video game. With Dominic West, Walton Goggins, Daniel Wu, Derek Jacobi, Kristin Scott Thomas. Written by Geneva Robertson-Dworet and Alastair Siddons. Directed by Roar Uthaug.

"Unsane" (R) Inside a mental institution, a young woman confronts her greatest fear. With Claire Foy, Joshua Leonard, Jay Pharoah, Juno Temple, Aimee Mullins, Amy Irving. Written by Jonathan Bernstein & James Greer. Directed by Steven Soderbergh.

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SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

7	1	6	8	5	4	3	9	2
2	8	5	9	3	7	4	6	1
4	3	9	2	6	1	8	5	7
8	6	3	1	4	9	7	2	5
5	9	7	6	2	8	1	4	3
1	4	2	3	7	5	6	8	9
9	2	1	4	8	3	5	7	6
6	7	4	5	1	2	9	3	8
3	5	8	7	9	6	2	1	4

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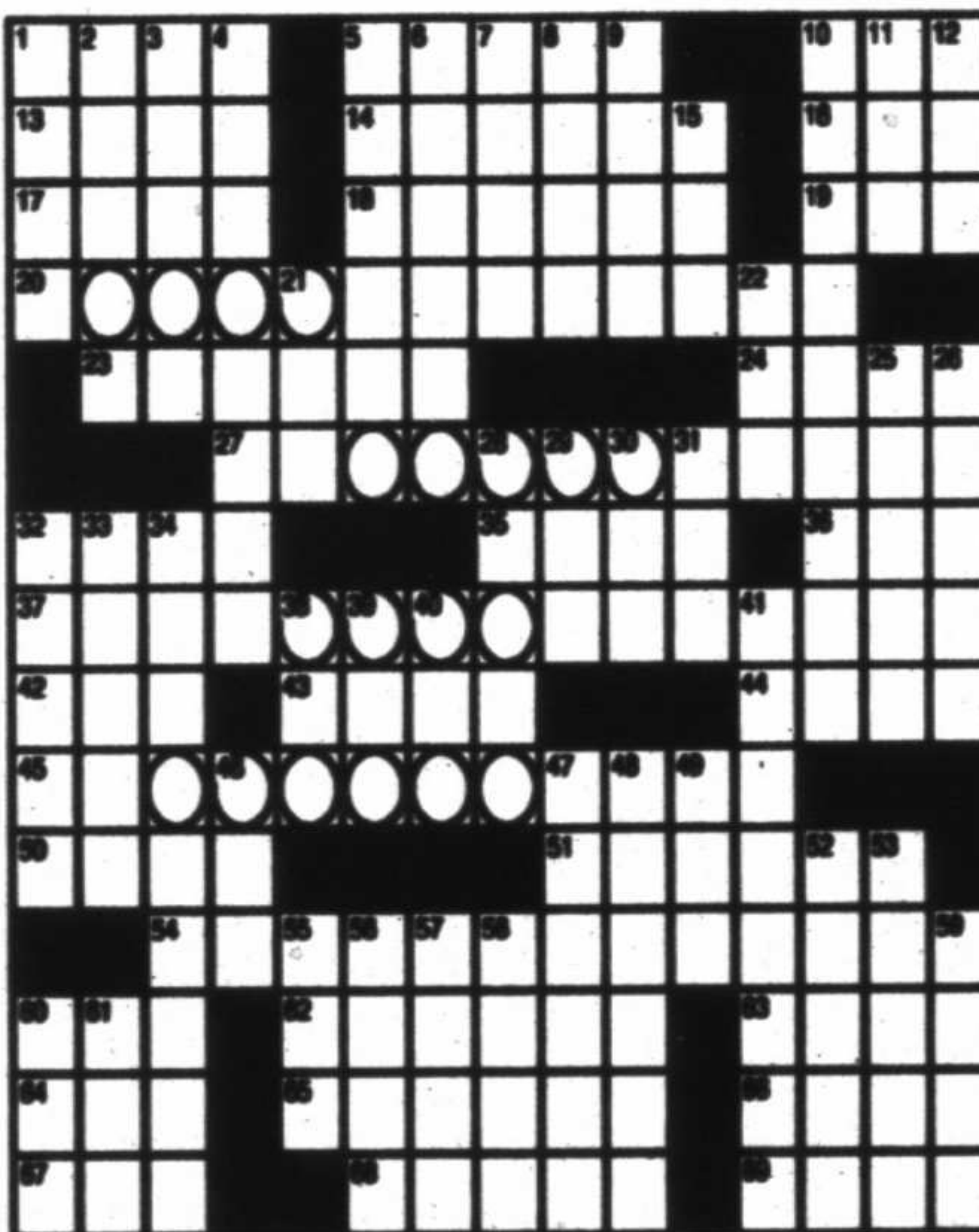
DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- ... a pudgy tail
 - Bygone 26-Down rival
 - Small rodent
 - Bold alternative
 - Have a mortgage
 - ... two fives for
 - Helix-shaped pasta
 - Pine-
 - Surprisingly little, pricey
 - Picasso's birth city
 - Desertlike
 - Superfast
 - RR slope
 - Healthy drink
 - Immigrant's subj.
 - Maxim about frugality
 - Comic strip cry
 - "Deadliest Catch" narrator Mike
 - View from Catania
 - It's learned the hard way
 - Put away
 - Spit up
 - Confusing statements ... and a hint to the circled letters
 - MSNBC's "Morning ..."
 - Add value to
 - Avian digestive system part
 - Brewpub order
 - School bud
 - Singer Home
 - "Not ..."
 - Bond and others
 - Macron's state
- DOWN**
- Nobelist Pavlov
 - Reversed emblem
 - Singsongwriter
 - Play Joel
 - Followed the crowd?
 - European dumping
 - Not exactly humbly
 - Post-WWII alliance
 - Settled on a branch
 - Ho Chi City
 - Harmonious
 - Leave open-mouthed
 - Candy with an Emoji dispenser set
 - VI x XVII
 - Flat-topped cap
 - Editor Talese with a Doubleday imprint
 - "Show time!"
 - Co-founder of the SkyTeam alliance
 - Skin care name
 - "That is sooo cute!"
 - Weekend of "The Kids Are All Right"
 - Engine starter: Abbr.
 - DNA lab items
 - Unspoken
 - Call for an appointment
 - Before, in ballads
 - Scand. land
 - Temple athlete
 - Squid appendage
 - Light opener?
 - Coined money
 - Pageant bands
 - Anesthesiologists' work sites, briefly
 - White-plumed wader
 - "Strawberry Wine" country singer Carter
 - 55 Gen-
 - 56 First family grandson?
 - 57 Let go of
 - 58 Actress Rogers
 - 59 Rescue team acronym
 - 60 Word with hawk or walk
 - 61 "Viva el matador!"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SENSE SHIP ABMS
ADIEU CAFETERIA
VICARIOUSTHRILL
EEKS NOLO AISLE
NOBUT STAKES
OMANIS GMAIL
LAMAZECLASS PSA
DUEL AOL RUES
SIS RABBITHUTCH
DENSE REMOTE
GAMING HOPIN
ALIVE GAUL NEVA
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TRADEMARK ANGEL
HONE PLAY UTERO



