

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018

mrt★com

320,000 readers in print and online

TODAY IN EDUCATION

A small town in Texas permits school employees to concealed carry.

Page 1B



OIL DEMAND

US oil expected to meet most of world's growth in demand.

Page 2A

Turnout for primary election finishes on stronger note

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

COMMENTARY

The last week of early voting was a game-changer for turnout. Instead of slumping toward 5,000, turnout finished around 7,590 (which does not include the 810 mailed-in ballots), according to the Midland County Elections Office.

Midland County voters were inspired to make their votes matter, and the result is a turnout that compares to 2014, when co-incidentally, there was also a county judge and state Senate race on the Republican

Party primary ballot.

There were reports that early polling showed a large number of potential voters were undecided about this year's county judge's race between James Beauchamp, Terry Johnson and Stephen Robertson. With plenty of information and the League of Women Voters' forum taking place after the start of early voting, it is possible that Midland County voters were taking in all the information possible before making

More inside

Information on the key races on the ballot and other voting information.

Page 4A

their decisions.

It will take a strong primary day effort to top the total number of voters from 2014 (14,046).

	Early voting	Total
2018	7,590	
2014	8,023	14,046

2010 5,787 13,515
2006 3,708 6,817

Still a GOP county: The good news for Democrats is their party has more than doubled its turnout in early voting going back to the same period during the 2004 primary elections. The not-as-good news is that there is plenty of work left to do.

Despite having a contested, high-profile race for governor, Midland County Democrats were apathetic in their turnout efforts. Of the 7,590 people who early voted, more than 90 percent were

Please see ELECTION/4A

DAMAGE CONTROL



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Construction crews work Monday on mill and inlay work on Illinois Avenue outside Midland Memorial Hospital. That stretch of Illinois Avenue was originally repaved in 2016 when the pedestrian crossing with widened median was installed. Shortly after that work was completed, a water line broke, causing structural damage to the road, city spokeswoman Elena Ladd said via email. The water line was repaired and a patch was put on the roadway in order to re-open it. AT&T had been working in the area, and now that its work is complete, the city is doing the mill and inlay. The paving project is funded through the general fund, Ladd said.

Regal plans for one-drink maximum if alcohol permit approved

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Regal Cinemas is taking another shot at obtaining an alcohol permit from the city of Midland. On Monday, it moved one step closer to approval.

The Planning & Zoning Commission voted 6-0 in favor of allowing alcohol sales at Regal's Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 Loop 250. Regal previously applied for an alcohol permit in late 2015. P&Z approved the request, but in January 2016, City Council ultimately voted 5-2 to deny the request upon second reading. The denial forced Regal to wait one year before reapplying.

Regal sought an alcohol permit after competitor Cinergy Cinemas received one in 2012. When asked by Commissioner Josh Sparks why the city denied the request, Development Services Director Chuck Harrington said that at the time there was a lot of public opposition because children often are dropped off at the theater and, unlike Cinergy, had food sales limited to typical theater fare.

Some Midlanders also objected because they wanted an alcohol-free family-friendly option, according to previous Reporter-Telegram reports. In July 2016, City Council approved alcohol sales at Chuck E. Cheese's kids restaurant near Regal.

If a permit is approved this time, Regal will expand its concessions area and offer more substantive food such as hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza and jalapeno poppers, a company representative said at the meeting.

Customers will be allowed to purchase only one drink per visit, and alcohol will be served in translucent plastic cups so the contents can easily be identified, the representative said. All staff and managers handling alcohol will be trained to Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission standards. All theaters will be monitored at least once every 45 minutes.

Sparks said after the meeting that he

Please see REGAL/2A

MHS locked down because of 'alleged weapon'

From staff reports

Midland High School was locked down Monday morning because "a person was seen in the vicinity of (the school) with an alleged weapon," according to an email from Midland ISD's spokeswoman.

The person in question is a current MAP (Midland Alternative Program) student/former MHS student, spokeswoman Lacy Sperry said via email.

The district's police department located the student at Main Street and Michigan Avenue. The student was carrying a pellet gun, according to the

email. There is no evidence the student was a threat to campus. The student, who is in police custody, was not on campus with the pellet gun, according to video surveillance.

The lockdown has been lifted, and schedules on campus have resumed.

This incident occurs less than three weeks after another lockdown at the school. A 17-year-old MHS student was charged with two third-degree felonies — places weapons prohibited and tampering with physical evidence — for allegedly having a weapon on school grounds.

Midland Christian creates pilot program for campus security

From staff reports

Midland Christian School has created a pilot program that will put a Midland Police Department officer on campus for the rest of the year.

"While we believe your children are safe under our current infrastructure, protocols and personnel, we will have an officer from the Midland Police Department present during school hours for the remainder of the school year. ... Its evaluation will be valuable in our ongoing discussion regarding school improvements for

the 2018-19 school year," wrote Jared Lee, academic dean for the school in a letter to parents last week.

The program started today.

The following is a letter that Midland Christian officials sent out to parents last week.

The school gave the Reporter-Telegram permission to publish the letter.

Dear MCS Family,
With heightened awareness of school safety from recent national and

Please see MCS/2A

Visit us on social media



Price of oil

\$62.57 ▲ \$1.32

The big number

13.6 billion years is how far back astronomers have glimpsed the dawn of the universe. Page 4D

Word of the Day:

endemonium
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

Brought to you daily by



Vol. 88, No. 268
Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



7 63647 00001

Classified 1D | Comics 7C | Dear Abby 3B | Lottery 3A | Obituaries 2A | Puzzles 5C | Sports 1C | Stocks 6C | TV 3B



for 441st DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION • MARCH 6, 2018

POL. ADM. PAID FOR BY JEFF ROBBETT, JOHN ROOSA TREASURER • 1911 W. MISSOURI AVE., MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701

VOTE TODAY!

30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS A TRIAL LAWYER IN THE REAL WORLD.

US oil expected to meet most of world's growth in demand

By David Koenig
Associated Press

HOUSTON — A global energy group says booming production in the United States will meet most of the world's growth in demand for oil in the next few years.

The International Energy Agency believes U.S. oilfields will offset slow growth from the OPEC cartel.

The group, based in Paris, issued its annual oil market report on Monday. The resurgence in U.S. production is the most prominent change since the group's last forecast.

The agency continues to worry that globally, investment in new production has not rebounded from the oil-price plunge that started in mid-2014, raising the possibility of future shortages and price spikes. The IEA predicts that within five years, the cushion of production capacity over expected demand will fall to its lowest level since 2007. That was the year before the price for oil in the U.S. surged close to \$150. Prices are less than half that today.

The energy agency, which advises energy-consuming countries, said Monday that global energy demand will grow about 7 percent by 2023, to 104.7 million barrels of oil per day. Citing the production capabilities of drillers operating in U.S. shale

fields, the world capacity to produce oil will hit 107 million barrels a day.

The strongest growth is expected to come from the Permian Basin, a vast oil and gas pool that lies under parts of Texas and New Mexico. Output there is expected to double by 2023.

The energy group forecasts that the U.S. will supply enough oil to meet 80 percent of the growing demand over the next three years, and Canada, Brazil and Norway will meet the rest.

All that U.S. production should keep prices at the pump from rising. The energy group's director, Fatih Birol, said the study assumed oil prices around \$60 a barrel, which is just below the current international benchmark price of \$65.64 a barrel.

Meanwhile, the energy agency has scaled back its forecast of output from OPEC, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, a sign of the United States' ascendancy in energy.

For more than a year, OPEC and other producers including Russia have limited production, a strategy that helped boost crude prices. Benchmark crude has roughly doubled since bottoming in early 2016.

The rebound, however, also spurred more drilling in the U.S., where operators found success in shale formations stretching from Texas to North Dakota to



Charlie Riedel/AP File Photo

Pumpjacks work in a field on April 24, 2015 near Lovington, N.M. The boom in US oil production is expected to satisfy most of the world's growing appetite for oil through 2023, according to a new forecast by a global energy group. The International Energy Agency worries that that investment in oil exploration and production is too low. The result could be the thinnest margin of oil-production capacity over demand in more than a decade.

the Northeast. And with U.S. production expected to keep surging, OPEC's caps may prove less effective in boosting prices.

Speaking at the CER-AWeek IHS Markit conference on Monday, OPEC Secretary General Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo side-stepped questions about the cartel's next steps. A decision on extending the production limits beyond this year will be made at meetings in June and November, he said.

OPEC representatives planned to meet Monday night with executives from some of the U.S. shale producers — a follow-up to an ice-breaking meeting on the sidelines of the same

conference a year ago.

Barkindo said the OPEC side wanted to learn how the Americans were able to use technology, cuts costs, and still boost productivity.

"We are not talking about prices. We are not talking about production cuts," he said.

Environmentalists, scientists and some energy analysts question whether the world is rapidly approaching a "peak demand" scenario as policies are enacted to reduce carbon emissions from burning coal, oil and natural gas.

Birol said, however, that his group sees no sign that demand for fossil fuels will peak — or even plateau — in the next five years.

IEA: US dominance to squeeze OPEC into 2020s

■ Permian production to will double during that time

By Grant Smith
Bloomberg

The U.S. will dominate global oil markets for years to come, satisfying 80 percent of global demand growth to 2020 as the shale boom keeps OPEC under pressure, the International Energy Agency said.

"The U.S. is set to put its stamp on global oil markets for the next five years," IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said in a report published Monday. OPEC's surging rivals, which also include Brazil and Canada, will leave little space for the cartel to expand even after its production curbs expire this year.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is riding high right now, defying the skeptics by going deeper than their pledged cuts and maintaining them for long enough to deplete bloated oil inventories. However, the ensuing price recovery has "unleashed a new wave of growth from the U.S.," said the Paris-based IEA, which advises most of the world's major economies.

Thanks to the shale boom, new U.S. supply will cover more than half the world's oil demand growth to 2023, the agency said. Production from the prolific Permian Basin will

double over the period and the country's total liquid hydrocarbon output will rise to 17 million barrels a day from 13.2 million last year.

The bullish forecast kick-starts the annual CERWeek conference, a gathering of thousands of oil executives, traders, bankers and investors in Houston.

The American surge and a slightly weaker outlook for global demand growth make uncomfortable reading for OPEC. The IEA slashed projections for the amount of crude needed from the cartel, indicating its supply cuts would need to stay in place until 2021 to avoid creating another prolonged surplus.

Closer to 2023, global markets will start to tighten and the IEA warned that more investment is needed to meet growth in consumption and to make up for production lost to natural declines.

OPEC will struggle to start new production of its own. The IEA's five-year outlook for new output capacity from the group was reduced by about 62 percent from the previous report. The group will add 750,000 barrels a day by 2023 — just 2.1 percent — as gains in Iran and Iraq are offset by economically troubled Venezuela, where capacity will slump to the lowest since the 1940s.

There's a risk the wider industry may also fall short after an unprecedented drop in spending from 2015

to 2016, and little sign of a rebound in the subsequent two years, the IEA said. Constant investment is essential because the world loses about 3 million barrels of output each year — equivalent to the production of the North Sea — as oil fields age and their reservoir pressure drops.

As a result, by 2023 the level of spare production capacity that could be used in the event of a disruption will be the lowest since 2007. That increases the risk that prices will become more volatile, the agency said.

Slower Decline

Still, that process isn't happening as rapidly as previously feared. Despite expectations that lower investment would accelerate the depletion of maturing non-OPEC oil fields, the opposite is happening. Lower operating costs have so far offset the impact of reduced spending.

The average decline rate eased to 5.7 percent last year, compared with 7 percent between 2010 and 2014, the IEA said. That shift was aided by a "remarkable deceleration in decline rates" in the North Sea.

Global oil demand will increase by a total of 6.9 million barrels a day to reach 104.7 million a day by 2023, with China remaining the "main engine of demand growth." That's an average annual growth rate of about 1.2 million barrels a day, little changed from last year's forecast.

Obituaries



Olga Trammell Banks

Olga Trammell Banks, aged 102, took her final breath peacefully at home in her much-loved sunroom in the early morning hours of Sunday, February 18. This was exactly how and where she wished to leave her earthly body.

Olga was born in Ballinger where her grandparents lived but returned to Midland where her parents owned and operated a café, first in the Llano Hotel and later in the Crawford Hotel.

Olga was a quick learner, saying she never really applied herself diligently or worked hard at school, eventually graduating as salutatorian at Midland High School. She took the train to Denton and earned her Bachelor's degree in 1936 from what has become Texas Women's University. While her first jobs were as a hospital nutritionist/dietitian and then a State social worker, she was recruited by the Superintendent of Schools in Baird, Texas to teach chemistry in the high school. As a teacher, Olga found her true calling.

It was in Baird that she met the love of her life, Bill Banks. Having married in 1938, they lived in Baird, then Snyder and moved to Midland in the early 50's. Olga earned her Master's degree from Texas Tech University the old-fashioned way - by attending summer sessions. Olga and Bill never had any children of their own but Olga had several thousand young ladies she strongly impacted through her teaching Home Economics at first San Jacinto Junior High School, then Midland High School and, finally, at Lee High School from its opening day until she retired.

In 2012, Mrs. Banks was inducted into the Lee Legacy Wall of Honor in recognition of her outstanding service to Robert E. Lee High School and meritorious contributions to others. She was well known for referring to everyone as "sweetie".

Sadly, Bill died in 1982 during the early years of their retirement but she continued to love her Yorkies, collect friends, play bridge and participate as an active member of the Twentieth Century Study Club.

Olga was a good steward of the resources left to her by her parents, which she left to

the Permian Basin Area Foundation to create a permanent endowment fund to provide scholarships for graduates of both Midland high schools, as well as students of Midland College. The grants will be made in honor of Olga T. Banks, Wm. A. Banks (Bill), Eddie Handley, Calvin E. Trammell, Ada Tallua and Edward Jackson Handley.

She is survived by cousins Sara Ames (John) and by Mary Williams (Bowman), all of San Antonio, as well as a plethora of friends and former students. At her direction, she was quickly laid to rest beside her beloved Bill in a private graveside service, officiated by Reverend Melissa Shuler of First United Methodist Church in Midland. In lieu of flowers, she would love for any memorials to be sent to Permian Basin Area Foundation for the endowment of "Grand Companions", an adoption center for beloved pets.

Friends and family wish to express their gratitude to Mrs. Banks' caregivers, Paula, Jai, Rose and Karen, whose care and compassion allowed her to stay in her home. Close friends continued to help her for which she was always thankful. Special thanks go to Star Hospice.

Arrangements were under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home
& Crematory
(432) 550-5800

Death Notices

Deva Leona McFarland

Deva Leona McFarland, 94, of Midland Texas, formerly of Alamogordo, New Mexico, passed away on Monday, March 5, 2018 at Legacy Ranch Alzheimer's facility in Midland. There will be a private burial held in Alamogordo, New Mexico.

Floral arrangements can be sent to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She is survived by her son, Michael McFarland; two daughters, Jerry Lynn Marino and Deva Eileen Stewart.

James Elton Rasco Jr.

James Elton Rasco, Jr., 58, of Midland, passed away March 1, 2018. He was born to Carol (Lewis) and the late James Rasco, Sr. on September 17, 1959 in Big Spring, Texas.

He is survived by his wife, Hanna Argolan; mother, Carol Rasco; daughter, Melinda Walker; and three siblings.

Arrangements are entrusted to American Heritage Cemetery/Funeral Home/Crematory.

REGAL

From 1A

thinks Regal has worked to rectify the public's objections. He added the service of alcohol will still mean Regal is family-friendly, just as it is at Cinergy. Plus, alcohol service in theaters satisfies the tastes of a younger demographic moving into Midland.

"As time rolls on and as Midland continues to have a younger overall group of citizens, some of these things will be more important to keep some of these younger families here," he said. "Those young people tend to like places where they can go, have a good time and not be what some might say is stingy or old. Having those new things allows for new people in town or people not generally from this area to have something they're used to, something that they're comfortable with."

Service hours will be 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Saturday.

The city had not received any objections as of March 1 and recommended approval. The request was made by Regal Licensing.

P&Z is a recommending board for City Council, which makes final decisions on development matters.

IN OTHER BUSINESS
■ Regal wasn't the only

restaurant to receive a nod for an alcohol permit. The commission voted 6-0 to approve alcohol sales at the forthcoming El Timador Bar and Grill, 911 S. Big Spring Street. It will be located at the former Steak 42, which is moving to a new location. Steak 42 took its permit in the move, so El Timador had to apply for its own.

Requested service hours of 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday were approved. The beginning service time of 8 a.m. is TABC compliant. The city has moved to begin Sunday alcohol sales at 10 a.m.

■ Fadden Oil and Ranch's The Vineyard development could see new construction in the future. P&Z unanimously approved a preliminary plat on a 36.18 tract of land at the southwest corner of Holiday Hill Road and Becker Drive. Development could include single- and multi-family dwellings, retail and offices.

■ A 21.43 acre replat of Rocking "M" Ranch's property on the northeast corner of County Road 77 and Todd Road received approval. The owner plans for a subdivision of residential development on the property. It will maintain its agricultural estate zoning.

MCS

From 1A

local events, parents have expressed the desire for an on-campus, armed security guard. While we believe your children are safe under our current infrastructure, protocols and personnel, we will have an officer from the Midland Police Department present during school hours for the remainder of the school year, beginning on Monday (3/5). This will be a pilot program and its evaluation will be valuable in our ongoing discussion regarding school improvements for the 2018-19 school year. May God continue to bless you and our school family as a whole!

In Him,
Jared Lee, Academic
Dean
Midland Christian
School

Damage reported after earthquakes in Oklahoma

By Ken Miller
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Busted bricks and cracked windows were revealed Monday after some of those most powerful earthquakes in Oklahoma in the past year rattled the northern part of the state.

Oklahoma residents have gotten used to feeling rumbles from a spike in earthquakes blamed on wastewater injection wells from oil and gas production, but most don't cause damage. The threshold for damage usually starts at 4.0, and two quakes measuring a 4.2-magnitude hit Sunday evening in the Breckenridge and Enid areas, about 70 miles north of Oklahoma City, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Homeowners and business owners also reported

split walls and bricks falling down.

"We're not used to 4.2 magnitude earthquakes," said Garfield County Emergency Management Director Mike Homberg.

Oklahoma averaged just one magnitude 3.0 earthquake a year before 2009. But that number jumped to 903 in 2015, before declining to 304 last year. The strongest earthquake on record in the state was a 5.8 magnitude in 2016 near Pawnee.

Oklahoma regulators have directed several oil and gas producers to close or reduce the volume of injection wells, and the number of quakes has since declined. People can usually feel local earthquakes at 2.5 magnitude.

Sunday's quakes are the strongest since a magnitude 4.3 struck in September

near Modford in northwestern Oklahoma, according to Oklahoma Geological Survey seismologist Jacob Walter.

"These earthquakes are consistent with wastewater injection," Walter said. "Right now we're looking at the aftershocks."

Walter said there had been about 10 aftershocks of magnitude 3.0 or below.

Walter said the threat of earthquakes will continue, even if injection wells were ended immediately, because of the pressure built up from past injections.

"The earthquake severity hazard will be high for the next several years because of the energy in those fluid systems from previous, historical wastewater injection," Walter said.

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by

eudaemonism
[eu-dae-mo-nism]
noun
a theory that the highest ethical goal is happiness and personal well-being

Midland
Reporter-Telegram
AT YOUR SERVICE

ISSN 0890-5932
A Hearst Newspaper
Published each morning by the
Hearst 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.

MAIN
SWITCHBOARD
432-682-5311

PUBLISHER
Jeffrey Shabram 687-8880
jshabram@mrt.com

NEWSROOM
EDITOR
Stewart Doreen 687-8856
sdoreen@mrt.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Mary Dearen 687-8852
mdcareen@mrt.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Oscar LeRay 687-8809
olecro@mrt.com

OIL EDITOR
Mella McEwen 687-8860
mmcewen@mrt.com

FEATURES EDITOR
Rich Lopez 687-8859
rlopez@mrt.com

ONLINE EDITOR
Mercedes Cordero 687-8850
mcordero@mrt.com

CIRCULATION
CUSTOMER SERVICE
688-2700

DIRECTOR
Sharon Heckler 687-8829
shheckler@mrt.com

ADVERTISING
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Adrianne Hrebick 687-8811

SALES MANAGER
Chad Anderson 687-8813
canderson@mrt.com

RETAIL ADS
682-5311, ext. 4

CLASSIFIED ADS
682-6222 / 682-6999 (fax)
mrtclassified@mrt.com

PRODUCTION
DIRECTOR
John Madden 687-8844
jmadden@mrt.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED
QUESTIONS
How do I submit an announcement for a wedding or engagement?
weddings@mrt.com

How can I submit an obituary?
obits@mrt.com

How can I handle a billing problem?
Circulation: 688-2700
Advertising: 687-8806

CUSTOMER
SERVICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
Call us at 432-682-5311. Your newspaper has not arrived by delivery time 10 a.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. on weekends and holidays. For Midland city area requests received before 10 a.m., we can offer same or next day delivery. Outside the city delivery area, we will apply a surcharge to your account or schedule the next day.
Please note: The publisher reserves the right to modify the cost of individual editions and/or subscriptions at any time.

HOME DELIVERY

Available by advance payment only.
7 day regular delivery only \$1.47 per week
Daily delivery only \$1.47 per week
Sunday delivery only \$1.47 per week
Mail rates — Texas
Daily delivery \$1.47 per week
Sunday only \$1.47 per week
Mail rates — Other U.S.A.
Daily delivery \$1.47 per week
Sunday only \$1.47 per week
Overseas mail and other subscription rates furnished upon request.

NOTICE: All subscriptions include delivery of 11 Premium Issues delivered throughout the year, including Christmas and Thanksgiving. They will be charged at an additional \$1.00 per issue. For rate Premium Issues, your subscription will be charged in the 11th year of the subscription. The publisher reserves the right to change the length of the subscription at any time.