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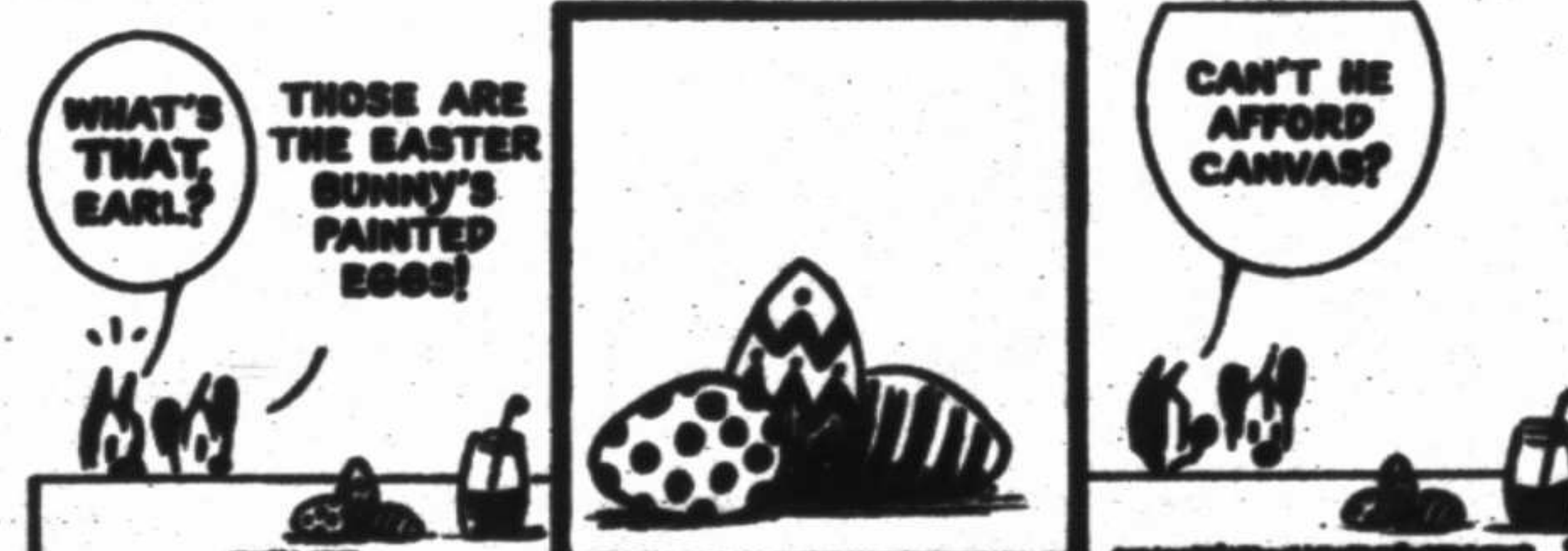
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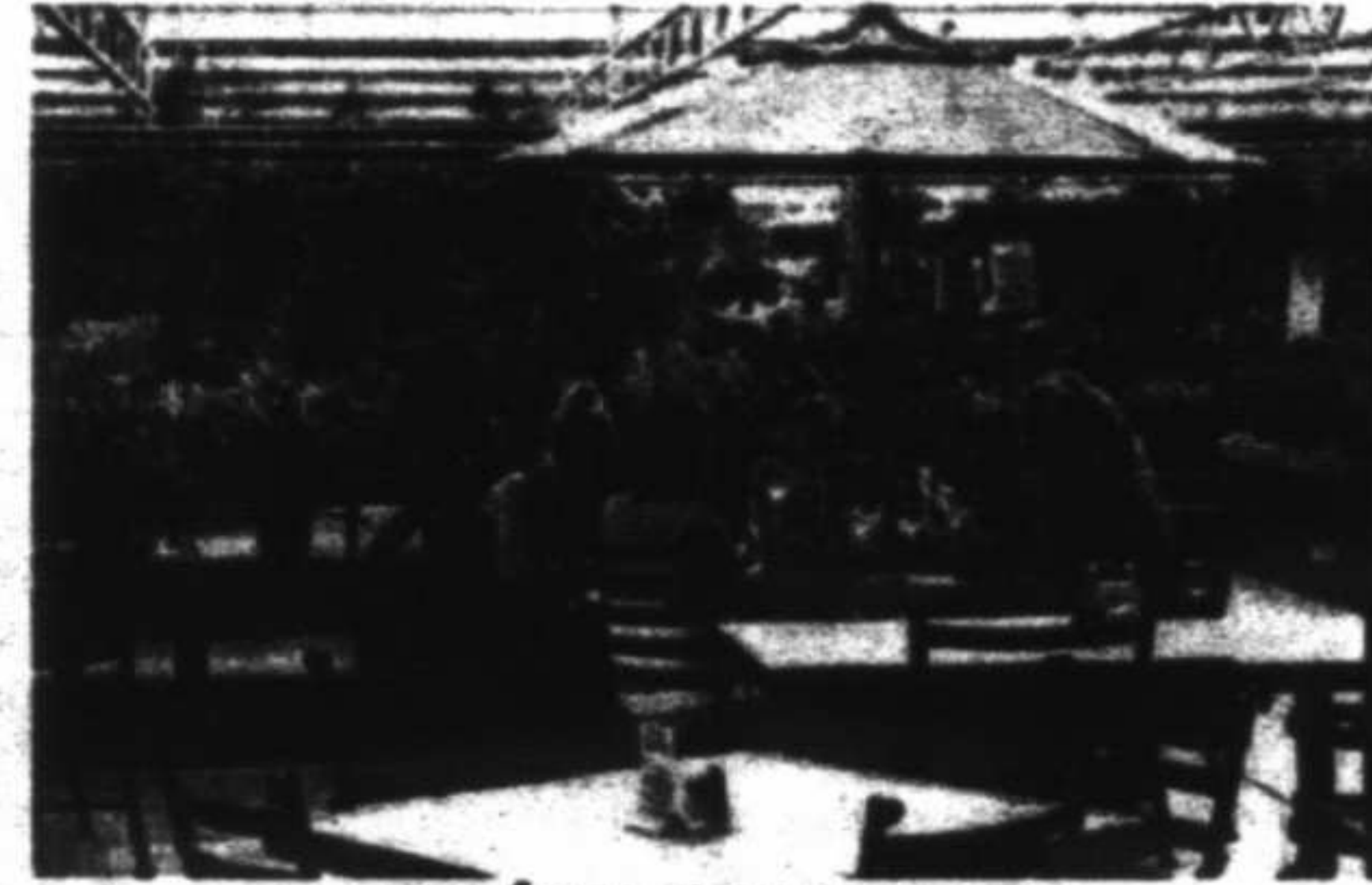
WEEKENDER PUBLISHES A PORTION OF THE RESTAURANT GUIDE EACH WEEK. ENTREE PRICE RANGE IS BASED ON THE AVERAGE ENTREE PRICE ON THE MENU:
\$ = \$1-10, \$\$ = \$10-20 AND \$\$\$ = \$20 OR MORE. RESTAURANTS ARE GIVEN A GENERAL RATING BASED ON QUALITY OF FOOD, SERVICE, CLEANLINESS, ATMOSPHERE AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE.
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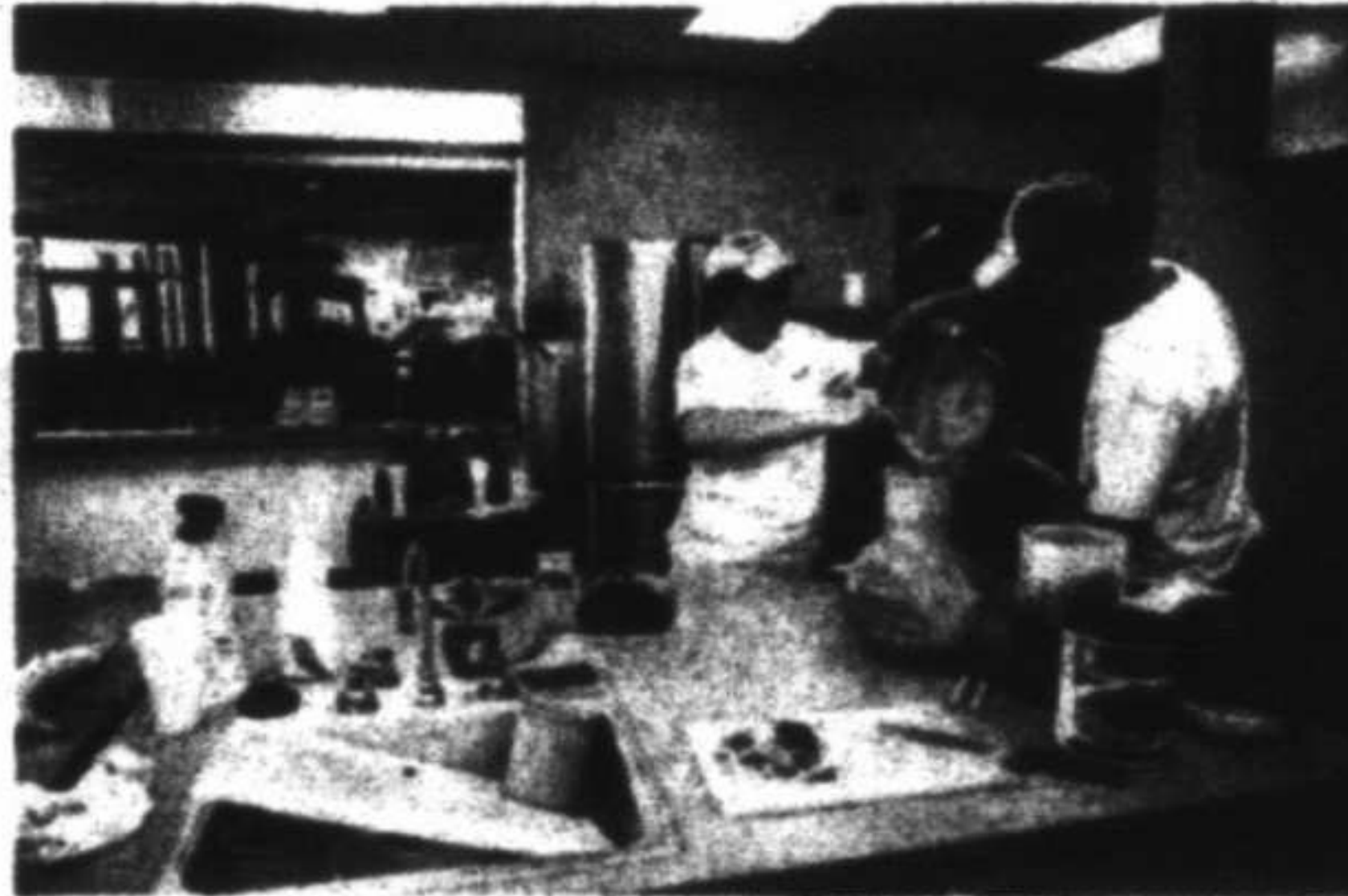
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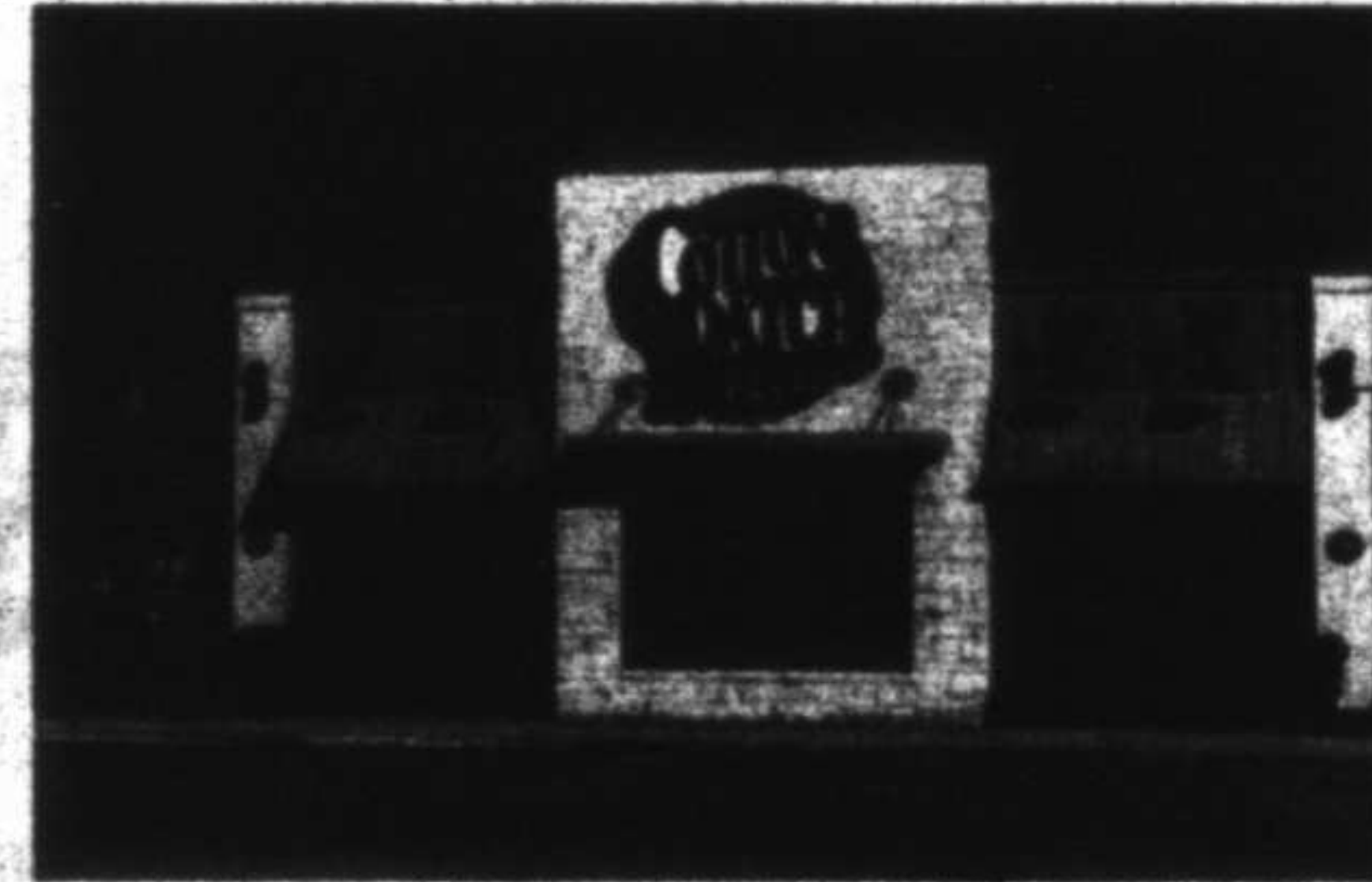
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THE CAFÉ AT CRESTVIEW
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AMERICAN & GRILL

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 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. Wall St. 694-9400 | \$ | 3 spoons

BUSH'S CHICKEN Serve 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. 681-8280 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 hot 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.cafeatthegardens.com | \$ | 4 spoons

CHILI'S Featuring comfort food and a full-service bar, the chain is famous for its baby-back, baby-back, baby-back ribs. The broccoli cheese soup is some of the best around, as are the Southwestern eggrolls. 2100 Loop 250 Frontage Road. 687-3744 | \$\$ | 3 spoons

CLEAR SPRINGS CAFÉ One of the few places in Midland specializing in seafood dishes to have the best onion rings and catfish in "Toma, the World and the known Universe." This Texas chain also has locations in Tyler, New Braunfels, McCombs and San Antonio. Softball, snacks, burgers, salads. 5707 Andrews Highway 523-1108 | clearspringcafe.com | \$\$ | 3 spoons

COTTON PATCH CAFÉ Casual dining chain restaurant off of Loop 250. Specialty includes fried catfish, soups, salads, steaks. 2320 W. Loop 250 N. | 618-6070 | cottonpatch.com | \$ | 2 spoons

CRACKER BARREL Breakfast all day. Chicken and dumplings, meatloaf, smoked ham, fried fish, ON Country

3108 N. Loop 250 West. 689-3137 | 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 denny.com | \$ | 2 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. Two locations 1601 W. Wall St. 684-5756, 4906 Briarwood Ave. 684-4479 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

LITTLEWOODROW'S It's a bar with standard bar food such as burgers, sandwiches and wraps but this spot also offers a \$9 brunch that's worth getting up for if you were up late drinking there the night before. 3415 North Loop 250, Building 1 | 684-2337 | littlewoodrows.com | \$ | 3 spoons

MAIN STREET DINER Breakfast and lunch eatery features fresh comfort foods such as chicken and dumplings. One Yelp reviewer said, "If you are traveling through and really want to experience a local place with the spirit of Midland, Main Street is it." 611 S. Main St. 682-5970 | \$ | 4 spoons

MERCY BATTERY & CATERING CO. 10p, downtown spot serves lunch fare with tasty flour contributions to its eclectic but accessible menu. 306 W. Wall St. Suite 110 | 681-4479 | 4 spoons

MILBERRY CAFÉ The third restaurant under the Morrison family banner 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. Wall St. | 681-4479 | 4 spoons

OPAL'S TABLE Upscale setting for classic American dishes and regional cuisine. 223 W. Wall St. 687-1158 | 688 | 4 spoons

THE BRANCH HOUSE Stop by for a sandwich or

options include chicken or corn salad, turkey breast, peppered beef or ham, honey glazed ham, smoked brisket and barbecue. 5103 W. Wall St. 699-0695 www.goldengrassdharma.com | \$ | 3 spoons

SISTA'S RESTAURANT Catfish, wings and fried dishes are menu staples at this simple Southern family-owned joint with a casual ambience that has an online 5-star rating. 102 N. Lee St. 686-3994 | \$ | 4 stars

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 CAFÉ Try the Santa Fe wrap. All organic menu with daily specials, sandwiches, wraps and smoothies. Soup and salad bar. If you can't find a table or need a quick lunch, check out the section of food to go inside the Natural Foods Market. 2311 W. Wall St. 684-5849 www.naturalfoodsmidland.com | \$ | 4 spoons

THE BAR Arguably the best burgers in town. Go during the fall or winter for the chili and cornbread. Use music and drink specials in the evenings. Try a bloody Mary with Saturday brunch. 686 W. Missouri Ave. 685-1757 www.thebarmidland.com | \$\$ | 4 spoons

TILTED KILT UK- Inspired pub chain with kilted waitresses serving fish 'n' chips and bar food. One of a growing trend of "brazosaurus," this eatery isn't necessarily known for its food. Online reviews are wildly mixed but tend toward the down side for service and more favorably for the food. 1119 Tradewinds Blvd. | 699-5458 | \$ | 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 Main Drive 683-5300 | \$ | 4 spoons

THE TURN SPORTS BAR & GRILL The former Sodoma is all new, featuring a sports-themed look and an

American classics menu, including a chicken fried steak that ranks among the best in town. 2101 W. Wall St. 695-6240 | \$ | 4 spoons

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

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Thursday, March 29, 2018 | Section C

Verlander, Hamels start Astros-Rangers opener

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Justin Verlander and Cole Hamels were both acquired in midseason trades by teams looking for championships.