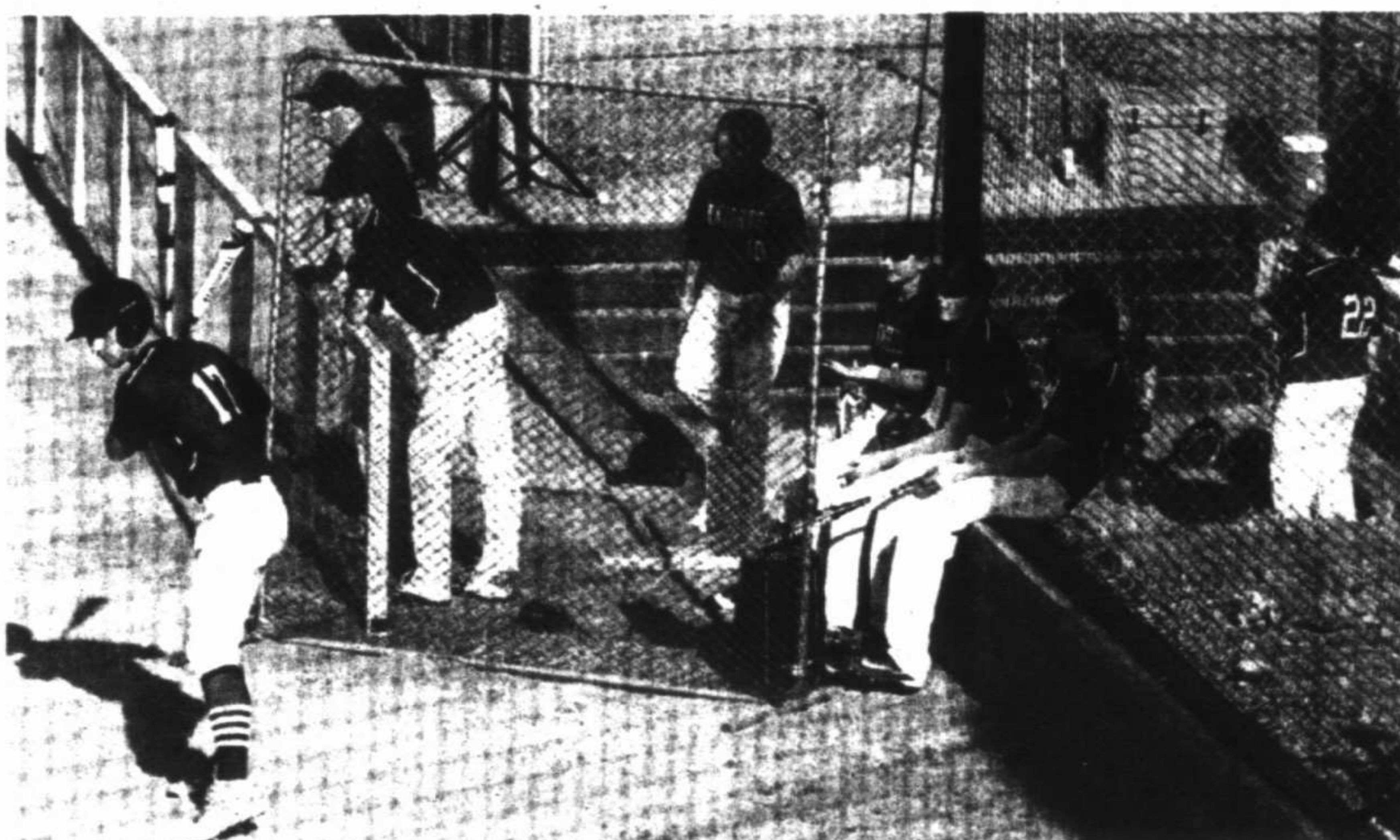
Most viewed at
mrt.com

1. February's Top Crime 69,552
2. Officials release list of violations regarding The Hacienda's shut down 42,113
3. Texas man behind one of the most popular anti-Trump signs makes pit stop in Midland 22,254
4. Small Bites: A look in. de Rube's Barbecue and Brews 14,610
5. La Hacienda owners, attorney address shutdown 7,790
6. Anadero breaks ground on its new Midland Regional Office 4,722
7. La Hacienda expected to open for Friday's concert 4,171
8. HS BASEBALL: No. 8 Rebels defeat Big Spring in Carrillo's return 4,104
9. Abell eighth-grader claims elusive third regional spelling bee title 3,840
10. Midland among the top 5 hottest real estate markets for February 3,754
11. Insurance organization: Midland County shut down La Hacienda after results by SFMO 3,086
12. OUT & ABOUT: Best brothers are top hands, MOTRAN recognizes award winners 3,031
13. Oil companies that call Midland home 2,723
14. 19-year-old dies in 2-vehicle wreck on Garden City Highway 2,469
15. HS BOYS BASKETBALL: Bowie makes key plays to beat Brock for I-3A title 1,990

Things to do

- Palette Club Painting, 9 a.m. to noon, Palette Club, 907 W. Wadley Ave. paletteclubmidland.com
- Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. To register, email sara@artysaradob.com
- Bridge game play, 1 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.
- Evening Family Storytime offers songs, stories and literacy activities for ages 2 to 6 and their caregivers, 4:30 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.
- Bingo, 6 p.m., Tail City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.
- Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 7 p.m., Basin Burger House, 607 N. Colorado St.
- Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m., Crown Royal Club, 1110 E. Scharbauer Drive. \$6. For more information, call 638-3707 or 250-8215.
- The Black Jacket Symphony presents AC/DC's "Back in Black," 8 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road

Take me out to the ball game



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland Classical Academy baseball players sit in one of the school's two new dugouts. Building the dugouts was the Eagle Scout project of MCA junior Will Berry, a member of Troop 84. Close to 70 volunteers worked 508 man hours on the project, which was completed on Saturday. Berry, 17, is the son of Bill and Lisa Berry.

1788, \$25-\$50. wagnernoe.com.

■ 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

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

MISO meetings

■ Proposed secondary boundary

modifications

5:30 p.m. Wednesday
Abell Junior High School, 3201 Heritage Blvd.

■ Budget workshop
11:30 a.m. Thursday
Administration building - Room 620, 615 W. Missouri Ave.

■ Proposed secondary boundary

modifications
5:30 p.m. Thursday
Alamo Junior High School, 3800

Storey Ave.

This date in Texas

On March 6, 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio fell as Mexican forces led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna stormed the fortress after a 13-day siege; the battle claimed the lives of all the Texan defenders, nearly 200 strong, including William Travis, James Bowie and Davy Crockett.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 7-3-5
Pick 3 day: 4-1-1
Pick 3 evening: 9-7-8
Pick 3 night: 8-8-3
Daily 4 morning: 3-6-1-2
Daily 4 day: 8-6-9-7
Daily 4 evening: 9-3-7-3
Daily 4 night: 6-1-5-5
Cash Five: 2-6-13-14-18
Triple Chance: 1-3-7-12-21-30-37-39-42-55
Texas Two Step: 1-19-23-

35 BB: 17
All or Nothing morning: 4-10-12-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 4-9-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-22-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 3-5-7-8-10-11-13-16-17-18-20-23
All or Nothing night: 1-2-3-4-5-7-11-14-16-17-21-23

Weather

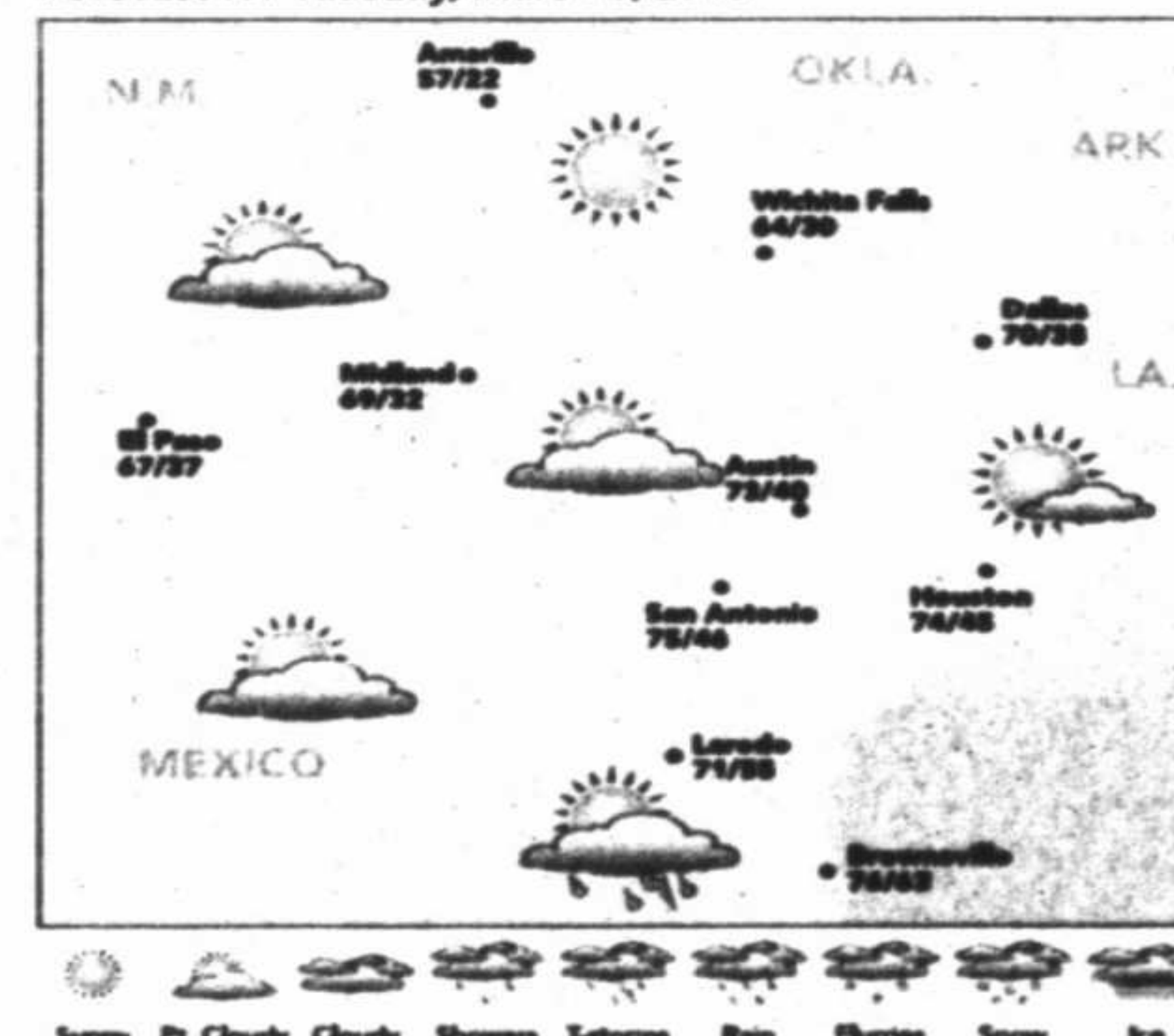
Monday's temperatures
High.....69
Low.....49
Normal high.....67
Normal low.....39

March 6's records
Record high: 89, set in 1991 and equaled in 2009
Record low: 11, set in 1989

Precipitation
Saturday.....0.00 in.
Sunday.....0.00 in.
Month total.....0.00 in.
Year total.....0.05 in.
Normal total (year to date).....1.37 in.

Winds
Average wind speed: 11.2 mph
Highest sustained wind speed: 24 mph
Highest gust speed: 32 mph

Forecast for Tuesday, March 6, 2018



March 6 forecast
High: 65
Low: 31
Conditions: Mostly sunny during the day/partly cloudy at night

Winds: 5-10 mph
Chance of rain: none

Sunrise.....7:10 a.m.
Sunset.....6:50 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 Sagittarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, March 6, 2018:

This year you seem to express your feelings in a way that others can understand. Your receptiveness to those around you seems, and as a result, so does your popularity. If you are single, you could meet several potential sweethearts. The challenge will be to choose the right one. If you are attached, the two of you seem more integrally connected than in past years. You might opt to take up a new hobby together or plan a long-dreamed-of vacation. SCORPIO might make you uncomfortable with his or her insights.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Get as much feedback as possible about the pros and cons of a financial matter. Tap into the moment, and know when to reveal more of your reasoning. Others want to respond to you, but they might struggle with how to make their message clear. Tonight: Make an idea possible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You have the ability

to respond appropriately to someone's pressure. Find out what is going on with this person, and figure out why he or she is being so controlling. Bypass a problem by holding in your feelings for the moment. Tonight: Let someone else make the first move.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ With today being so hectic, you'll need to make sure you take breaks. Your focus will be on routine matters, but also keep the big picture in mind. Plan on several meetings not going exactly as you had planned. Hang in there. Tonight: Make a point of choosing a fun pastime.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Your creativity stems from your feelings and your willingness to experience them. Refuse to let someone else create unnecessary anxiety for you. A higher-up is likely to ask you many questions. Know that you have grounded ideas. Tonight: As you like it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ When you get past certain details and are willing to look at the big picture, you might be able to identify what is wrong or not going well in a personal situation. You have the power to change the status quo. Be willing to move in a new direction. Tonight: Be more easygoing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You could be

convinced that the only way to handle a problem is your way. However, after hearing what others have to say, you'll realize that you have many alternatives. A talk convinces you that a partner knows much more than he or she lets on. Tonight: Accept an offer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be in a situation that seems impossible to resolve. This matter could be tied to your finances as well, causing stress for both you and the other person involved. The more relaxed you are, the better off you'll be. Let others call the shots. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You could hit an obstacle or two, but you will continue to move forward in order to achieve certain goals. Express your compassion in a clear manner, and others will respond well. Be sensitive to what is go-

ing on with those closest to you. Tonight: Be more flexible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You still might feel somewhat off. You seem to be pushing very hard against some tumultuous winds. Understand what is going on within your inner circle. A loved one might try hard to please you; show this person your appreciation. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might get an indication that everything is going to work out with a personal matter. You can relax and focus on what you want, be it professional or personal. You could change your mind about a major expenditure. Make it OK to switch gears. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.

18)
★★★★ Your ability to get past a problem is highlighted. You seem resilient to many people. You also have the power to create more of what you desire. Communicate more directly with those who will support you in moving in a new direction. Ask a friend for feedback. Tonight: Be a star.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your ability to gather more information could surprise you. You have a way of making an impression on others with not only your inspirational perspective, but also your empathy for what they experience. Today is no different. Tonight: Go where you can listen to great music.

BORN TODAY
Basketball player Shaquille O'Neal (1972), actor Tom Arnold (1959), actress Connie Britton (1967)

SMILES & TEETH

LARRY RU&K, D.D.S.