Verlander and the Houston Astros needed only two months together last year before winning the World Series. The Texas Rangers are still trying 2 1/2 seasons after getting Hamels.

When the Astros open their title defense on the road against the Rangers on Thursday, the formerly traded aces will be starting against each other.

"Just the two names on the back of the

jersey would make you want to show up for this matchup," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said. "For hitters, it could be very challenging."

Verlander is pitching on opening day for the 10th time in 11 seasons. The 2011 AL MVP and Cy Young Award winner started nine of the last 10 openers for the Detroit Tigers since 2008.

"It's a full-circle moment," Verlander said. "Just being out there Game 1 of the season, everybody is so high on expectations and so excited about the upcoming season, the unknown, what's going to happen with their team. It's a unique atmosphere."

Verlander had spent all 13 of his big

league seasons with Detroit before approving a trade to Houston just seconds before the Aug. 31 deadline to be eligible for the Astros postseason roster. He went 5-0 with a 1.06 ERA in five September starts, including 11 strikeouts in six innings at Texas in his last regular-season start, and was 4-1 in six postseason games.

This will be the fourth career start on opening day for Hamels, the World Series 2008 World Series MVP for Philadelphia, which won the NL pennant again in 2009. This will be his second opener for the Rangers since he was acquired from the Phillies in July 2015.

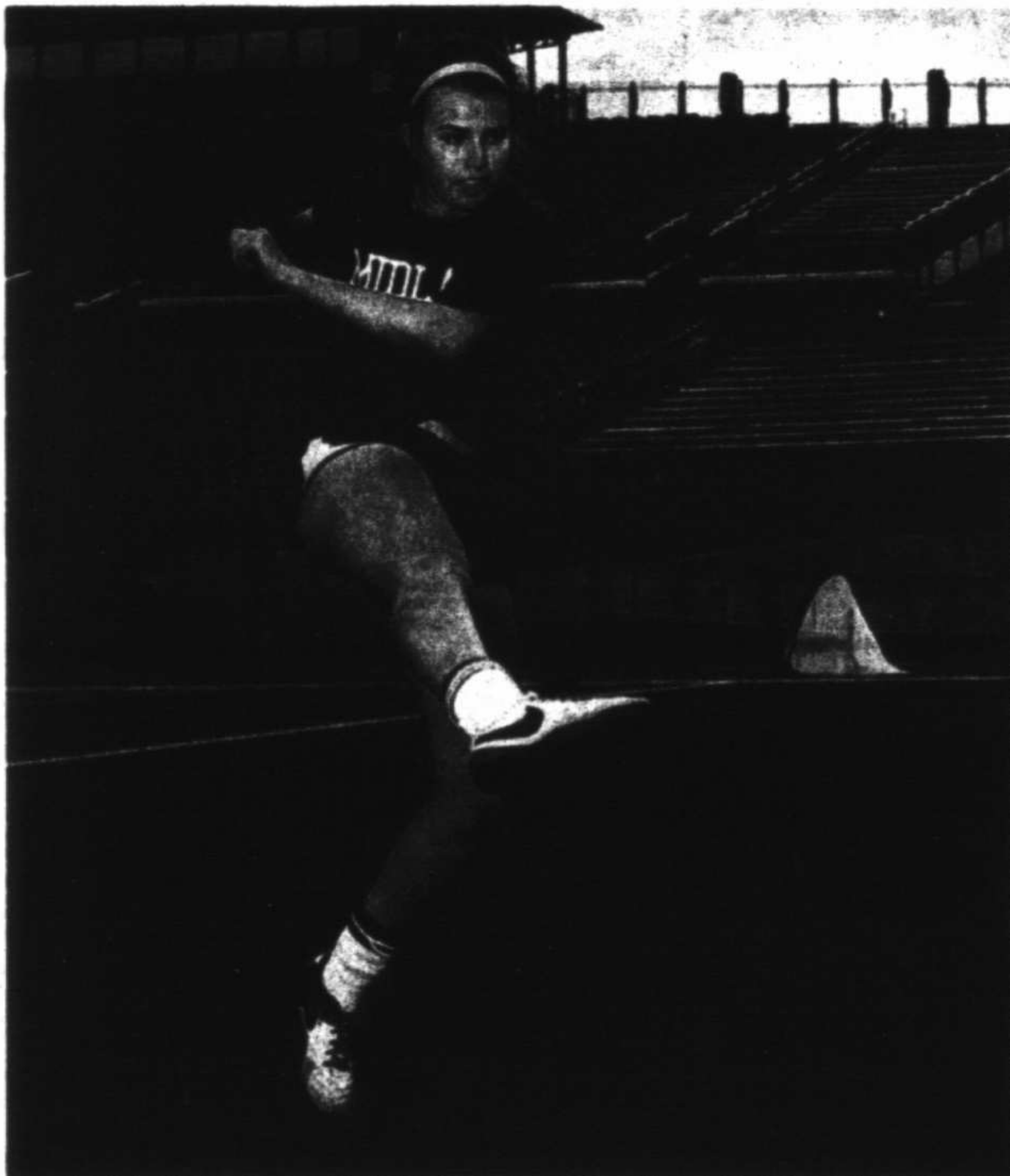
Please see ASTROS/2C



John Bazemore/Associated Press

Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander (35) works in the first inning of a spring training baseball game March 9 against the St. Louis Cardinals, in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Ready for playoffs



James Durbillo/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Kylie VonHolle shoots on goal on Wednesday at Grande Communications Stadium.

VonHolle grows into complete player, leader for Lady Bulldogs

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Kylie VonHolle was watching game film of her freshman year with the Midland High girls soccer team a couple of weeks ago and she was amazed at how much she has developed over time.

VonHolle wasn't a bad player when she was a freshman but compared to what she is now as a senior, it is like night and day to her.

VonHolle has been a scoring machine for the Lady Bulldogs (14-4-3), who take on No. 14-ranked El Paso Franklin (19-2) in the bi-district round of the Class 6A playoffs at 1:30 p.m. CDT today at Mack

Chase Athletic Complex in Artesia, New Mexico. The St. Mary's University senior has scored an impressive 31 goals this season, the highest single-season total in the program's recent memory.

"You can tell with the way I was playing, the confidence and the skill has developed a lot," VonHolle said. "It's really crazy to see little old me from freshman year to now. It's been a lot of hard work, it's been a lot of summer workouts, a lot of work in the offseason and it's been a lot of self-motivation. It's wanting to get better, wanting to do as best as I can, wanting to out-do the previous year and just growing closer to

the girls has made me want to do more for them also."

MHS coach Cooper Burham said VonHolle has been everything and more for the Lady Bulldogs, who are making their 10th straight playoff appearance.

"She's doing a really good job of one, being a leader, really stepping in and taking that captain role very serious," Burham said. "Having six freshmen on varsity you need that role model. She was in the same heat being on varsity as a freshman. She puts in the time day in and day out. She scores a goal a game, but we put her in

Please see VONHOLLE/2C



James Durbillo/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Daniel Olivas photographed during team practice on Wednesday at Grande Communications Stadium.

MHS' Olivas doesn't let a childhood accident slow him down

By Will Kern
wkern@mrt.com

Every day, Midland High sophomore forward Daniel Olivas must endure an adversity that a majority of his peers may never — the lingering effects of a traumatic childhood accident.

At age 2, Olivas covered two of his toes on his left foot when they came into contact with a spinning lawnmower blade. Even nearly 14 years later, the accident has still had physically painful effects on Olivas, as he often deals with ankle, knee and hip discomfort on his left side.

He said from time to time, he still has vivid memories of that

gripping day. But it hasn't affected his performance or preparation as a young and promising place on this year's MHS club. Though a role player for most of the season, Olivas quietly gave about his business and is always ready to contribute in whatever way he can.

"He's a kid who you'll never outwork, he works his tail off every day," said MHS first-year head coach J.D. Babin. "When we put him in — whether it's for three minutes, six minutes, seven minutes — he's going to give you quality minutes. If it's just to give a guy a break, he's going to give you that and no matter what he gets or what he does, it's going to

be all out all the time." Olivas and the Bulldogs (11-8-2) will look to create the beginning of a memorable playoff run, when they take on District 1-6A champion El Paso Eastwood (18-5) at 6 p.m. today at Mack Chase Athletic Complex in Artesia.

Soccer is a fairly new game for Olivas, who has only been playing in the organized ranks since he was 11. One of five sophomores on MHS' roster, he seizes every opportunity he gets to compete and doesn't let any physical setbacks hold him down.

"With my condition, I think it's pretty amazing I'm here on varsity," said

Please see OLIVAS/2C

New helmet rule likely to be part of replay for officiating

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The NFL's new rule outlawing a player from lowering his head to initiate contact with his helmet likely will be included in replay reviews for officials.

That has not been decided yet, but Commissioner Roger Goodell and competition committee chairman Rich McKay made it clear Wednesday that video reviews probably will be part of the process.

"If we're able to have replay confirm one of these facts and also confirm a player is ejected," Goodell said in the league meetings concluded, "I think there

is more confidence among the coaches it will be called accurately."

After noting the unanimous approval of the new rule among coaches, Goodell said on-field officials felt the same way.

"We think that is appropriate to do and it would be the first time we use replay for safety or in respect to any kind of foul," Goodell added.

Late Tuesday, the owners rejected the rule on using the helmet, making it a 15-yard penalty for any player to lower his head to initiate any hit with the helmet. McKay called it "a significant change," saying that it was a "technique too dangerous for the player doing it and the player being hit."

While the offender could be disqualified, owners did not call for an automatic ejection on such a play — at least not yet. In college football, when a player is penalized for targeting and a replay review affirms it, he is ejected.

Including replay will be discussed and very possibly implemented at the NFL's May meetings in Atlanta, where another full agenda will include discussions of changes to the league's national anthem policy, the potential sale of the Carolina Panthers, and reviewing the 2019 and 2020 drafts to two of the five finalist cities.

Before then, Goodell stressed that the workings of the new helmet rule will be made clear to the players, and there

will be further discussions on the standards to go from disqualifying a player to fines and possibly suspension.

"Our intent is to go to each team with tape and all the analysis work done (by the football operations, technology and medical staff) and be able to present it to them," Goodell said, adding it will be "all hands on deck" in the educational process.

"We can take the hard out, and we do want to make sure certain techniques are not used in our game. I am confident in the next few months (players) will understand it."

Like the coaches, the owners were

Please see NEW RULE/2C

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 VILLANOVA

Graham, Newman give Kansas a Batman-and-Robin backcourt

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Kansas coach Bill Self spent most of this season bemoaning the fact that Devonte Graham, his All-American point guard, didn't have a consistent sidekick to take the pressure off him.

Malik Newman in just in time for the NCAA Tournament. The transfer from Mississippi State finally bought into what Self has been demanding of him all season, and the result has been the finest performances of his career. He dropped 28 points when the top-seeded Jayhawks needed him against Seton Hall, had 17 points in a win over Clemson, then poured in 32 points — and all of their points in overtime — in an Elite Eight victory over Duke.