1110 West Texas Ave. Midland, TX 79701 432-682-5729
www.drarryru&k.com • email: drarryru&k@yahoo.com

IT'S OKAY TO PRUNE
12 MONTHS A YEAR

CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS AT

alloridge

TO PRUNE YOUR TREES

The following are key races featuring local candidates or those we believe will have an impact on Midland

State Senate



Mike Canon



Victor Leal



Kel Seliger



James Beauchamp



Terry Johnson



Stephen Robertson

County Judge

Railroad Commissioner



Christel Craddock



Weston Martinez

County Commissioner Precinct 4



Randy Prude



Carla Rappaport

District Judge 238th District



Chris DeFuria



Elizabeth Dyer Leonard

District Judge, 441st District



Wayne Frost



Sean Guerrero



Isaiah Roby Jackson



Jeff Robinson

U.S. Representative District 11



Mike Connaway



Phil Myers

PRIMARY DAY IS TODAY

Election Day Voting Centers

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- Midland County Annex, 2110 N. "A" St.
- Centennial Library, 2503 W. Loop 250 N
- Cogdell Learning Center, 211 W. Florida Ave.
- Fellowship Community Church, 5206 N. Midland Drive
- Manor Park (Cowden Clubhouse), 5212 Sinclair Ave.
- Cotton Flat Baptist Church, 6409 State Highway 349
- Fairmont Park Church of Christ, 3813 N. Midland Drive
- Golf Course Road Church of Christ, 3500 W. Golf Course

Road

- Greater Ideal Baptist Church, 301 S. Tyler St.
- Greenwood Baptist Church, 10908 FM 307
- MLK Jr. Community Center, 2300 Butternut Lane
- Midland Lutheran Church, 2705 W. Michigan Ave.
- Odessa Country Club, No. 1 Fairway
- St. Paul's Methodist Church, 4501 Thomason Drive
- Stonegate Fellowship, 6000 W. Wadley Ave.

ELECTION

From 1A

Republicans. Again, it may be a good-news, bad-news statistic for Democrats. In 2014, Republicans made up 93 percent of those voting early. In 2006, that percentage was better than 94, so it can be argued that Democrats are making incremental gains in Midland County.

Early voting turnout

Total	GOP	Dems
7,590	6,872	718
8,023	7,496	527
5,787	5,453	333
3,708	3,365	343

More work to do? It wouldn't be surprising to hear Tuesday night that one or more races are headed to a runoff. The rule is a candidate must capture better than 50 percent of the vote to claim the party's primary nomination. If a winner doesn't capture at least the 50 percent plus one vote, there will be a runoff on May 22, according to the Texas Secretary of State's Office. Early voting for the runoff starts on May 14. Last day to register to vote is April 23.

What's going on in Odessa? The Ector County Election's Office reports that 4,712 Republicans vot-

ed during the early voting period. This is more than 2014. This should be good news for Midland's Mike Canon, who is running in the state Senate race versus Amarillo's Kel Seliger and Victor Leal.

For Canon supporters, here are a couple numbers to look out for today — 7928 (the total number of GOP votes in Ector County in 2014) and 58 (the percentage of votes Canon picked up in Ector County in 2014). For Canon to win tonight, those numbers have to go up.

For those interested 1,105 Democrats voted during early voting in Ector County.

2018 TEXAS REPUBLICAN PARTY BALLOT PROPOSITIONS:

■ Texas should replace the property tax system with an appropriate consumption tax equivalent. Yes/No

■ No governmental entity should ever construct or fund construction of toll roads without voter approval. Yes/No

■ Republicans in the Texas House should select their Speaker sometime by secret ballot in a binding caucus without Democrat

influence. Yes/No

■ Texas should require employers to screen new hires through the free E-Verify system to protect jobs for legal workers. Yes/No

■ Texas families should be empowered to choose from public, private, charter, or homeschool options for their children's education, using tax credits or exemptions without government constraints or intrusion. Yes/No

■ Texas should protect the privacy and safety of women and children in spaces such as bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers in all Texas schools and government buildings. Yes/No

■ I believe abortion should be abolished in Texas. Yes/No

■ Vote fraud should be a felony in Texas to help ensure fair elections. Yes/No

■ Texas demands that Congress completely repeal Obamacare. Yes/No

■ To slow the growth of property taxes, yearly revenue increases should be capped at 4%, with increases in excess of 4% requiring voter approval.

Yes/No

■ Tax dollars should not be used to fund the building of stadiums for professional or semi-professional sports teams. Yes/No

Source: teachthevote.org

2018 TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY BALLOT PROPOSITIONS:

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to quality public education from pre-K to 12th grade, and affordable college and career training without the burden of crushing student loan debt? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to refinance student loan debt with the Federal Reserve at a 0% interest rate, as relief for the crushing burden of debt and an investment in the next generation of Americans? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have a right to healthcare, guaranteed by a universal, quality Medicare-for-all system? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to economic security, where all workers have earned paid

family and sick leave and a living wage that respects their hard work? Yes/No

■ Should the Democratic Party promote a national jobs program, with high wage and labor standards, to replace crumbling infrastructure and rebuild hurricane damaged areas, paid for with local, state, and federal bonds financed through the Federal Reserve at low interest with long term maturities? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to clean air, safe water, and a healthy environment? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to a life of dignity and respect, free from discrimination and harassment anywhere, including businesses and public facilities, no matter how they identify, the color of their skin, who they love, socioeconomic status, or from where they come? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to affordable and accessible housing and modern utilities including high speed internet, free from any form of discrimination? Yes/No

■ Should every eligible Texan have the right to vote, made easier by automatic voter registration, the option to vote by mail, a state election holiday, and no corporate campaign influence, foreign gerrymandering? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to a fair criminal justice system that treats people equally and puts an end to the mass incarceration of young people of color for minor offenses? Yes/No

■ Should there be a just and fair comprehensive immigration reform solution that includes an earned path to citizenship for law-abiding immigrants and their children, keeps families together, protects DREAMers, and provides workforce solutions for businesses? Yes/No

■ Should everyone in Texas have the right to a fair tax system, where all interests (business, corporations, and individuals) pay their share, so that state government meets its obligations? Yes/No

Source: teachthevote.org

OPINION

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

Carlson becomes the classic 'ugly' American

■ The least a TV host can do is show his guests some respect

As a Latino opinion writer, I've had lots of people attack me by weaponizing the word "American."

A reader once scolded me for "writing like a Mexican" and told me to "write like an American." After a column where I described my love affair with this country, another reader sniped that my being American was "a technicality." And, on many occasions, I've been informed by people that I'm not "a real American."

Such lovely folks.

And such bold talk from people whose roots in this country may not actually be as deep as mine. Three of my four grandparents were born in the United States; and, in the case of a couple of them, so were their grandparents.

Besides, if we're going to start questioning each other's American identity, Latinos should be the ones checking paperwork. Since America isn't really one country but actually two continents (North and South), it's fair to say that the original "Americanos" had brown skin.

This is a concept that I don't think Tucker Carlson has the intellectual juice to grasp.

I've known Carlson for about 20 years, and I've always liked him. He's a great

RUBEN NAVARRETTE
Washington Post Writers Group



writer who has, over the years, also become really good on television. He has suffered setbacks and been fired by CNN and MSNBC. Yet he persevered and worked hard to get to where he is now — the host of Fox News' primetime show "Tucker Carlson Tonight."

In the late 1990s, sporting his trademark bow-tie, Carlson was a political moderate. On most issues — including immigration — he was fair and thoughtful.

In October 1997, Carlson wrote an essay criticizing the anti-immigrant group Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), which — as Carlson noted — had been called "racist" because of its affiliation with organizations pushing eugenics. Carlson pointed out that FAIR had also shown hostility toward Hispanics, who Executive Director Dan Stein had suggested engage in "competitive breeding." As Carlson put it, all of this left behind "an unpleasant odor."

The Southern California native hosts a cable television show that leaves a stench of its own.

Carlson enthusiastically serves his constituents. If you're an unemployed white male living down the block from an abandoned factory in a Rust Belt state who thinks the Democrats sold you out, the union didn't protect your job, whites are discriminated against, and you could have gone to the Ivy League if a Mexican-American hadn't unfairly taken your spot, then his show could be must-see TV.

No matter how sad your life has become, Carlson will make you feel better by teaching you to look down on others. That is Carlson's shtick these days, and we ought not take it too seriously.

But recently, the host crossed a line when he savagely bullied a guest — and, like some of my readers, used the word "American" as a weapon.

I know about guests. I've spent the last 25 years hosting radio shows. One of the first rules is to always be polite and professional to people you bring on the air. They give up their time, and get nothing in return. Besides, it's not hard to beat up guests since the host usually knows what they're going to say in advance. Producers typically gather that information in a pre-interview call. The least a host can do

is show his guests some respect.

Yet Carlson was extremely disrespectful when he invited Cesar Vargas — an undocumented immigrant and lawyer — onto his show, and then continually mocked and insulted him.

The topic was supposed to be the decision by Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf to warn residents of a raid by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

But when Vargas had the temerity to disagree with Carlson, the host got personal — and nasty, repeatedly questioning his guest's intelligence.

That's weird. White men argue about politics on television all day long, but they don't often call each other dumb.

Carlson told Vargas: "I know you say you're a lawyer." Then this: "I don't want to check your bar license." Then this: "I'm not allowing you to teach American history on my show because you'd fail the course." And finally, he told Vargas — who dreams of becoming a U.S. citizen — "I'm an American and you're not. I don't think you should become a citizen. No offense or anything. I'd be happy to have dinner with you."

Dinner? Yeah right. As if anyone who dined with the Fox News host could, these days, keep their food down.

Carlson was correct about one thing. He is an American all right — the ugly kind.

OPINION EXTRA

Gun control dialogue should be about more than guns

I don't share the same slavish devotion to the Second Amendment as some of my fellow conservatives.

For the life of me, I can't understand why the average gun owner would ever have need of a bump stock. Like many card-carrying NRA members, I would argue that requiring background checks for all gun sales hardly seems like trampling the Constitution. I can appreciate why the latest proposal to arm teachers seems ludicrous to many. And I'm receptive to reasonable arguments that favor age restrictions on purchasing certain kinds of guns.

But in the aftermath of the latest school shooting — latest being a devastating but pertinent qualifier — it seems that contrary to the current prevailing narrative, the availability of guns, while an enabling factor, isn't what led to the massacre of 17 people in a Florida high school last month.

Yes, the ubiquity of guns in America, particularly military-styled semi-automatic rifles like the AR-15, is troubling, if only because it raises the question of why owning one is necessary. But gun rights advocates are correct in asserting that the proliferation of guns has not led to more gun deaths. Indeed, gun sales and ownership have soared in recent years, but the gun homicide rate has plummeted.

Still, as gun homicides have declined, mass shootings and school shootings in particular have become disturbingly frequent. The reason is not clear. That should compel anyone sincerely interested in understanding the underlying causes of this phenomenon to consider what other factors might be at play.

I don't have a coherent thesis as to what exactly is motivating primarily young white males to unleash hell on their classmates. I expect there are a litany of interlocking factors. I've come across a few worthy of further exploration.

The first seems obvious and uncontroversial: Today's youth are increasingly detached and anti-social. They consume massive amounts of media, often violent, without parental guidance or mitigating moral guardrails. They also spend a disturbing amount of time consumed by social media, making them ever more disengaged and susceptible to the negative social effects of the digital world — from bullying to depression to violence.

This social estrangement is compounded by another factor described by Stella Morabito in *The Federalist*. She argues that our "alienating mass schooling bureaucracy" is too centralized and politicized, and breeds aggression and disaffection. The U.S. population has almost tripled in the last 90 years, she explains, but the number of public schools has decreased by more than half, packing adolescents into factory-style leviathans where kids become faceless statistics. While some of her arguments warrant further evidence, her point that smaller schools with more engaged communities would be better equipped to prevent the "emotional malaise that fuels a sense of confusion and detachment" in many of today's high schoolers — especially those that become violent.

While institutional failure seems a likely factor — it certainly was in Parkland on many levels — others argue that teenage disengagement is the product of our decaying social structure. Some critics roundly mock the suggestion that proliferation of single-parent households could have anything to do with mass shootings, but Suzanne Venker and Peter Hannon convincingly make the case that fatherlessness has a role to play in boys turning violent.

Hannon explains that "conversations about black-on-black violence often raise the link between broken households (or fatherless homes) and juvenile delinquency. But when the conversation turns to mass shootings, we seem to forget that link altogether."

That doesn't mean that mass shooters can't come from happy two-parent homes, but most of them don't, and that relationship shouldn't be ignored.

The problem with any of these theories is that they require society to reflect on problems and deficiencies that lack simple solutions.

Increasing gun restrictions feels like the answer in the wake of preventable tragedy. It should be on the table but only if it's part of a holistic approach that acknowledges the many cultural problems that led to Parkland and nearly every mass shooting that preceded it.

— Cynthia M. Allen, Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



Trump drives people to the exits

■ The president didn't have his choice of first-tier talent and those who entered with solid credentials have seen their reputations soiled by Trump

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group



Whom the gods would destroy, they first make toil for Donald Trump.

Jeff Sessions had been a four-term U.S. senator, had served as the top Republican on important committees and had a strong following among hardcore conservatives. Then he went to work for the Trump administration. Now he is publicly ridiculed and mocked — by President Trump.

In his latest tweet disparaging his own attorney general, Trump last week called Sessions' conduct at Justice "DISGRACEFUL!" and he has privately referred to Sessions as "Mr. Magoo."

Ben Carson had been a brilliant brain surgeon before mounting a surprisingly strong run for the Republican presidential nomination.

Then he went to work for the Trump administration as secretary of housing and urban development. Now he's the punchline for jokes about government waste.

Under public ridicule, Carson said last week he would cancel a \$31,561 order for a dining-room set for his office. He also has defied staff warnings that he is violating ethics rules by allowing his son to arrange an event for HUD that could benefit his son's business.

Jared Kushner, the president's son-in-law, was put in charge of Middle East peace, government reform, the opioid crisis, criminal-justice reform, and relations with Mexico, China and the Muslim community.

Now he has lost his security clearance and is a poster boy for conflicts of interest. The New York Times reported last week that the Kushner family's struggling real estate business was less than hundreds of millions of dollars by companies whose executives met with Kushner at the White House. This came after The Washington Post reported on foreign intercepts showing that four countries believed they could influence Kushner because of the family company's debt.

And all this developed over one week — a week in which White House communications director Hope Hicks resigned after answering lawmakers' questions in the Russia probe. Trump must now designate a communications director for the seventh time since his election. Turnover among White House senior staff has reached a record 40 percent, according to an ongoing tally by Kathryn Dunn Tepas of the Brookings Institution. Among the 12 most senior staff positions, seven have departed.

It's a peculiar phenomenon: Trump bumbles

along, his approval rating low but relatively constant, while those he touches are disgraced or ruined. Trump delights in destroying foes, but his indiscriminate destruction brings down friends just as easily.

This was true in Trump's business dealings, as measured by a long trail of lawsuits, bankruptcies and business associates saying they were stiffed. Now we see a procession of castoffs from Trump's political career — Tom Price, Sean Spicer, Stephen K. Bannon, Reince Priebus, Michael Flynn, Paul Manafort — whose service to Trump ended in humiliation or worse. Many who stay become targets of presidential criticism (Rex Tillerson, H.R. McMaster) or wind up in ethical trouble (Steven Mnuchin, David Shulkin).

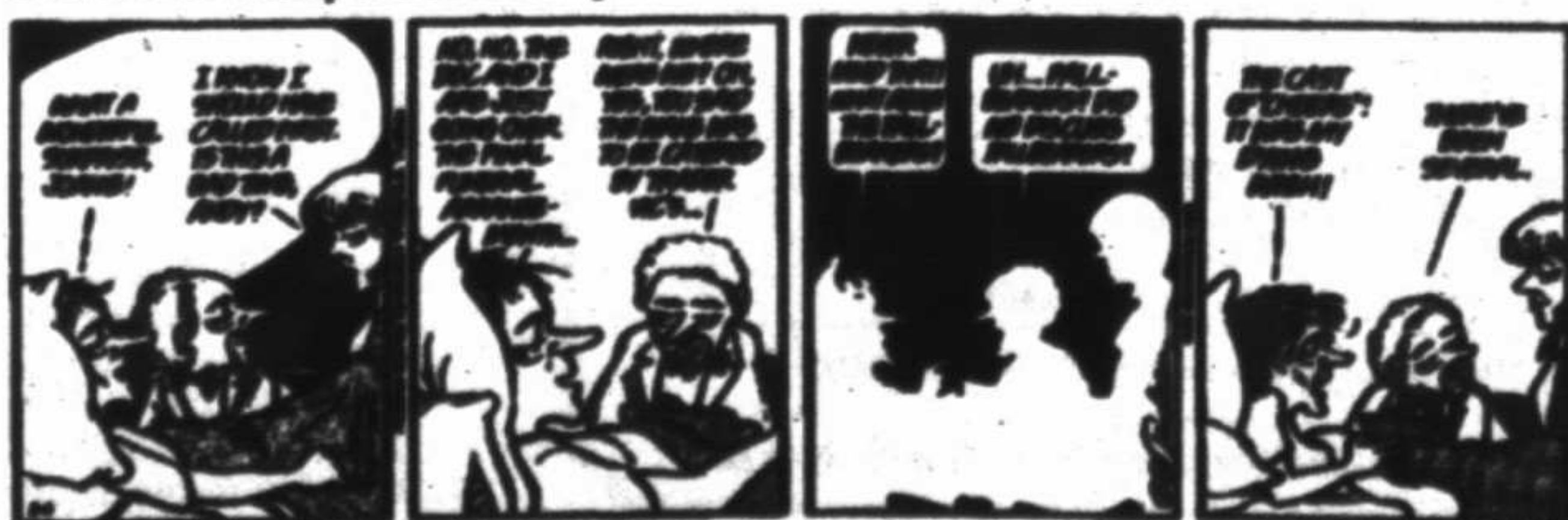
Why? To start, Trump didn't have his choice of first-tier talent. Most of those with governmental experience and policy credentials wanted nothing to do with Trump, who in any case disdained the party elites. So he wound up with White House official Omarosa Manigault, whose previous experience involved being a contestant on Trump's reality show; and Hicks, who was a model and adviser on Ivanka Trump's fashion line before making her political debut with the Trump campaign; and Sebastian Gorka, a former Breitbart News figure claimed by a Hungarian neo-Nazi group as a member, and poorly vetted figures such as Rob Porter (wife-beating allegations), Paul Manafort (indictment) or Rick Gates (guilty plea).

Even those who entered with solid credentials — Spicer, Tillerson, Priebus, Shulkin, John F. Kelly, Rod J. Rosenstein, Katie Walsh — have seen their reputations soiled by Trump, whose loyalty code is unidirectional and whose chaotic leadership drives people to the exits.

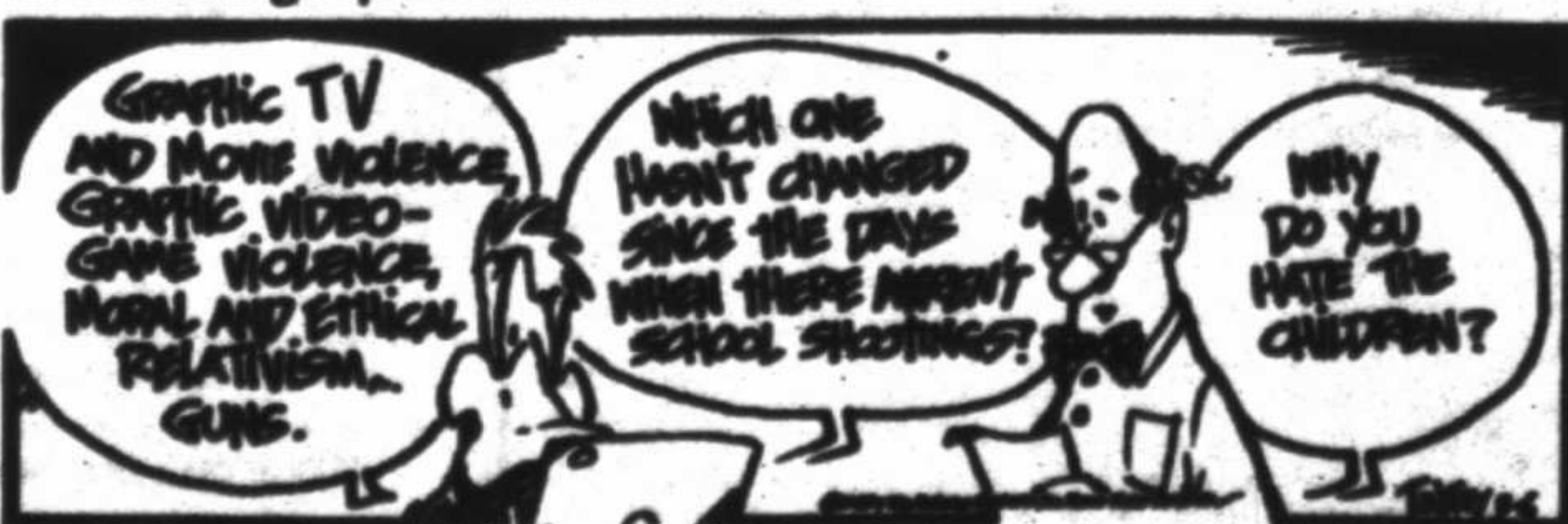
Consider the cautionary tale of Gary Cohn, Goldman Sachs president before coming to Trump's White House. He first endured the humiliation of standing at Trump's side when Trump defended the white supremacists in Charlottesville, then after criticizing Trump's behavior was passed over for an appointment to the Fed, and now has lost a fight to keep Trump from imposing steel tariffs.

Cohn is finally rumored to be leaving. The question is why he came in the first place.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Slow pace, quiet race: Democrats Lupe Valdez and Andrew White saving it all up for governor runoff rematch

By Robert T. Garrett and
Groner Jeffers Jr.
The Dallas Morning News

March 03—Like a runner with a spot already secure in the finals, the top Democratic contenders for governor appear content on squirreling away their time, effort and meager resources for the next round.

Just days before the critical March 6 primary, former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez and Houston investor Andrew White have only a smattering of public campaign events, largely confined to the Rio Grande Valley, Houston, San Antonio and Dallas.

White, the son of former Gov. Mark White, sat on some \$940,000 in his treasury — or the bulk of the \$1 million he loaned his campaign and \$450,000 he raised from others. White appeared to be banking the cash for what he expects will be a May 22 runoff with Valdez.

Valdez, who entered the contest with the advantage of being well-known in Dallas and backed by the remnants of a once-proud state Democratic Party, raised a minuscule \$162,000 between early December and last weekend, according to reports she filed with the Texas Ethics Commission. More than 10 percent of it, \$17,000, was the state Planned Parenthood political action committee's in-kind gift to her of digital ad buys.

A virtual TV blackout for the Democrats came as incumbent GOP Gov. Greg Abbott spent \$1.2 million a week in the latest 29-day reporting period, his report showed.

"Abbott is a popular governor with a fully blown out campaign staff, and he's just on a hell of a pace of spending for this early in the campaign," said Southern Methodist University political scientist Cal Jillson. The incumbent Republican has more experience than the entire nine-candidate Democratic field combined, he said.

Also, state Republicans have built up impressive organization, with county chairmen and volunteers in all 254 counties, he noted.

Abbott has more than \$41 million in campaign funds. He can — and probably will — greatly add to his money stash in coming months, he said.

Lopsided fall contest "It's not just David and Goliath," Jillson said of the looming general-election contest between one of the Democrats and Abbott. "It's David as a 4-year-old. Maybe God still directs the stone. But the mismatch seems really extraordinary at this point."

Texas Democrats have one tiny ray of good news, Jillson said. Former Fort Worth state Sen. Wendy Davis' 20 percentage-point defeat at Abbott's hands in 2014 easily could have grown this year to a 30-point wipeout, were it not for the "over-performing" Beto O'Rourke. He's the El Paso congressman who has mounted a strong challenge to GOP U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz.

More well-known Democratic politicians rebuffed party leaders' entreaties that they take on Abbott. Valdez, who wasn't among their top picks, assented late last year, as the filing deadline neared. A daughter of migrant farm workers who has broken barriers as a woman and a lesbian, she stumbled out of the gate, showing a lack of familiarity with state issues.

Neither she nor White assembled teams of campaign professionals until the last few weeks. White, who's never run for office, began exploring a race soon after his father died last August and Hurricane Harvey underscored for him the fragility of life and Texans' special qualities, such as grit and generosity, he has said.

But it's been three decades since his dad was in office. The party's latter-day loyalists are considerably more liberal than they were in the 1980s, and the younger White complicated his sales pitch with early comments about being conservative and almost like a Republican in some respects. He has grown more circumspect. He has won over some people.

But like Valdez's, his campaign has been largely invisible.

While Valdez has not been on broadcast or cable TV, she's spent about \$25,000 for radio and digital ads, her reports show. White's spent \$280,000 over 3 1/2 weeks on broadcast and cable TV ads — a pittance in a state with 19 media markets. In Texas, just a week of heavy TV advertising costs more than \$4 million. He's spent nearly \$8,000 on digital ads.