He's also turned up the intensity on defense, rebounded the ball better, and allowed Graham to do what he does best: Make plays without having to have the ball in his hands.

"I just felt like he was forcing Devonte to do too much," Self recalled, "but here of late, Devonte has a sidekick. Or you could even say Malik has a sidekick in Devonte, because Malik has been our best player for the last month."

All resulting in a Final Four trip and a date with Villanova on Saturday night.

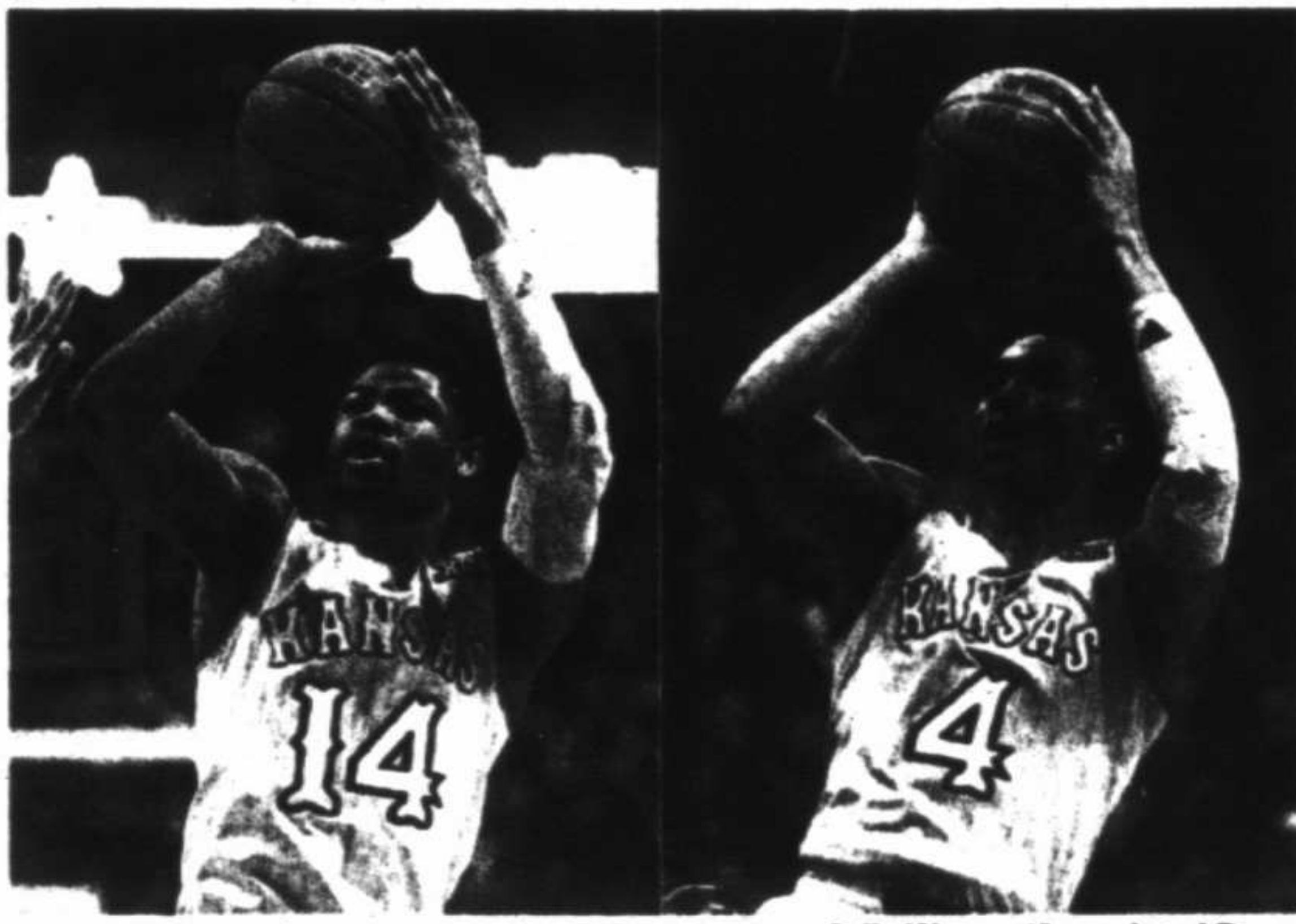
Of course, that raises another question: Who is Batman and who is Robin?

"I'm most definitely still Robin," Newman said with a smile. "This is Devonte's team. We know that, he knows that. I'm just trying to help as much as I can, just trying to take some pressure off."

"Coach was right about me throughout the season," Newman continued. "I'd have a good game, Svi (Mykhailiuk) would have a good game, but I was never consistent."

The irony of the superhero debate is that Graham had always played the role of Robin, the often-overlooked sidekick to Frank Mason III.

But when the national player of the year graduated last season, his career



At left, Kansas' Malik Newman (14) shoots against Texas Tech on Feb. 24 during the first half of an NCAA college game in Lubbock. At right, Kansas guard Devonte Graham (4) shoots against Toledo on Nov. 28, 2017 during the first half of an NCAA game in Lawrence, Kan.

ending with a thud in an Elite Eight loss to Oregon, it was Graham who immediately became the face of the program — and a smiling, energetic face, too.

He lived up to those expectations most of this season, too. Graham scored 35 points back-to-back against Toledo and Syracuse, and had three consecutive 20-point efforts to start league play. But when he struggled, as he did in a loss to Washington, the Jayhawks likewise stumbled.

The reality is that Graham hasn't played his best during the NCAA Tournament, besides a dynamic second half in an opening-round win over Penn. He was held to eight points by Seton Hall, and was 8 for 22 from the field in wins over Clemson and Duke last weekend in Omaha, Nebraska.

But he had nine assists against the Pirates, four against the Tigers and six more against the Blue Devils. He was able to attack the glass for rebounds, picked up a couple of steals, and do some of the less sexy things that he did while Mason was scoring

in bunches a season ago.

All because his sidekick had started to deliver on the offensive end.

"Coach Self put a lot of pressure on me about getting to the basket, getting to the free-throw line, just get six, seven easy points a game," Newman said.

"I think that really helped me. Just the tough love he's been showing me, not letting me take any shortcuts. It really helped me develop on and off the court and made me a better person."

Made him a more coveted player, too. The only downside of his breakout performance in March is the fact that Newman, once thought to be a one-and-done talent, has gone from perhaps returning to Lawrence for another season to being a likely first-round draft pick if he declares early.

He'd be joining the graduating Graham, who is likewise a projected first-round pick.

Batman and Robin, heading off to the NBA together? Could be.

They'd like to win at least two more games first.

Spieth looking to regain putting form

Associated Press

HUMBLE — The last time Jordan Spieth was in contention at the Houston Open, he lost out in a three-way playoff in 2015. Then he won the Masters for his first major championship.

The Dallas native is back this week for the usual Masters' tuncup, searching for some momentum.

"This hasn't been the start that I've wanted so far, but I would like to think the season kind of starts next week," Spieth said Wednesday. "You put a lot of emphasis on peaking for four weeks a year and that first one comes at the Masters. I'm trying to have a fantastic event here obviously, which is the best way to gear up for

(Augusta National)."

The 24-year-old Spieth, ranked No. 4 in the world, has been hurt by inconsistent putting of late. He missed the cut in the Valparaiso Championship and then lost to Patrick Reed on Friday in the Dell Technologies Match Play.

He is one of three top-10 players in the field at the Golf Club of Houston, followed by Justin Rose at No. 5 and Rickie Fowler No. 8. Phil Mickelson also is in the tournament after winning the WGC-Mexico Championship in early March for his first championship since the 2013 British Open.

Spieth's chances of winning could hinge on returning to form on the greens, which are groomed to mimic the putting surfaces

at Augusta National. He is currently ranked 201st in total putting on the PGA Tour and 172nd in strokes gained by putting.

"It's simple stuff. It's setup stuff that's just gotten off and I just haven't figured out how to consistently get it back on," he said. "I'm getting there, putting a lot of work in. If it comes by next week or this week, great. If it doesn't, it will come soon. I'm going to stay the course."

"I've got 20-plus more years out here and a few months of setup stuff isn't going to derail my confidence too much. I'm in a good place right now where I know I've got time on my side. These couple weeks aren't the be-all, end-all of my career. Solid putting (has been) in my

DNA going back to when I was a junior golfer and that's the belief I'll continue to hold."

The 24-year-old Spieth and Fowler each praised condition of the 7,422-yard, par-72 course, which took a beating during the historically devastating Hurricane Harvey.

"It's pretty amazing to see how good it looks after everything that has happened here in the last year," Fowler said. "I'm so excited to be back. I think it's very beneficial to play (the week before) a major, especially the way they set this golf course up, mowing the fairways and getting the greens up to speed similar to what we'll see next week."

HS SOCCER PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

Class 6A Region 1 playoff bracket
By AP
Adrian State (17-4, 17) vs. Taylor County (17-4, 17), 7 p.m. Thursday, Taylor County
Adrian State (17-4, 17) vs. Olin High (10-11-1, 12), 8 p.m. Thursday, Olin High
Heller (10-4-4, 10) vs. Mountain (10-4-1, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Mountain
Lee (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
San Angelo (10-4-4, 10) vs. Irving High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Irving High
Sulphur (10-4-4, 10) vs. Altus (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sulphur
Grand Prairie (10-4-4, 10) vs. Wilcox (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Wilcox

Region 2
Palo Verde (10-4-4, 10) vs. Flower Mound (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Flower Mound
Duncanville (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
Heller (10-4-4, 10) vs. Olin High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Olin High
Lee (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
San Angelo (10-4-4, 10) vs. Irving High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Irving High
Sulphur (10-4-4, 10) vs. Altus (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sulphur
Grand Prairie (10-4-4, 10) vs. Wilcox (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Wilcox

Region 3
Palo Verde (10-4-4, 10) vs. Flower Mound (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Flower Mound
Duncanville (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
Heller (10-4-4, 10) vs. Olin High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Olin High
Lee (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
San Angelo (10-4-4, 10) vs. Irving High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Irving High
Sulphur (10-4-4, 10) vs. Altus (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sulphur
Grand Prairie (10-4-4, 10) vs. Wilcox (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Wilcox

Region 4
Palo Verde (10-4-4, 10) vs. Flower Mound (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Flower Mound
Duncanville (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
Heller (10-4-4, 10) vs. Olin High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Olin High
Lee (10-4-4, 10) vs. El Paso (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, El Paso
San Angelo (10-4-4, 10) vs. Irving High (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Irving High
Sulphur (10-4-4, 10) vs. Altus (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sulphur
Grand Prairie (10-4-4, 10) vs. Wilcox (10-4-4, 10), 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Wilcox

HELMET

From 1C

emphatically behind the change.

"We've done so much research and investigation on what creates the real concussive plays in the NFL," Eagles owner Jeff Lurie said, "and it became obvious that so many of the plays are through the lowering of the helmet and using the helmet as a weapon. I thought this (rule) was very important."

Asked about the Rooney Rule and criticism of the Raiders in how they hired Jon Gruden as coach, Goodell said the league will look at it "and see if we can improve it, absolutely." Oakland was found to have not violated the rule that requires minority candidates to be interviewed for head coaching

and executive positions.

Goodell said any findings in the investigation of the behavior of Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson will be made public once the probe is concluded. There is no timetable for that.

Richardson has been accused of workplace misconduct and in December said he was selling the team.

The league hopes a buyer can be found in the next few weeks, vetted and then presented for approval at the May meetings.

While there were discussions in Orlando about the NFL's national anthem policy, Goodell said the focus was more on implementing social justice platforms in tandem with the players. Potential

changes to that policy could come in May.

Owners passed two more rules changes.

Most noteworthy, the league eliminated the requirement that a team that scores a winning touchdown at the end of regulation kick the extra point or go for a 2-point conversion.

In a January playoff game that Minnesota memorably won on a final pass play, New Orleans players were required to return to the field after leaving for a meaningless extra point. The Vikings took a knee.

Of course, better said fantasy players could have a stake in the NFL, but neither participating team did, particularly now that points scored or points prevented is so low in any tiebreaking procedures.

The owners also approved closing an overtime loophole that could have been embarrassing had it ever occurred.

Now, if the team that gets the ball first scores a field goal, then the opponent loses possession by an interception or fumble on its first series, the downs will be permitted to run to its conclusion, including awarding points scored by either team during the downs.