"They're off to a slow start and don't have many resources, and it's showing in their performance," said J.D. Angle, a Fort Worth-based Democratic consultant who managed Davis' 2014 campaign for governor. "They will get better over time and generate more resources, but right now the burden is still on the voter that doesn't really know them."

Ballot name crucial?

In such a low-profile race, the chance remains that an even less-well-known Democrat could make the runoff, based on how his name sounds to a mystified voter who's unfamiliar with all nine contenders.

Like Valdez, Flower Mound private equity firm owner Adrian Ocegueda has a Hispanic surname.

Dallas business owner Jeffrey Payne has been on the road since October, visiting nearly 100 cities in 70 counties.

San Antonio hospice care provider Tom Wakely, 64, is targeting Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders' youthful supporters. Last fall, Wakely described himself to the Austin American-Statesman as "a Bernierat with a Panama hat." Rounding out the field are Balch Springs Mayor Cedric Davis, self-employed Houston audio-video technician Joe Mumbach, Austin businessman James Jolly Clark and perennial candidate Grady Yarbrough of San Antonio.

Click the tires

Even a conscientious primary voter would have been hard-pressed to find a convenient opportunity to observe Valdez and White in the flesh.

Unlike O'Rourke, who's been known to visit several small towns in a day and has traveled the state since he launched his campaign nearly a year ago, the gubernatorial hopefuls are still introducing themselves. And not exactly at a frenetic pace.

In the final week, White's public campaigning consisted mostly of appearing at other groups' events in Houston, his hometown. Late additions to White's itinerary sent him on short hops to visit polling locations in Dallas and Austin before early voting ended Friday. He then was scheduled to return to Dallas on Sunday to a farmer's market and four predominantly black churches and then to San Antonio on Monday.

Valdez's schedule for the stretch run includes visiting poll locations and conducting media interviews in Laredo on Friday, a stop Saturday morning in Eagle Pass and a Saturday luncheon event at Oriental Cuisine & Sushi in Del Rio.

"Both Valdez and White have come to the realization that neither one of them is going to win over 50 percent of the vote on March 6," said Mark Jones, a political scientist at Rice University. "They know it's going to be a marathon that ends in May."

Jones added that Valdez and White couldn't do any extensive campaigning, even if they wanted.

"These campaigns don't have any money," he said.

Scarce dollars

Between December and last weekend, Valdez spent only slightly more than \$107,000, according to the latest financial reports. On Feb. 24, she had nearly \$58,000.

Adding in the nearly \$21,000 he spent exploring the race in October and November, White has spent about \$521,000. He had more than \$944,000 in cash.

Texans for Greg Abbott, meanwhile, has dropped nearly \$12.9 million since last July on hiring field staff, training volunteers, polling and making down payments on what will be a big ad blitz.

"Abbott has sufficient resources that he's funding other campaigns," noted SMU's Jillson. He cited Abbott's help of a former subordinate when he was attorney general. She's challenging an incumbent Republican House member in Houston. In that race, Abbott has plowed nearly \$224,000 — or more than twice Valdez's total spending.

While Abbott plans to have hired 140 people as field organizers by this summer, Valdez and White operate with skeleton crews.

She operates her campaign out of her north Oak Cliff home. The day before early voting began, Valdez hired campaign manager Bill Romjue, who most recently worked on the successful campaign of Alabama U.S. Sen. Doug Jones.

Valdez has added a consulting team and has more volunteers, including a driver.

Crashing events

But her campaign still isn't prepared to carry the logistical load of aggressive campaigning, including multiple public events in one day, let alone the weekend before the election.

In the Rio Grande Valley, for instance, Valdez is trying to do some handshaking with crowds drawn to other groups' pre-existing events.

The light schedule is matched by an even smaller media campaign. Last month she rolled out an internet ad narrated by actor John Leguizamo.

She was also endorsed by U.S. Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-San Antonio, who considered a run for governor, and former San Antonio state Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, who was Davis' lieutenant governor running mate last cycle.

High number of undecideds

There have been few public polls taken in the Democratic gubernatorial primary, and they have been contradictory — one giving Valdez a comfortable lead over White, while another had him up. As

many as half or more of likely Democratic voters are said to be undecided.

Angle, the former Davis adviser, said he's not surprised that most voters have not made up their minds because Valdez and White have done little to reach them.

"It is a product of low resources and a late start and they compound one another," Angle said. "There's not enough information and campaigning being done where voters can make a real differentiation."

SMU's Jillson said that Valdez, a trailblazing sheriff who in 2016 gave a prime-time speech at the Democratic National Convention, "was the anointed candidate" of state party leaders.

But in January, she seemed confused at some issue forums and editorial board meetings, Jillson said. That gave White an opening, he said.

"Andrew White gained some momentum, and his performance silenced the Democratic Party of Texas officialdom because they have to be able to get behind whoever comes out of that primary," he said.

But with White seeming to husband his cash so he can outspend Valdez if they reach a runoff together, it's a hard race to forecast, he said. The two have split endorsements by traditionally Democratic-leaning groups, with perhaps an edge to Valdez. But the groups' blessings "usually don't make much difference," Jillson said.

While O'Rourke is raising money and has "caught fire with the base," Valdez and White have yet to show any sign they could instill fear in Abbott, he said.

The Democrats' gubernatorial primary has had "a pitifully feeble look," he said.

"When you're flat on your back and the other guy's dancing over you and the referee is taking him to his corner in the first round, maybe you're going to get up and win that fight," Jillson said. "But it's unlikely."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

With surge in early voting, Democrats pin hopes on an enthusiasm gap

By Jonathan Tilove
Austin
American-Statesman

Thanks largely to a huge surge in Democratic turnout, Texans in the 15 largest counties have smashed the record for early voting in a non-presidential year, raising Democratic hopes that they will benefit from an excitement gap in the fall.

"The one thing you have to measure is, are our people enthusiastic now compared to their people, and the answer is a resounding, 'Yes,'" Ed Espinoza, executive director of Progress Texas, which provides research and strategy to help elect Democrats, said Sunday.

While there is no necessary correlation between primary and general election turnout, more than twice as many people voted early in the Democratic primaries in 2018 as in 2014, while Republican early voting crept up by 15 percent, according to final figures posted Saturday by the Texas Secretary of State's office. Altogether, 885,574 Texas voters in person or by mail over the 11 days of early voting, which ended Friday. The primary is Tuesday.

That figure is up from 592,153 early votes in the comparable period before the 2014 March primary in the last midterm elections — a nearly 50 percent increase.

In 2014, Republican participation outpaced Democratic participation — 365,423 voters to 226,730. This year, participation in Demo-

cratic primaries outstripped participation in Republican primaries — 465,245 to 420,329.

Joshua Blank, manager of polling and research at the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas, cautioned that looking at elections between 1998 and 2016, there is no evidence of a relationship between partisan primary turnout and general election performance, and that out of the three elections in the last 20 years in which Democrats held a primary participation advantage, in 1998 and 2004 the Republican electoral advantage turned out to be larger than in any other elections over that span of time.

Of this year's early voting totals, Blank said, "Democrats looking more enthused than usual doesn't mean Republicans are less enthused than usual. They look just as enthused or more enthused than usual, just not as enthused as the Democrats, and in normal elections, Republican turnout is just so much more consistent than the Democratic turnout. Maybe this is the time that's different."

The biggest single reason why more Democrats may

be turning out to vote than in the past is that they have more to vote for — 1,844 candidates compared to 1,365 candidates two years ago, according to figures compiled by the Texas Democratic Party.

For the first time in at least 25 years, Democratic candidates are running in every congressional district — 111 candidates in 36 districts. There are 180 Democratic candidates running for 133 state House seats, and 24 Democrats competing in 14 state Senate districts.

"What it really means for sure is that a lot of Democrats who vote in the generals but don't always vote in the primaries are now voting in the primaries, which shows Democrats are enthusiastic, they're paying attention, the party is able to draw them out," said Brendan Steinhauer, a Republican strategist in Austin.

"They're blowing up the early voting numbers from the last midterms, they're showing up in droves," said Steinhauer, who managed U.S. Sen. John Cornyn's 2014 re-election campaign. "It's double what it was in 2014," when Cornyn beat

Democrat David Alameel by 27 points and Greg Abbott beat Wendy Davis by 20 points.

"It's going to be a lot tougher this cycle," Steinhauer said.

"The midterm elections are a referendum on the party in power," said David Carney, Abbott's chief strategist, who said that it hardly matters who the Democrats run for governor.

"They are not going to have any influence in this race," Carney said. "It's all going to be the national forces, what's going on in the media, quite honestly, the national media, which is focused on the drama of what is going on every day in Washington and that is the environment we are going to be dealing with."

More than 1.1 million Texans voted early in the largest fifteen counties in 2016.

Derek Ryan, an Austin-based political consultant and former research director of the Texas Republican Party, who tracks early voting in the 20 counties with the largest Republican vote, found that first-time primary voters made up 10.8 percent of all early voters

in the Republican primary, and 23.7 percent of early voters in the Democratic primary.

The average age for a Republican early voter was 62.8 years old. The average age for a Democratic early voter was 55.7 years old. Voters aged 30 and younger made up 9.3 percent of the early voters in the Democratic primary, but only 3.2 percent of the early voters in the Republican primary. Women made up 59 percent of Democratic early voters, and just under half of Republican early voters.

Espinoza estimates that under normal circumstances, Texas Democrats will fall "500,000 votes shy of flipping Texas," this fall, unless they can get a third of the 1.5 million Democrats who vote in presidential elections but

not in midterms to the polls, and that the surge in early voting augurs well.

"This is where the rubber meets the road for the Democratic Party in a way that is probably more true than in previous elections," Blank said. "The question is can they turn this perception of momentum into some unexpected electoral victories or at the very least, narrow losses where people didn't expect them. That's what needs to happen now."

"The Democratic Party in Texas needs to make use of this and leverage this for this election and the next one, and they will have nobody to blame but themselves if they don't do that," Blank said.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Fun Facts Sponsored by
FRANKLIN FOLIAGE
LANDSCAPING
"Serving West Texas Since 1981"
685-3521
franklinfoliage.com
Call us today to create the garden of your dreams!
If Texas were a nation, it would be the world's 7th largest oil producer.
Oil production in Texas averaged 3 million barrels per day at its peak in 1972.

HENRY
Romans 6:4
We were therefore buried with him through baptism
into death in order that, just as Christ was raised
from the dead through the glory of the Father, we
too may live a new life.

STATEBRIEFS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANGELO
4 teens charged with
defacing West Texas
public art murals

Police say three men and a woman have been charged with defacing religious murals in a West Texas public art display known as Paintbrush Alley.

San Angelo police on Monday announced the arrest of three 18-year-old suspects, plus a 19-year-old man, on criminal mischief charges after several murals were found defaced last month.

Paintbrush Alley, in downtown San Angelo, features various colorful murals on brick walls. Police say security video from a nearby business shows several people walking in the area on Feb. 20 and some allegedly spray-painting the artwork.

CYPRESS
Mother, bedridden son
dead in Houston-area
house fire

Authorities say a mother and her bedridden son have died in a Houston-area house fire.

The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office says the cause of the fire early Monday morning in the home in Harris County near Cypress is under investigation.

Officials say one man was able to get out of the burning house and was taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation.

MCALLEN
South Texas judge
enters not-guilty plea
to bribery charges

A suspended state district judge in South Texas has pleaded not guilty to charges that he accepted bribes for several years in return for favorable rulings.

Judge Rodolfo "Rudy" Delgado pleaded not guilty to three federal bribery charges and three of violating a federal travel statute. He entered the pleas in a court document filed Monday in federal court in McAllen, Texas.

A criminal complaint said the FBI had investigated Delgado since 2016 and used as an informant an attorney who argued criminal cases before the judge.

The complaint says Delgado as recently as Jan. 17 accepted a bribe of \$5,500, and alleges he accepted bribes as far back as 2008.

HARKER HEIGHTS
Brutality claim
disproved, woman
charged with perjury

A woman who accused police of brutalizing her during a Central Texas public intoxication arrest, only to have police video disprove the claim, has been charged with perjury.

Leah Dure of Garland, Texas, turned herself in Monday to Garland police in response to an arrest warrant from the Harker Heights Police Department. She's been released on \$5,000 bond.

Arrested Jan. 1 on a public intoxication charge, Dure and her attorney accused Harker Heights police of injuring her by excessive force during her arrest.

Harker Heights police produced body camera footage, however, that they said disproved the claim and charged her last month with misdemeanor perjury.



Evan Vucci/AP Photo

President Donald Trump listens during a meeting with steel and aluminum executives in the Cabinet Room of the White House on Thursday in Washington. Trump's announcement that he will impose stiff tariffs on imported steel and aluminum has upended political alliances on Capitol Hill.

Trump, Ryan face off
in rare public GOP
clash over tariffsBy Ken Thomas
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a remarkably public confrontation, House Speaker Paul Ryan and other Republican allies of President Donald Trump pleaded with him Monday to back away from his threatened international tariffs, which they fear could spark a dangerous trade war. Trump retorted: "We're not backing down."

The president said U.S. neighbors Canada and Mexico would not be spared from his plans for special import taxes on steel and aluminum, but he held out the possibility of later exempting the long-standing friends if they agree to better terms for the U.S. in talks aimed at revising the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"We've had a very bad deal with Mexico; we've had a very bad deal with Canada. It's called NAFTA," he declared. Trump spoke shortly after a spokeswoman for Ryan, a Trump ally, said the GOP leader was "extremely worried" that the proposed tariffs would set off a trade war and urged the White House "to not advance with this plan."

Likewise, Republican leaders of the House Ways and Means Committee circulated a letter opposing Trump's plan, and GOP congressional leaders suggested they may attempt to prevent the tariffs if the president moves forward. Trump's pledge to implement tariffs of 25 percent on steel imports and 10 percent on aluminum imports has roiled financial markets, angered foreign allies and created unusual alliances for a president who blasted unfavorable trade deals during his 2016 campaign. Union leaders and Democratic lawmakers from Rust Belt states have praised the planned tariffs, joining with advocates within the administration including Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and White House trade adviser Peter Navarro.

But the president has been opposed internally by Defense Secretary James Mattis and White House economic adviser Gary Cohn, who warned against penalizing U.S. allies and undercutting the economic benefits of the president's sweeping tax overhaul.

Likewise, the statement from Ryan's office said, "The new tax reform law has boosted the economy, and we certainly don't want to jeopardize those gains."

Asked about that public rebuke, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said, "Look, we have a great relationship with Speaker Ryan. We're going to continue to have one, but that doesn't mean we have to agree on everything."

Canada is the United States' No. 1 foreign supplier of both steel and aluminum. Mexico is the

No. 4 supplier of steel and No. 7 for aluminum.

Congressional Republicans say any tariffs should be narrow in scope, and they privately warned that Trump's effort could hurt the party's hopes to preserve its majority in the fall elections.

As the president dug in on his position, any potential compromise with foreign trading partners and Republican lawmakers was expected to still include some form of tariffs.

"Trump is not someone who retreats," said Stephen Moore, an economist with the conservative Heritage Foundation and a former campaign adviser. "He's going to need to be able to declare some victory here."

The tariffs will be made official in the next two weeks, White House officials said.

"Twenty-five percent on steel, and the 10 percent on aluminum, no country exclusions — firm line in the sand," said Navarro, speaking on "Fox and Friends."

Republican critics on Capitol Hill and within the administration argue that industries and their workers that rely on steel and aluminum for their products will suffer. The cost of new appliances, cars and buildings will rise for Americans if the president follows through, they warn, and other nations could retaliate.

Two dozen conservative groups, including the Club for Growth, FreedomWorks and the National Taxpayers Union, urged Trump to reconsider, writing in a letter that the tariffs would be "a tax on the middle class with everything from cars to baseball bats to even beer."

The Trade Partnership, a consulting firm, said the tariffs would increase U.S. employment in the steel and aluminum sector by about 33,000 jobs but would cost 179,000 jobs in the rest of the economy.

The end result could erode the president's base of support with rural America and even the blue-collar workers the president says he's trying to help.

"These are people that voted for him and supported him in these auto-producing states," said Cody Lusk, president of the American International Automobile Dealers Association. Lusk noted that of the 16 states with auto plants, Trump won all but two.

The administration has argued the tariffs are necessary to preserve the American aluminum and steel industries and protect national security. But Trump's comments and tweets early Monday suggested he was also using them as leverage in the current talks to revise NAFTA. The latest round of a nearly yearlong renegotiation effort is concluding this week in Mexico City.

At those talks, U.S.

Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer said Monday that progress has been less than many had hoped and "our time is running short."

"I fear the longer we proceed, the more political headwinds we will feel," he said. And he added that if three-way negotiations don't work, "we are prepared to move on a bilateral basis."

More upbeat about progress until now, Dan Ujcz, a trade attorney with Dickinson Wright PLLC in Columbus, Ohio, said, "We were moving toward the finish line in NAFTA." But he added, "This has the potential to throw the NAFTA talks off track."

He said neither Canada nor Mexico will want to be seen as giving in to U.S. pressure. Indeed, he said, Canada is probably already drawing up lists of U.S. products to tax in retaliation.

Separately, Mexican Economy Secretary Ildefonso Guajardo tweeted: "Mexico shouldn't be included in steel & aluminum tariffs. It's the wrong way to incentivize the creation of a new & modern #NAFTA."

The president opened the door to exempting Canada and Mexico from the tariffs, saying, "That would be, I would imagine, one of the points that we'll negotiate." But he added, "If they aren't going to make a fair NAFTA deal, we're just going to leave it this way."

Trump has long threatened to pull out of the 24-year-old trade pact if it can't be overhauled and encourage manufacturers to bring factory jobs back the United States.

But Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has called the tariff plan "absolutely unacceptable."

Trudeau's office said he "registered his serious concern" about the tariffs in a conversation with Trump Monday, saying they "would not be helpful to reaching a deal on NAFTA."

And overseas, Jean-Claude Juncker, president of the European Commission, said the European Union could respond by taxing American goods including bourbon, blue jeans and Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Trump threatened to tax European cars if the EU boosts tariffs on American products in response to his plan.

"If they want to do something, we'll just tax their cars that they send in here like water," Trump has said, lamenting European "trade barriers that are worse than tariffs."

For congressional leaders, those products hit close to home. The iconic motorcycles are produced in Ryan's home state of Wisconsin, and Kentucky, the home of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, is well-known for its bourbon.

Roles reduced, Kushner and
Ivanka Trump's fate uncertainBy Jonathan Lemire
and Catherine
Lucy
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — They spent their first year in Washington as an untouchable White House power couple, commanding expansive portfolios, outlasting rivals and enjoying unmatched access to the president. But Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump have undergone a swift and stunning reckoning of late, their powers restricted, their enemies emboldened and their future in the West Wing uncertain.

Kushner, long the second-most powerful man in the West Wing, is under siege. President Donald Trump's son-in-law has lost influential White House allies. He remains under the shadow of the Russia probe and has seen his business dealings come under renewed scrutiny. He has been stripped of his top security clearance, raising questions how he can successfully advance his ambitious agenda — including achieving Mideast peace, a goal that has eluded presidents for generations.

Kushner's most powerful patron, the president himself, has wavered recently on whether his daughter and son-in-law belong in the White House anymore.

A frustrated Trump has griped about the wave of bad headlines generated by probes into Kushner's business dealings and the status of his security clearance, according to two people familiar with the president's thinking but not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations. The president also has wondered aloud if the couple would be better off returning home to New York.

At the same time, though, Trump has said he believes many of the attacks against Kushner are unfair and has lamented that the couple is going through such a turbulent time, according to the two people close to the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly about Trump's private comments.

"I think he's been treated very unfairly," Trump said late last month. "He's a high-quality person."

Kushner's woes mushroomed in the past month, when accusations of spousal abuse emerged against White House staff secretary Rob Porter. Initially, the resulting firestorm — including questions about how Porter had interim clearance for top-secret information despite red flags in his background — threatened to engulf Chief of Staff John Kelly, the retired Marine hired to bring order to Trump's chaotic

West Wing.

Kelly seemed to stabilize his own standing, in part by ordering a reform of the White House security clearance process. And among senior aides, that change fell the hardest on Kushner, who had been working with interim access to top-secret information. And he was doing that as investigators worked through his family's complicated real estate dealings and as special counsel Robert Mueller probes Russian connections to the Trump team.

A week ago, Kushner's security clearance level was downgraded, leaving White House aides to wonder just how many indignities Kushner and Ivanka Trump are willing to suffer. Even if recent events and revelations don't trigger a departure, they have demonstrated that the West Wing clout of "Javanka," as the couple is often referred to, is a far cry from what it once was.

Since taking office last year, Kelly has prioritized creating formal lines of authority and decision-making. Kushner resisted efforts to formalize his role — which early in the administration made him something of a shadow secretary of state — and he has grown frustrated with the chief of staff's attempts to restrict the couple's access to the president.

The couple perceives Kelly's crackdown on security clearances as a direct shot at them, according to White House aides and outside advisers. But one White House official disputed that account, suggesting that Kushner welcomed Kelly's efforts to organize the West Wing, allowing him to more singularly focus on his portfolio.

Kelly, in turn, has been angered by what he views as the couple's freeloading. He blames them for changing Trump's mind at the last minute and questions what exactly they do all day, according to one White House official and an outside ally. Kushner prevailed in previous power struggles within the White House, including one against former chief strategist Steve Bannon, but allies of the president on the outside openly cheered the power couple's weakened position.

"Only a son-in-law could withstand this sort of exposure and not be fired," said Jennifer Palmieri, former communications director for President Barack Obama. "Kushner's vulnerable and in an accelerated fall from grace. Even though his departure would leave Trump even more isolated, a decision could be made that it's just not worth it for him to stay."

Those close to the couple insist the duo has no plans

to leave Washington. But a soft landing spot has emerged if they choose to take it.

At a senior staff meeting Wednesday, Kushner spoke about the 2020 campaign at Kelly's behest, talking up the selection of Brad Parscale to run the campaign, according to an administration official who was not authorized to speak publicly about internal discussions. Kushner has a close relationship with Parscale, whom he recruited to work on the 2016 campaign.

News of Parscale's appointment was first reported in the Drudge Report, a favored outlet of Kushner's, in a move that was seen by some in the West Wing as an attempted reminder of Kushner's clout just hours before his humiliating security clearance downgrade became public.

One veteran of the 2016 campaign suggested that there had always been a tentative plan for Kushner to resume a role on the re-election campaign but not this early in the president's first term.

In a White House populated with attention-seekers, Kushner has been an ascetic, discreet figure. Almost always standing at the periphery in dark business suits, Kushner is rarely heard in public, his impact felt but not seen. His diplomatic trips abroad have either been shrouded in secrecy or conducted with minimal media coverage.

"I am not a person who has sought the spotlight. First in my business and now in public service, I have worked on achieving goals, and have left it to others to work on media and public perception," Kushner told congressional investigators in a prepared statement last July.

But it is not immediately obvious what he's achieved. There has been little progress on Mideast peace and relations with Mexico, another top Kushner priority, remain contentious over Trump's proposed border wall. Kushner's much ballyhooed project to reinvent the federal government has gained little traction. And questions persist about his family business's global hunt for cash just a year before a \$1.2 billion mortgage on a Manhattan skyscraper must be paid off by the company and a partner in the building.

The Kushner Co. says it is in solid financial shape, but skeptics note that the company has been scrambling to raise funds from investors in nations with which Kushner has had government dealings and questions about potential Kushner conflicts of interest have scuttled some efforts.

EDUCATION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, March 6, 2018 | Section B

CONAWAY AWARDS THAMES



Courtesy photo

U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway visited Premier High School on Thursday to present an award to sophomore Ethan Thames as the 11th District's winner in the Congressional App Challenge.

Premier student wins Congressional App Challenge

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

For years, Ethan Thames has had a passion for computer science. So it was no surprise that a coding competition for students in Texas' 11th Congressional District piqued his interest.

"I had been looking for programming events in our area for quite some time," the 15-year-old high school sophomore said. "When I found Congressman (Mike) Conaway was participating in the App Challenge, I wanted to apply." Thames created Textix, a basic text editor for beginners in the Python programming language. Features include syntax highlighting, line numbering and a button to format code, according to a press release.

Thames learned in the fall that his app was chosen as the district's winner of the Congressional App Challenge. As a part

of his recognition, U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway on Thursday visited Premier High School of Midland to present an award.

Emily Hytha, communications director for the congressman, said competition guidelines and an independent panel of judges helped to choose the winner. She said Conaway believes in the importance of education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

"Anything we can do to encourage students to get involved with STEM-related fields, the better," she said.

Texas' 11th Congressional District was one of 190 across the country that participated, according to a press release. Students during the most recent competition submitted more than 1,270 original apps, and Thames was surprised that his creation was chosen locally.