Previously, the turnover ended the game regardless — even though the team getting the takeaway consistently could have turned over the ball on that play and see it returned for a score by the opponent. Got it?

OLIVAS

From 1C

Olivas, who has four goals and an assist this year. "I just come out here and try my best. I don't want (the accident) to be an issue for performance."

Olivas added that he has grown in years and in his skill with a ball at his feet, the support he received from friends, teammates and loved ones was astounding. Despite a shorthanded left foot, he was constantly encouraged to continue his career in the game.

"The support (has been amazing)," Olivas said. "People told me I was good and that I should continue. People (also) told me I should quit and I continued to do what I love. I need to stay up to do my best and help the team. I need to continue to be the best (I can be)."

Bales said it's Olivas' drive to do whatever it takes, even in the face of debilitating pain, that separates him from other players his age. His pure hunger to succeed was one reason why he was called up to the varsity roster last season as a freshman before MHS' bi-district match against El Paso Socorro.

"It says a bunch about his attitude, his mental toughness and his character," Bales said. "You can tell it affects him and you can see it in his face at times, but he never tells you. His body language is always good and he comes out and competes. To fight through that adversity every day, it tells a lot about him as a person."

"If we come out and say we're going to run 12 miles, he can't wait. If you told him to go wash the laundry because it'll help you win a state championship, he'll say 'Yes sir.' That's just the kind of player and person he is."

In recent years, MHS has failed to clear the hurdle of El Paso competition in the postseason, as the Bulldogs have dropped their last five playoff matches to teams

from the Sun City.

But Olivas, who enjoys playing Fortnite, watching The Office and his favorite player, Bayern Munich captain Robert Lewandowski, said he's confident he and his teammates are up for the challenge.

"This match, I'm hoping that we keep our heads up and work together as a team," Olivas said.

Follow Will on Twitter:
@Will_MRT

CLASS 6A BI-DISTRICT
MIDLAND HIGH VS. EL PASO
EASTWOOD

When/where: 6 p.m. CDT today, Mack Chase Sports Complex, Artesia

Records/seed: MHS 11-8-2, No. 4 seed out of District 2-6A; EP Eastwood 18-5, No. 1 seed out of District 1-6A

Notes: The Bulldogs and District 1-6A champion Troopers met back on Jan. 11 at Grande Communications Stadium in the President's Cup. Eastwood edged MHS, 2-1 in that contest. ... The Troopers, who enter today's action on a seven-match winning streak, have allowed just two goals in that span and have yielded only 14 all season.

Eastwood is led by talented senior captain Jesus Mantey, who MHS head coach J.D. Bales said was a force for the Troopers throughout the District 1-6A season. ... Bales said containing the Eastwood midfield is a top priority for the Bulldogs. "It's a really good team and that's a really good belief that they are coming out of," Bales said. "The big thing we are going to focus on is trying to eliminate their midfield and force them to send balls over the top and make mistakes."

... Eastwood will also bring balance and depth to its game. "They have two really good center midfielders, they have a really good center back, and a lot of guys who can finish, can compete and they're very technical," ... Today is a rematch of the 2015 area round match, in which Eastwood topped MHS, 3-1 at Red Bull Stadium. ... After a five-match winning streak between Feb. 13-March 6, MHS dropped three of its final five regular season matches, scoring six goals in that span.

Next: Winner plays winner of Abilene High-Arlington High. TBA in Class 6A area round

VonHolle

From 1C

really good spots. If she's in the right spot and we can find her, she's got a chance to put it in.

"She's a great competitor, great kid and has a bright future," VonHolle admits that being a leader is something she had to get used to. In the past she always relied on older players to lead, but this season she is one of only four seniors on the roster.

"My freshman year there were a lot of seniors that year. Each year seeing the previous seniors graduate it finally became more real that it was soon to be my turn," she said. "It's weird to think that I'm the senior. The leadership (quality) definitely was not always there. And that's another thing about confidence. You have to have that confidence to be a leader for your team and be someone they look up to."

VonHolle said she has as a player that has helped her score as much as she has and has been a force to be reckoned with on the pitch. Still, she said she even surprised herself.

"I went into this season wanting to do as much as I possibly could for my team and to play my role," she said. "To see how it has turned out and is turning out it's crazy to think about it. I didn't think it would be quite like this."

VonHolle, whose older brother Alex plays college soccer at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, said soccer has always been around her family. She's been playing the sport since she was 4 years old and her dad, Jeff, is the general manager for the Midland-Odessa Sockers FC team, which plays during the summer.

"Me and my brother both played different sports growing up but we always loved soccer because it's different and it stood out to us," she said. "Soccer has always been big for us and my parents have always loved it."

VonHolle would love nothing more than to

close out her high school career with a deep playoff run. She said if her team continues to work hard and fixes the things it needs to fix, the Lady Bulldogs will get the results they want.

"(The playoffs) means everything," she said. "Honestly, knowing that this could possibly be some of my last games, it makes me want to leave everything out there for my team and Midland High."

Follow Oscar on Twitter:
@OleRoy_MRT

CLASS 6A BI-DISTRICT
MIDLAND HIGH VS. NO. 14
EL PASO FRANKLIN
WHEN/where: 1:30 p.m. CDT, Mack Chase Athletic Complex, Artesia, N.M.

Records/seed: Midland High 14-4-3 (District 2 No. 3 seed); Franklin 19-2 (District 1 No. 2 seed)

Notes & quotes: MHS won four of its last five matches, including a penalty kick win over Odessa High in the regular season finale on March 20. Unfortunately that PK win only netted the Lady Bulldogs two points to finish one point back of OHS for the No. 2 spot in district. ... Franklin has won its last eight games and has posted students in six of those wins. ... The Lady Bulldogs are a perennial playoff team and made it to the regional quarterfinals last year. "The El Paso schools do a really good job across the board of creating really competitive teams to the playoffs," MHS coach Cooper Berkman said. "I'm a strong believer on focusing on my team and obviously here and there we've got to take some of the things we know about them and plan for that. But if we show up and play, I believe we can play with anybody in the state. One of the things I've been preaching to the girls all year is you don't have to be among the best teams in the state, you've just got to give your best effort that day."

Berkman added that he likes the way his team played in the second half of the district season. "The past few games, I thought my girls have done a good job and they have been really consistent and they're looking good," he said. "That's what is important. If we put all the pieces together, we can be a really tough team to beat."

Berkman said his team is not likely to be without forward Rachel Houston (senior) today.

Next: Winner plays Abilene High-Arlington High. TBA in Class 6A area round, TBA

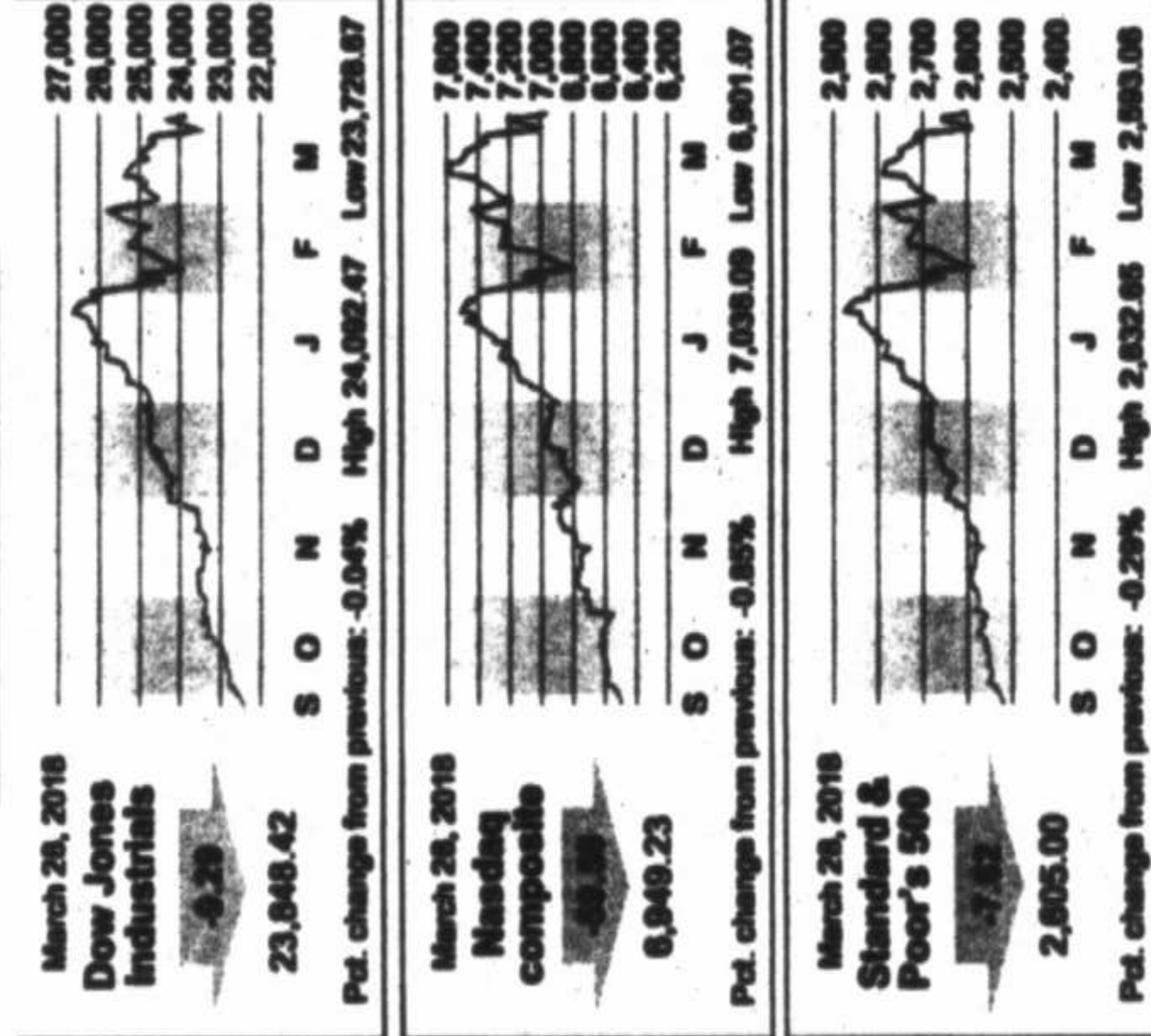
THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

ADON WALL STREET



Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

MUTUAL FUNDS

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

INDEXES

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	

PERMAN BASIN STOCKS

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Dow Jones	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
Industrials	23,948.42	23,948.42	-0.04%
High	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Low	23,728.07	23,728.07	



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Essential Functions:

- Follow instructions, and maintain compliance with all DOT, company and customer safety and operational policies and procedures
- Properly load and unload product at various customer locations in a professional, courteous, timely, safe, and efficient manner
- Connect and disconnect hoses, operating pumps and valves for loading and unloading
- Complete all paperwork accurately and timely, if applicable
- Complete other related tasks as assigned by manager

Minimum Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Class A CDL and Haz Mat is preferred but not required
- Must be able to pass background screening including MVR and criminal
- Must be able to work nights, weekends, and an extended workweek
- Strong customer service skills, and the ability to effectively prioritize, multi-task, manage time, organize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment

Supervisory Responsibilities:

No supervisory responsibilities are associated with this position.

Work Environment:

Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from mild to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, and bend is required. Must also be able to occasionally lift, carry, push, pull, move, and drag up to 50 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:

This is a full-time position. The ability to work overtime is a requirement to performing this job.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.



Now hiring for a Field Technician.

The Field Technician will provide advanced refracting services to support the Fax operations on location. Endeavor Energy will provide all necessary training for new employees. This is a non-driving position.

Job Duties:

- Comply with all OSHA and company safety procedures, rules and regulations
- Proper use and post up of equipment
- Consistently demonstrate safe unloading of tanks while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safety using pipe wrenches, crescent wrenches and other hand tools
- Immediate reporting and clearing of any spills during shift
- Maintain professionalism through working courteously with supervisors, dispatchers, fellow co-workers and customers
- All other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:

- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Proven capability to work both independently and collaboratively with different levels of management and individual contributors
- Demonstrated ability to manage work in stressful situations
- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Experience working on Fax site or similar responsibilities is preferred

Work Environment:

Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from mild to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift heavy push/pull/moving up to 50 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:

This is a full-time position.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS
DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR
PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATEPart Time Day Associate - MUST BE
DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-3pm. Tuesday will be here later at about 9 or 9:30 am. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 8-9 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person. \$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to stand and bend for at least a 9 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department involves processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with appropriate transportation.

Apply in person at:
201 E. Ninth, Lobby
Midland, Texas 79701
Monday - Friday 8-5
or email: hr@mrt.com
NORTH HALL
SPEAKE

Cooper Electric Company is Hiring for:
Journeyman Electrician

- Provide highly-skilled electrical support to oilfield operations, refineries, agricultural businesses and industrial electrical contracting.
- Work independently with little to some supervisory oversight.
- May act as Lead Electrician overseeing multiple Junior Journeyman Electricians, Apprentices Electricians and Labor employees.
- Perform other duties as assigned.
- Extensive Knowledge and Ability to:
- Install transformers, disconnects, start, field instruments, control panels, motor controls, and motors. Install conduits and pull using as required to each device.
- Troubleshoot and correct electrical device failures as required.
- Read and interpret electrical specifications, standards, and blueprints.
- Ability to perform electrical/mechanical maintenance and repairs as required.
- Drive to various locations to perform service repair work.
- Perform small industrial operations involving foundations, install, and custom types of electrical parts and equipment.
- Various types of electrical tools, equipment and meters.
- Read and cut 2" to 4" conduit at various angles and measurements.
- Complete and process paperwork related to troubleshooting, Job Safety Analysis, material ordering, field tickets, and miscellaneous paperwork.
- Thorough Knowledge and Ability to:
- Troubleshoot and correct 480 volt systems and higher.
- Considerable Knowledge:
- In the operation of a bucket and digger trucks related to the equipment's operational abilities.

Please call 201-555-0100 or send resume to hr@mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram
HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS
DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR
NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATENight Time Associate - MUST BE
DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 10-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night thru Sunday. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 8-9 hours per week. We will train the right person. \$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to stand and bend for at least a 9 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department involves processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with appropriate transportation.

Apply in person at:
201 E. Ninth, Lobby
Midland, Texas 79701
Monday - Friday 8-5
or email: hr@mrt.com
NORTH HALL
SPEAKE



Instructor-Transportation Trainer

Midland College is seeking a Instructor-Transportation Trainer Job Summary: The Transportation Trainer will provide instruction and train students in the classroom as well as in driving. The students will be provided with training and experience to obtain a Commercial Driver License.

Required Qualifications:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Must possess a valid Texas Class "A" Commercial Driver License, good driving record, and be insurable on Midland College's insurance policy
- "Three years" experience driving "over the road" (OTR) or local
- Experience in pre-trip inspection, backing, coupling and uncoupling of equipment
- Computer literacy
- Knowledge of rules and regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
- Knowledge of Double Clutching technique and how to teach it as required by TSPS
- Knowledge of air brake testing procedures and be able to instruct and assist
- Knowledge of Hours of Service Regulations and be able to log and teach log book entries as well as log book rules
- Ability to manage multiple tasks while providing close attention to detail
- Ability to work in cooperation with others and work a flexible schedule based on testing needs
- Maintain a high level of record keeping, office courtesy, and most frequent deadlines
- Establish goals and maintain a high level of decision making
- Adaptable to a constantly changing environment
- Ability to move or lift/move up to 75 pounds, capable of climbing stairs, balancing, stepping, and repeating testing
- Must successfully pass a DOT physical and DOT drug test

Customer Service Order Entry

Provide and enter customer orders to CSI order management program and manage them through delivery. Communicate with customers concerning the status of orders. Answer phone, email and fax inquiries. Must have good computer skills (word, excel). Good communication skills (phone, in person and email). Great team player. Hours: 8-5 Monday-Friday. Competitive pay and health benefits. Send resume to gs@csimarketing.com

Shipping Operations

Established company in Midland looking for shipping operations. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on shift experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Good resume and salary requirements to: Sharon@SharonServiceCo.com, P.O. Box 210, Snyder, Texas 79780

DOT, Safety & Inventory Clerk

Established company in Midland looking for DOT, Safety and Inventory Clerk. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on shift experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Good resume and salary requirements to: Sharon@SharonServiceCo.com, P.O. Box 210, Snyder, Texas 79780



Associate Traffic Engineer

- Job Duties:
- Support or substitute for the City Traffic Engineer as needed
- Observe and participate in the development, configuration, and operation of the City's computerized control systems
- Manage and perform current studies for traffic signals, stop signs, crosswalks, school zones, speed limits and other
- Observe commercial and industrial development requests
- Monitor all phases of the planning process for commercial and retail development
- Prepare analysis and recommendations to support of projects, roadway, intersection, and other infrastructure improvements
- Prepare analysis and recommendations for the installation and maintenance of traffic control devices within the city
- Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree in civil engineering or related field with a minimum of three years' experience in traffic engineering or related field
- Master's degree in civil engineering or related field may be substituted for three years' experience
- Valid Texas driver's license required
- Certification as an Engineer in Training (EIT) preferred

- Benefits:
- Healthcare Plans
- Paid Vacation Sick Leave
- Paid Training
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandnowhiring.com

Candler & Helms

We're looking for a candler and helpers for a hand-canned restaurant. Pay & benefits to be discussed. Must speak English, have good customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & dependable. Apply in person: 3100 Garden City Hwy. or email resume.

Shaw-Walker-Parker

Shaw-Walker-Parker is a family company looking for people to work in our retail store. Pay & benefits to be discussed. Must speak English, have good customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & dependable. Apply in person: 3100 Garden City Hwy. or email resume.

Midland Crane Operation

Midland Crane Operation is looking for crane operators. Pay & benefits to be discussed. Must speak English, have good customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & dependable. Apply in person: 3100 Garden City Hwy. or email resume.

Let Classifieds Work for
You! Call

432-682-6222



NOW HIRING

Fleet Technician

Diagnoses, repairs and maintains city trucks and heavy equipment.

Job Duties:

- Diagnoses equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, suspension control, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimates costs and rebuilds to specifications.
- Determines the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tires and mufflers.
- Inspects vehicles for state stickers.
- Determines readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Installs special equipment.
- Employee must provide own hand tools. City supplies major equipment including power tools, computerized analyzer, and other diagnostic equipment.
- Records blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs.
- Performs emergency repairs for various departments.
- Maintains records of work performed such as work orders, tags, material information, and special written requests.

Qualifications:

- High School graduate or GED
- Knowledge of proper tools used in welding and fabrication
- Three years training as a mechanic or in a related field
- Valid Texas Class A CDL Driver's License within one year of employment
- Texas Department of Public Safety Inspector Certificate required within one year of employment.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Code Enforcement Officer

Performs inspections of private and public properties to ensure compliance with municipal ordinances, zoning and land use regulations which govern the maintenance of property, grounds and structures.

Job Duties:

- Visually inspects properties for code violations as initiated by a complaint or routine inspection.
- Enters data into the computer to generate notice of violations to property owners or to record inspections.
- Responds to citizen calls regarding code violations, mail information regarding zoning or city regulations.
- Investigates planned setbacks, nonconforming uses, signs and illegal uses of property for the department.
- Manages city contracts for the clearing of lots, to include bidding projects, preparing contracts, awarding contracts and preparing payments to contractors.
- Conducts inspections to ensure proper environmental compliance in response to complaints.
- Provides information to the public and contractors regarding the requirements of zoning and related code and city requirements.
- Conducts field inspections of parked and abandoned vehicles, abandoned structures and other properties for compliance with city codes.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with developers, citizens and other employees in order to provide information regarding city codes and possible violations.

Ability to read and understand materials including City Ordinances, professional blueprints, plans, correspondence and manuals. Ability to write reports and correspondence. Skills in math. Skills to communicate both orally and in writing. Knowledge of office equipment including personal computer.

High school diploma or equivalent and a valid Texas driver's license required. Certification through Texas Department Health as a Certified Code Enforcement Officer, or ability to obtain after one year of training. Certification as Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, or ability to obtain within one year.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Customer Service (Field Work)

Performs field work regarding current or past water services.

Job Duties:

- Turns water on for new customers, disconnects water for customers leaving or re-connects service that had been disconnected. Obtains new or current readings due to new service or broken lines.
- Replaces meters to establish or re-establish service.
- Pulls meters should internal issues occur when customer fails to set up service.
- Collects past due utility bills on that water can be connected.
- Changes our broken meter stop valves and meter box lids.
- Verifies or re-reads meter information when complaints are filed.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with citizens, other departments and employees in order to provide information on current repairs or the reading of meters.

Ability to read work orders and maps in order to find street locations. Skill in math in determining amount of water utilized. Skill in the use of variety of hand tools such as shovels, meter wrenches and meter keys.

Valid Texas Driver's License required. Employee must be bondable.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Effluent Distribution Technician

Maintains plants in good working order and prevents holding ponds from overflowing.

Job Duties:

- Operates which pump units to operate and maintains center plants in good working order. Repairs and services when necessary.
- Operates gates and bypass system in order to allow water without allowing holding ponds to overflow. Determines when and when to close water.
- Monitors operations in order to apply the proper amount of water.
- Repairs water flow lines and tanks.
- Uses equipment such as bucket and backhoe in order to fix gullies caused by operations.
- Maintains and repairs electrical systems on central plant units.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read operator's manuals, gauges and work orders in order to maintain or repair meters or parts. Skill in writing to record results.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus six months to one year of experience. C Operator's certification from the THROCC. Valid Texas Driver's License required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Bulk Dump Trucks and hauling water/sewage to fill pits, backfill areas, etc. Must water/sewage from well locations to proper disposal facilities.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required.
- Valid Class A CDL with Texas endorsement.
- Class driving record.
- Safety conscious and communicate with qualifications and experience.

Compensation/Benefits included:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Health Flexible Control

Apply at www.gnd.com/midlandtexas-jobs



NOW HIRING

Electronics Tech - Airport

Performs routine and preventive maintenance of electrical equipment systems. Works under the direction of the Electronics/Electronics Specialist.

Job Duties:

- Performs preventive maintenance on automatic gates, automatic doors, parking lot equipment, lighting, security systems, jewelry systems, etc.
- Assists the Electronics/Electronics Specialist in the day to day operations of the Airport facility as needed.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.

Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in the operation of hand tools and equipment such as electrical measuring meters and devices.

High school diploma or equivalent plus two to three years of experience as an electrician required. Journeyman's License as an electrician required. Valid Texas Driver's License required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Electronics/Electronics Tech - WWP

Troubleshoots and maintains electrical, SCADA and control equipment for the well field, Purification Plant, Water Pollution Control Plant, water storage towers, booster station.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assists in the development of the budget and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items to the appropriate division during the annual budget process.

Job Duties:

- Troubleshoots and repairs electrical service in any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Troubleshoots and repairs control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Troubleshoots and repairs SCADA equipment at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Programs SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Installs units of SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Calculates electrical loads for equipment and installs wiring.
- Determines equipment and supplies required for jobs by reading code books and blue prints.
- Keeps abreast of changes in the Electrical Code and Regulations and makes recommendations on their benefits to the City.
- Maintains inventory of supplies used and replaces as needed.
- Performs Operations & Maintenance duties as assigned.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

- Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Ability to read operator's manuals, blue prints and schematics in order to maintain electrical, SCADA and control equipment throughout the Utilities Department in good working order. Skill in the operation of electrical and mechanical hand and power tools. Employee must perform mathematical calculations in order to determine electrical needs. Skill in writing to record results and track work. Will be on-call.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus two years of experience. A valid Apprentice Electrician license from the State of Texas or have successfully completed 12 college hours of electronics coursework would be preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must also obtain a valid state of Texas class 'C' or above driver's license.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Engineering Tech - Construction Inspector

Performs responsible work in support of city engineering staff. Work relates to engineering construction activities such as construction inspection of municipal projects involving construction of asphalt or concrete pavement, sidewalks, ramps, water lines and sewer lines.

Job Duties:

- Inspect forms, materials and workmanship for compliance with plans and specifications. Tests materials and workmanship as required.
- Maintain daily diary and records on projects including emergency telephone numbers for key people.
- Maintain inspection project files for all phases of construction for each project. Provides information to update record drawings.
- Inspect traffic control devices for compliance with plans and the Texas Manual on Uniform Control Devices. Make safety inspections to note deficiencies for correction.
- Analyze field construction problems and consult engineers with recommending corrections.
- Perform survey work as requested by Engineering staff.
- Coordinate with traffic, utility companies, businesses, etc. before and during construction.
- Act as project field coordinator for contractors, utility companies and city departments.
- Obtain utility locations and right of way, assemble plot and deed information and produce plot plans.
- Be appropriate, take and evaluate the progress of other employees.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Must be able to use and communicate by hand-held radio. Basic skill in the use of a variety of machines, including personal computers, printers, calculators, scanners and large document copier are preferred.

Must have a valid Texas Driver's License and a good driving record. Employee must be able to effectively communicate with other employees in the work group. Must be able to correctly respond to questions from contractors, engineers, inspectors, or city staff regarding work performed or applicable specifications related to a design or construction project.

Must coordinate effectively with other city departments, contractors, and utility companies when designing or scheduling work. Must possess skill in observing, read, and interpret written related materials and construction drawings. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment.

Must have obtained a High school diploma or equivalent GED plus 5 years of experience in civil construction design. College degree or construction certification preferred. Extensive knowledge of city codes and ordinances and other state and federal requirements regarding utility construction and safety standards.

Extensive knowledge of engineering standards and construction practices for water, sewer, street and drainage design. Intermediate skill in developing field notes and survey plots for boundary surveys.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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NOW HIRING

Equipment Operator - Landfill

Disposes for refuse through the use of heavy equipment at the Landfill.

Job Duties:

- Disposes of refuse with the use of heavy equipment such as compactors, scrapers, bulldozers and related equipment.
- Maintains access roads to the Landfill.
- Covers refuse at the end of each day.
- Maintains all equipment in good working order and keeps records of service problems. Submits daily maintenance sheets to supervisor.
- Performs preventive maintenance on equipment such as oil changes. Determines when servicing of vehicles is required.
- Maintains vehicles as they enter, unload and leave the Landfill. Gives directions to others.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to disposal. Knowledge of the processes used in collection and disposal of waste materials. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities such as compactors, lifts, chutes and hydraulic systems as well as simple shovels, brooms and rakes. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent, plus one to three years of equipment operation preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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NOW HIRING

Equipment Operator - Water and Wastewater

Performs manual and unskilled labor of more than ordinary difficulty, which often involves the use of acquired skills and operates several types of light vehicles and equipment. Does related work and training as required.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to water and sewer system maintenance. Knowledge of the processes used in utility maintenance. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools. Skill in the use of heavy equipment utilized in maintenance activities such as backhoes, ditch witch, and jet truck. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Valid Texas CDL Class A driver's license required or must be obtained within 6 months of employment. Must possess a valid state of Texas Driver's License Class I and Water Distribution D Certificate with a reasonable length of time.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
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NOW HIRING

Lab Technician

The employee is responsible for performing, monitoring, and integrating the results of tests necessary for the operation and regulatory compliance of the water and wastewater operations of the City of Midland. They are also responsible for the interpretation and implementation of regulations promulgated by State and Federal authorities.

Assists in the development of the budget for laboratory operations and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items during the annual budget process. Monitors expenditures during the year.

Job Duties:

- Responsible for the daily operation of laboratories in support of the Utilities Department. Conduct bacteriological, chemical, physical and instrumental analysis of water and wastewater samples submitted to the laboratory.
- Maintains equipment and supplies for the laboratory as well as for the City's facilities. This includes accurately maintaining extensive records tracking all chemicals, supplies, and equipment used for daily operations.
- Collects, analyzes, and interprets results of environmental, water and wastewater samples.
- Prepares requests for use of the laboratory and performs identification of reagents to ensure quality.
- Must maintain work area, supplies, and equipment in an orderly, safe, and clean manner.
- Maintains accurate and extensive analytical data records of data for future use.
- Investigates and reports on complaints and all other problems delegated by the Director of Utilities.
- Writes monthly reports or as required to the Water Regulatory Agencies and Utilities.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Keeps abreast of State/Federal regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
- Performs related duties as required. Available for on-call obligations and work on weekends as needed.

Qualifications:

- Employee has contact with general public, other employees, and other organizations.

Still in chemistry, reading and interpreting written materials. Must have skill in writing to record results of analysis. Employee generates reports and reports of work performed. Ability to perform chemical analysis. Must have thorough knowledge of chemistry and good knowledge of water and wastewater treatment. Must possess knowledge of computer software and applications. Working to experience lab protocol.

Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry, Biology or related field is preferred. Must be able to obtain Class B water operator license in the State of Texas within a year after hire and be able to maintain the license while employed.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Lead Water Purification Plant Operator

This position requires a demonstrated ability to perform advanced functions related to the operation and maintenance of equipment at all water treatment facilities. This position functions as a Lead Operator and also as a Chief Plant operator when required, performing complex aspects of the Water Treatment Plant operation and having direct charge of the operation of a water treatment facility or Water Purification Facility. Positions at this level provide instruction and guidance to lower level Water Treatment Plant Operators. This position is normally filled by advancement from the Water Treatment Operator II. Position requires three to five years of experience in a Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator and must possess a minimum of a Class 'C' Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator Certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality at the time of accepting position.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
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NOW HIRING

Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control of well water equipment. Does related work.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- At least two years experience maintaining and repairing electrical instrumentation and automation equipment.
- Valid operator's license with class driving record.

Compensation/Benefits included:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Health Flexible Control

Apply at www.gnd.com/midlandtexas-jobs

Legal and Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

Rule 37 Case No. 0310010
Status/Permit No. 837316

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., (FRC Operator No. 6857448) has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 20, Sh. 38 T3S, T8P R9C 10 / KNOWLES, J H Survey, A-948, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 14.3 miles SE direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted WITHOUT A HEARING if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearest to the proposed well. The protest must be filed with the Commission within the deadline. The protestor has the burden to prove the need for an appeal. A Protestor should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable to the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the rules of evidence, please contact the Commission's Hearing Room at (817) 425-4200, extension 8548. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (817)425-6791.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY May 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	DONALD L HUTT FEE W20S
Lease/Unit Well No. :	19H
Lease/Unit Acres :	4729.3
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	1.0
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	415.0

Lease Lines :	1365.0 F WEST L.	1260.0 F SOUTH L.
Survey Lines :	1365.0 F WEST L.	1260.0 F SOUTH L.

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Lateral : TH1

Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines : 1365.0 F WEST L
1280.0 F SOUTH L

Terminus Location		
BN County: MIDLAND		
Section: 45	Block: 38	Abstract: 1049
Survey: SHACKELFORD, MRS S E		
Lease Lines :	553.0	F WEST L
	100.0	F NORTH L
Survey Lines:	553.0	F WEST L
	100.0	F NORTH L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA): Special Rules 33010, 80.0 acres

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10480 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Carol Adler at (872) 588-8793.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

Rule 37 Case No. 0310011
Signed/Penned No. 037338

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [JRC Operator No. 685746] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statute Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.57). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 26, 28, 30 T3S, T8P R9C or 4; KNOWLES, J H Survey, A-846, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 14.3 miles SE direction from MIDLAND, TEXAS.

UNWARRANTED TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessee of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearest to the person who will have the substantial interest in the opening of the road. If a hearing is called, the applicant must appear at the hearing in person or by counsel. A protestant must appear at the hearing standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact the Commission's Office of Public Information at (800) 455-3844. If you have a protest which is Confidential to the Applicant or information that is both in this Notice, please contact the Commissioner's Office Public at role 371(2)455-4791.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY May 1, 2017 at 5:00 a.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	DONALD L HUTT FEE W20T
Lease/Unit Well No. :	20H
Lease/Unit Acres :	4726.3
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	1.0
Nearest Well on Lease (ft):	415.0

Lease Lines : 1410.0 F WEST L. 1200.0 F SOUTH L
Survey Lines : 1410.0 F WEST L. 1200.0 F SOUTH L

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Latent: T301
Penetration Point Location
Loose Lines: 1410.0 F WEST L
1200.0 F SOUTH L

Turnbus Location
 BN County: MIDLAND
 Section: 45 Block: 38 Abstract: 1049
 Survey: SNACKFORD, MRS S E
 Lease Line: 1352.0 F WEST L
 100.0 F NORTH L
 Survey Line: 1352.0 F WEST L
 100.0 F NORTH L

Field Rates for ALL Sales on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA): Special Rules:

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10,000 feet.

Classified
CAN
682-6222

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION**

DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 27, 2018
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, May 1, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

Rule 37 Case No. 0310012
Status/Permit No. 837344

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., (PRC Operator No. 685748) has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 20, Bl. 38, T&P RR CO / KNOWLES, J H Survey, A-549, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 14.3 miles SE direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessee of record of adjacent lands and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protester should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's District Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6781.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY May 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	DONALD L. HUTT FEE W20U	
Lease/Unit Well No. :	21H	
Lease/Unit Acres :	4726.3	
Nearest Lease Line (R) :	1.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (R) :	415.0	
Lease Lines :	1455.0 F WEST L.	1280.0 F SOUTH L.
Survey Lines :	1455.0 F WEST L.	1280.0 F SOUTH L.

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Lateral : TH1

Penetration Point Location

Lease Lines :	1455.0 F WEST L.	1280.0 F SOUTH L.
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Terminus Location

BN County: MIDLAND
Section: 45 Block: 38 Abstract: 1049
Survey: SHACKELFORD, MRS S E

Lease Lines :	2213.0 F WEST L.	100.0 F NORTH L.
Survey Lines :	2213.0 F WEST L.	100.0 F NORTH L.

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330R, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10480 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Carol Adler at (972) 588-5793.

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION**

DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 27, 2018
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, May 1, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

Rule 37 Case No. 0310014
Status/Permit No. 837348

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., (PRC Operator No. 685748) has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 20, Bl. 38, T&P RR CO / KNOWLES, J H Survey, A-549, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 14.3 miles SE direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessee of record of adjacent lands and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protester should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's District Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6781.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY May 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	DONALD L. HUTT FEE W20N	
Lease/Unit Well No. :	14H	
Lease/Unit Acres :	4726.3	
Nearest Lease Line (R) :	1.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (R) :	415.0	
Lease Lines :	1480.0 F WEST L.	1430.0 F SOUTH L.
Survey Lines :	1480.0 F WEST L.	1430.0 F SOUTH L.

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Lateral : TH1

Penetration Point Location

Lease Lines :	1480.0 F WEST L.	1430.0 F SOUTH L.
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Terminus Location

BN County: MIDLAND
Section: 45 Block: 38 Abstract: 1049
Survey: SHACKELFORD, MRS S E

Lease Lines :	988.0 F WEST L.	100.0 F NORTH L.
Survey Lines :	988.0 F WEST L.	100.0 F NORTH L.

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330R, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10480 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Carol Adler at (972) 588-5793.

DIAMONDBACK ESP LLC is hereby providing notice of intent to move in equipment and apud the Gridiron N000WB, located at 505' FWL and 1345' FSL, the Gridiron N007WA, located at 505' FWL and 1345' FSL, the Gridiron N008LS, located at 505' FWL and 1345' FSL, and the Gridiron N007LS, located at 505' FWL and 1345' FSL. All wells are located in Section 24, Block 40, T-1-S, T&P RR Co Survey, Midland County, TX, within the city limits of Midland. This notice is given pursuant to a requirement of the City of Midland under Title VI, Chapter 1, Section 23, labeled "Ordinance No. 8780," more particularly found under Section I (7), effective January 1, 2010.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to section 59 of the Texas Property Code, NSS Management will hold a public auction in order to satisfy a landlord's lien of personal property for Texas Wide Self Storage, 3886 W. Loop 290 N., Midland, TX 79707. On Thursday April 19, 2018 at 10AM The Auction will be held online at WWW.StorageTreasures.com

Storage units are believed to contain general household items. Auction will close on Friday April 6, 2018 @ 4PM. Units to be auctioned include: Nicholas Solis. The sale is open to cash buyers only. The facility has a right to place a minimum bid on each unit. All sales are final. Questions can be directed to The Property Manager.

★

Classified

CAN

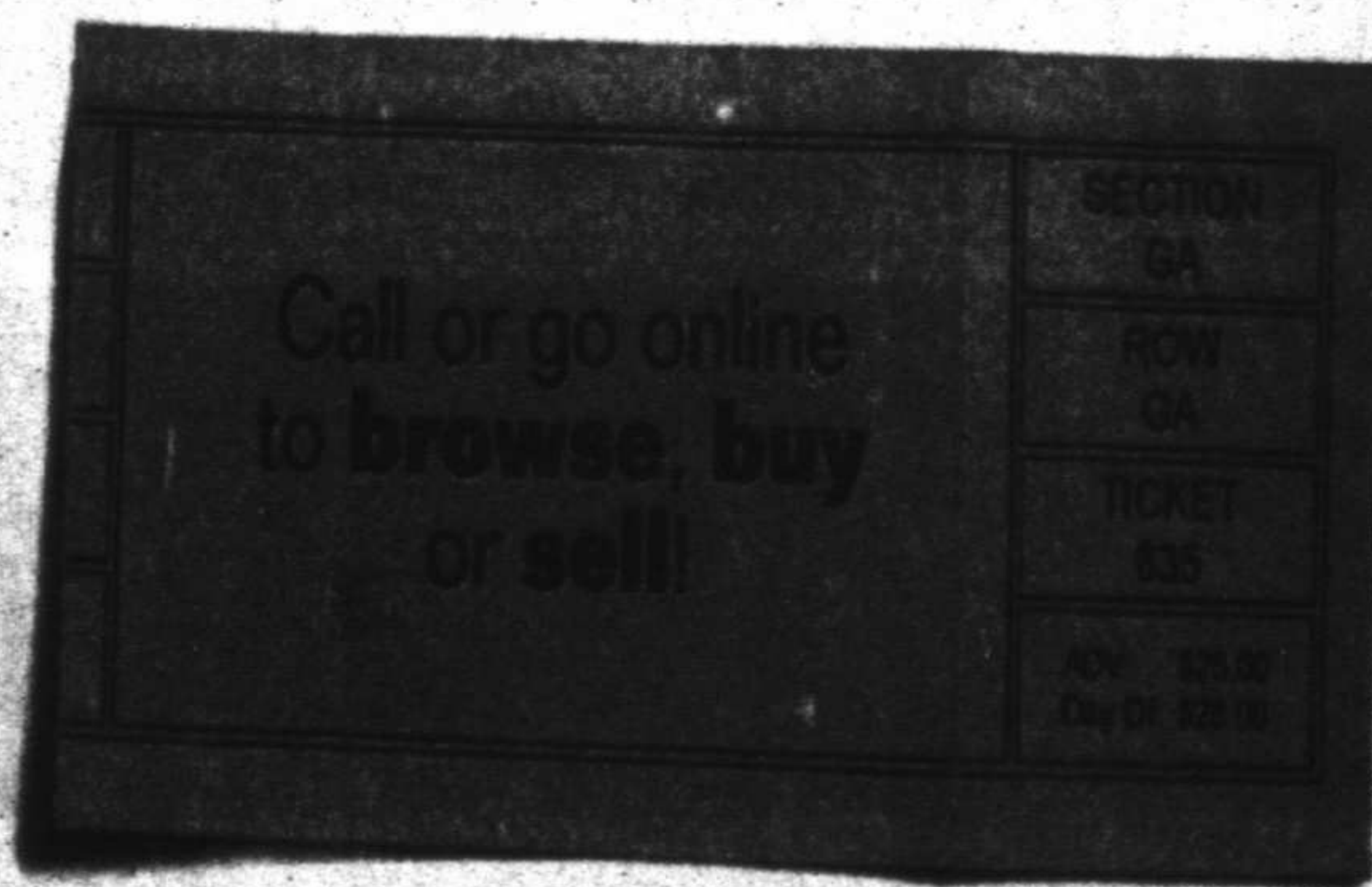
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APRIL FOOLS' DAY

This year April Fools' Day and Easter are the same day! No foolin'! You can fool around and have some Easter fun with this week's Kid Scoop page!



Can you find at least five silly things in this picture?

IMPORTANT: Anyone who plays a mean trick is just being mean. It is never funny to hurt another person's body or feelings.

Replace the missing words.

Funny in France

In France, children like to _____ a "fishy" April Fools' friends.

The trick is to _____ a _____ without the friend. Then all day your friend will be the "April Fool." (In France they call it *Poisson d'Avril* which means "April Fish.")

But watch out! Your _____ may have stuck a fish or two on your back as well!

FRIEND PLAY JOKE
STICK KNOWING BACK

Weekly Writing Corner

Easter Bunny Spotted

Students imagine they have just spotted the Easter Bunny.

When my family went into my house, the Easter Bunny was eating our food. It was only 1:00 at night and the Easter Bunny was really hungry.

Devin,
2nd grade

Breaking news: With Easter just around the corner, the WMES news team has spotted the Easter Bunny stealing eggs from Kevin's Chicken Farm. Apparently, he claims he didn't know the chickens belonged to Kevin. As we look back at the video footage from the secret camera it looks like it may have been on purpose because he laughed as he ran away. Is the Easter Bunny a thief? We'll be back with the story from the news team after this commercial.

Hannah,
5th grade

For the first time in years we have an Easter Bunny sighting. He was spotted by Taylor M. She said he had pink fur with a yellow tail, blue eyes and a red nose. She also said he was wearing an Easter egg printed shirt. She spotted him on her front lawn leaving eggs under a tree. She also said that she spotted him at midnight when she got her snack on the night before Easter. During her interview, Taylor said she was very astonished to see him.

Caeleigh,
4th grade

Do you know who spotted the Easter Bunny? I do. Taylor spotted the bunny in her kitchen at 3:03 in the morning. He was dressing a turkey for Easter and thought it was for Thanksgiving.

Sebastian,
1st grade

One day, while it was raining chocolate milk from candy clouds, I spotted the Easter Bunny. I was checking out and I noticed the cashier's name tag said: "E. Bunny." The candy god was standing right in front of me.

Zoe,
5th grade

Everyone would like to see the Easter Bunny, but you have to be lucky. I saw the Easter Bunny at 7:30 this morning. I was going to check for eggs in our chicken coop when I saw a white blur hopping from tree to tree. I kept watching and then I clearly saw him. I realized it was a rabbit carrying a basket of eggs. It disappeared into a hole in the ground. I almost ran to tell my mom, but decided to keep it a secret. If you read this, don't tell anyone.

Taylor,
3rd grade

Write On!

Remembering the School Year

Write a paragraph about what you will remember the most about this school year.

Deadline: April 22
Publishing Week of May 20
Send your story to:

Newspaper in Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
Midland@nied.com

Please include your school and grade.

Healthy Humor

Know someone who isn't feeling well? Tell them a joke. It might help with healing!

Dr. William Fry of the Stanford School of Medicine says that 100 laughs are equal to 15 minutes of riding a bike. Stronger muscles around the lungs help people breathe better.

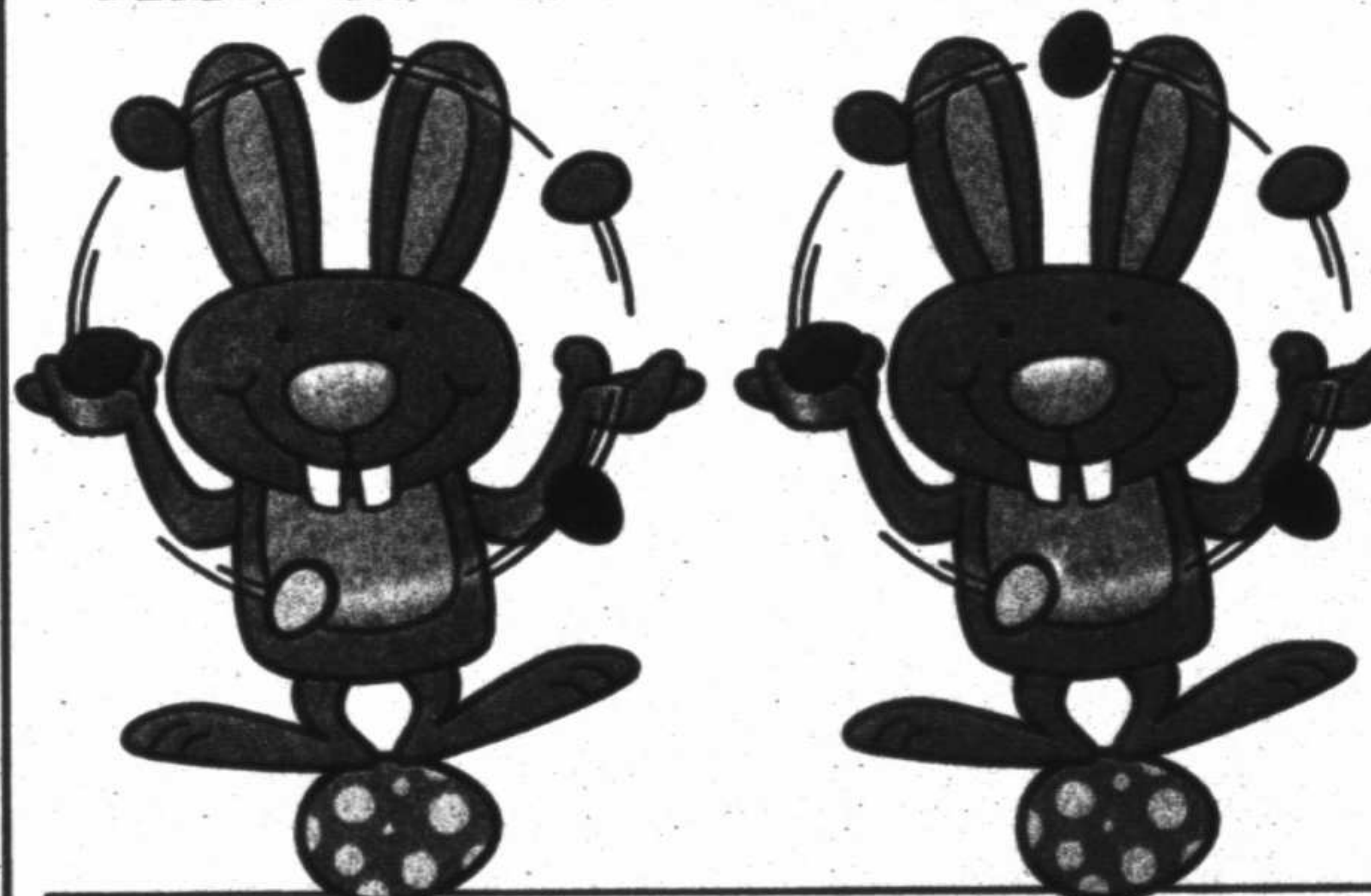
Many doctors are finding that laughing is good for our health. When we laugh, chemicals called endorphins (en-DOR-fins) are released from the brain. Endorphins make a person feel happy. They can also kill pain. So, if you laugh the next time you fall, it might hurt a little less!

Standard Link: Health: Doctors understand ways in which they can enhance and maintain their own health and well-being.

Match each riddle with its punchline.

It was just going fine.	Why do teachers wear sunglasses?
What happened to the magic tractor?	Why can't you tell a cow a secret?
Why were the clack in front?	Because students are so bright.
Because it got in the car and out the door.	It went down the road and turned into a field.

Find the differences between these two bunnies.



ANSWER: There are no differences! April Fool! Now give this puzzle to a friend as a prank.

Extra! Extra! Silly News

Rewrite the headlines in today's newspaper so that they have the exact opposite meaning.

Standard Link: Reading Comprehension: Understanding word choice is important to comprehend a passage.

How many Easter eggs can you find on this page? Have a friend try. Who found the most?

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Fool the Eyes

How many Fs are in this sentence?

Finding funny examples of newsmakers making flubs in speeches is the result of years of careful observation and faithful listening.

ANSWER: Did you count the F's? Most people do. But there are really only three F's in this sentence. The first F is in the word "Finding." The second F is in the word "funny." The third F is in the word "faithful."

Kid Scoop Word Search

ENDORPHINS

DOLPHIN

FRANCE

TRICK

SPEECHES

JESTERS

JOKES

APRIL

HURT

LAUGHS

FLUBS

SPEAKS

SILLY

EYES

FUN

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

L F A U L A U G H S
Y L L I S S G D S S
H E R U K A O W E E
T P C A B L A Y K H
A R E N P S E C O C
Y P U H A S I T J E
S N I H P R O D N E
H N U F T E F P A P
I N S R E T S E J S

Standard Link: Letter recognition. Recognized identical words. State and word reading. Pencil spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Easter Eggs

With a buddy, look through today's newspaper for the letters that spell Easter Eggs. Cut them out. Take turns mixing up the letters and spelling a new word. A player gets a point for every letter used.

Standard Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.



What did the frog order with his burger?



i'm lovin' it

YARBOROUGH INVESTMENTS, L.P.

Thanks For Your Support Of The Midland Reporter-Telegram's Newspaper In Education Program.