"It's absolutely one of the most incredible things he's done," said his mother, Lucy Thames. "I'm incredibly proud of the work he's put in."

The Congressional App Challenge is hosting a Capitol Hill reception next month for winners to show their apps to members of Congress and the tech community, according to the press release. Winners also receive \$250 in Amazon Web Service credits.

Ethan Thames, who has taught himself many of his skills, has considered incorporating computer science into his postsecondary studies.

"I like that I can just make things from scratch by just writing code," he said.

In his spare time, Thames works on projects related to computer programming. Since he read his first book about the subject, his mother said he has been constantly adapting and learning new information.

"He wrote a programming language at one point," Lucy Thames said. "He's always starting projects, and they evolve in ways he didn't expect."

Future medical student overcomes 'shaky' start

Editor's note: This is one in a series on Midland College students and alumni.

"I've always been fascinated with muscle groups and body mechanics," said 20-year-old Cayden Martinez.



Martinez

Martinez is one of four Midland College sophomores who already have been accepted into Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. The students will graduate from MC with associate degrees in May and then take classes at the University of North Texas beginning in August. After taking upper-level undergraduate classes for one year at UNT, they will begin medical school at TCOM in the summer of 2019. The program is a partnership between Midland College, the University of North Texas, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and Midland Health. Students in the Primary Care Pathways program pursue a rigorous curriculum that enables them to earn a medical degree in

seven years. They participate in clinical rotations at Midland Memorial Hospital, and at the completion of the seven-year program, they will have an opportunity to serve as medical residents for Midland Health. "I almost got kicked out of the program," Martinez said. "I didn't take my first semester at Midland College very seriously. High school was really easy for me, so when I entered college, I mistakenly assumed that I could 'breeze by' as I had done at Midland High. I rarely went to my classes and didn't study for exams. We have to maintain a 3.5 GPA every semester at Midland College in order to stay in the Primary Care Pathways program. That means we have to maintain a 3.5 GPA with just a few B's. My grades at the end of the first semester consisted of just one A. The rest were B's and C's."

"I was really devastated at the end of that first semester. I felt sorry for myself, and I remember complaining to my grandmother. My

grandmother said that I was being ridiculous, and there was no reason why I should have done so poorly. She said, 'When I was in nursing school, I had three kids and two jobs. If I did it, you can too!' So, I took my grandmother's advice and started being serious about getting into medical school."

Martinez visited with program personnel and convinced them to allow her to stay in the program on probationary status. She quit the MC cheerleading squad so that she would have more time to study, and she attended tutoring sessions every day. By the end of her second semester, she was able to raise her GPA to the 3.5 program requirement.

Martinez has managed to maintain high grades after that first disastrous semester, and today she has a 3.75 GPA at Midland College. She will live in Denton for the next four years while she attends UNT and TCOM.

"I guess that I was predestined to have a career in health care," said Martinez.

"Anatomy and physiology have always interested me, and I've always enjoyed science. My grandmother is a nurse, and my father is a radiology technician. My mother's family is in the mortuary business. As a child and teenager, I often wondered if there was anything that could have prevented people from dying."

Martinez is the daughter of Lorena Martinez and Edward Hernandez. The Odessa native graduated from Midland High School in 2016.

She began taking gymnastics classes when she was 9. She still performs gymnastics and works out at home in order to balance the long hours of studying. In addition, she and her grandmother, Laura Hernandez, play tennis.

Martinez said that the favorite part of her day is going home to her two dogs, Buddy, a Bichon Frise, and Vinny, a Bichon Frise/poodle mix.

"I'm really glad that I decided to listen to my grandmother and get serious about college after that first semester," said Martinez. "I hope to eventually practice medicine in West Texas, but the location really doesn't matter, as long as I enjoy what I'm doing."

Rebecca C. Bell is executive director, Institutional Advancement

MIDLAND COLLEGE PROFILES

By Rebecca Bell

McKinney ISD changes venue for graduations

Residents express concerns about ceremonies being held at Baptist church

By Nanette Light
and Julieta Chiquillo
Dallas Morning News

Earlier this month, McKinney ISD announced it would hold graduation for its three high schools at the Allen Event Center, abandoning a long tradition of hosting commencement ceremonies at

Prestonwood Baptist Church.

And days after McKinney's move, officials at neighboring district Prosper ISD said it, too, was eyeing a similar move.

McKinney's decision on a new site — and the possibility that Prosper might follow suit — comes after several Collin County residents expressed concerns about the presence of religion at some schools and district events.

But one question remains unanswered: Is it actually unconstitutional for a



Joe S. Lee/Dallas Morning News/TNS

The McKinney ISD graduation ceremony was held at Prestonwood Baptist Church on June 3, 2016, in Plano.

In Texas town, school employees have been armed for years

■ OPINION

By James Ragland
Dallas Morning News

If you're the least bit conflicted about whether teachers should be allowed to carry guns, steer clear of Harrold. They don't mess around in this small town three hours northwest of Dallas.

While much of the nation is agonizing over the idea of putting guns in teachers' hands, this tiny one-roof-top public school has put its mind at ease. Since October 2007, an untold number of school employees at Harrold ISD have had permission to carry concealed handguns on campus.

The idea was the brainchild of Superintendent David Thweatt, who dubbed it the Guardian Plan. A key component is what Thweatt calls "the element of surprise" — which is why he won't say which employees or how many are armed.

"There's 24 employees, including me, and there's anywhere from one to 24," Thweatt said, adding that anonymity allows the school, comprised of three interconnected buildings, to launch its own surprise counterstrike against any potential threat. All the students take classes in one building.

"It's a double insurance policy, basically," he said.

Not everyone is on board with Thweatt's strategy of arming employees who haven't undergone extensive psychological evaluations and firearms training.

But last month's mass shooting at the high school in Parkland, Fla., where 17 kids and adults were killed sparked a sense of urgency unlike anything we've seen before. It also thrust tiny Harrold back into the national spotlight and at the center of a cross-country debate over gun violence in America.

"What I've learned in education is that one size doesn't fit all," said Texas state Rep. Jason Villalba, architect of a 2013 state law authorizing school districts to designate and train school employees as marshals whose identities would be kept secret. "If the Guardian Plan works for a district like Harrold, I'm OK with it. But I don't think people in a larger school district can get comfortable with it."

Some urban districts, including Dallas, aren't entirely comfortable with Villalba's vision of school safety, either. They worry that arming educators with guns, no matter how well-intended, might give schools a false sense of security and create other safety problems, such as ill-trained teachers shooting at a gunman

Please see RAGLAND/2B

JACQUIELYN
FLOYD

Dallas Morning News



Parents: Make sure your kids know guns threat, school shootings are not joking matters

Some threats are hollow. Most of them, probably.

We're not actually losing sleep for fear that Kim Jong Un has his stubby finger on the nuke button, or that Ralph Kramden ever seriously contemplated sending Alice "to the moon." It's theater.

But — and this cannot be reiterated strongly enough to the children and teens and students in our lives — there is no such thing as a gun joke. Not any more.

"Joke" and "hoax" and "prank" are no longer acceptable explanations for threats involving gun violence. A shamefaced confession that you were just showing off will no longer get you off the hook.

People in this country are too rattled, and there is too much at stake. Big talk about "shooting up the school" is headed in the same direction as bomb jokes at the airport.

Regrettably, it can take a little time for this realization to sink into the human brain in general, and — no offense, I'm just talking in statistical terms here — into the brain of the adolescent male in particular.

This isn't to say that most kids would even dream of doing something so dumb and dangerous as to threaten a shooting.

But enough "copycat" threats have been leveled in the wake of the Feb. 14 Parkland, Fla., massacre to make me wonder whether parents need to add yet another entry to the exhaustive list of sober "talks" they need to have with their kids. This one: Foolish Gun

Please see FLOYD/2B

FLOYD

From 1B

Talk Can Screw Up Your Life.

On Sunday, a 15-year-old student was arrested in Weatherford for posting a threat on Snapchat in which he said he would "shoot up" a local high school on the following day. The kid told sheriff's officials it was a joke. Two 15-year-old Granbury boys were arrested Friday after making a social media threat against their school.

If cases like these have ever been handled with a call to the parents and a good talking-to, they aren't now. These kids are now being held in juvenile detention centers, facing felony charges of making terroristic threats.

It's teens who are the most pointedly affected right now: by the Parkland shooting itself, and by an evolving sense of activism, and for some, by a powerful temptation to make stupid and irreversible copycat threats. Telling authorities they didn't mean it won't buy anybody a pass, because the authorities cannot afford to make the wrong call.

I'm not talking here about kids who are seriously troubled and bent on violence. The 19-year-old Parkland shooter's rampage didn't surprise the people who knew him personally — he had been telegraphing his plan for years.

But it's precisely because so many observers and institutions failed to stop him that even a minor margin for "red flag" tolerance has been erased. If an otherwise "good kid" makes a dumb shooting-up-the-school joke right now, few will care about his record. They'll care about what he (or she) said.

A South Carolina ninth-grader was arrested Feb. 15, after he posted a Snapchat photo warning, "Round 2 of Florida Tomorrow." He told authorities he thought he was being funny.

An 11-year-old Florida girl wrote a threatening note — "I will bring a gun to school and shoot all of you" — and slipped it under an assistant principal's office. She said other kids put her up to it.

An 18-year-old in Montana was arrested after posting several threats to

"shoot up" his high school. According to court records, he told police he was joking and he was sorry to have scared anybody.

The rash of similar school threats over the last few weeks is genuinely startling. In the Dallas area alone, five teens were arrested for either having guns at school or making threats within 24 hours of the Florida shooting.

Were they dangerous copycats, kids so seriously disturbed they viewed the Florida killer as an inspiration? Or has threatening gun talk and carrying weapons become another titillating source of hallway rumor and internet chat, like sex and drugs? I don't know.

Parents and teachers and principals and cops can't be sure, either, which is why they cannot afford to take any chances.

The likelihood of students being threatened with violence in American schools remains statistically remote, and some studies suggest it's actually on the decline. Plain facts show that children face more danger in their homes than at school.

Which is not particularly reassuring for stressed-out parents, or for a public half-enraged, half-numbed by unhealed gun massacres.

There are some sad, frightening people out there. That the worst of them achieve instant fame is an indictment of our culture. That there are some teenagers out there who find them inspiring is deeply disturbing.

Some teenagers, though, still have it in their heads that this is some kind of social media game. Those are the ones who thought it was a joke or just wanted to impress the other kids. They are trying our patience.

So whether you're a gun owner or not, whether or not you support arming teachers or posting guards and metal detectors at every school door, let's agree that we can tell our kids this: Guns may be many things, but they are not funny.

There's no such thing as a "joke" involving the threat of mass murder. The reality is exactly what those warning signs at the airport say: All threats will be taken seriously.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

RAGLAND

From 1B

surrounded by kids.

Thweatt brings a different school of thought to the table. He blames anti-gun public policies for turning classrooms and hallways into "soft targets."

"I think we created this problem in America by making schools gun-free zones," he said. "It's ludicrous to say we're going to make banks gun-free zones. And our children are far more valuable than our money. If you ask me to give you my kids or my money, I'm giving you my money."

Thweatt, 57, began pushing his idea of allowing qualified employees to carry handguns after a gunman attacked a one-room schoolhouse in a small, tight-knit Amish village in Pennsylvania on Oct. 2, 2006. The gunman, a familiar face to those at the school, barricaded himself inside the school, held grade-school girls as hostages and shot eight of them, killing five, before turning the gun on himself.

"That alarmed me," said Thweatt, whose school has 115 students, most of whom are transfers from the neighboring towns of Electra and Vernon. "We would've let him in because he was known in the community."

A year later, the Guardian Plan was up and running.

"We've done several different types [of training] over the years but our main focus is accuracy and gun-shot placement," he said. "It could be in a crowded area so you've got to know when and when not to use this weapon. The bottom line is making sure that your folks are effective and use very, very good judgment."

Thweatt said he's "not a firm believer" in psychological tests — at least not for his small school. Save those for big districts with hundreds of campuses and

thousands of employees, he said.

"In a small community," he said, "I hate to say it, but you know who's crazy and who's not."

He's got a point. Hard to walk the hallways without bumping into somebody you know at Harrold.

Thweatt's wife teaches at Harrold, and he has a 14-year-old daughter who attends the school. I talked to another parent, Amanda Litteken, 34, whose husband, an Army veteran, is the school's custodian.

Litteken feels "really safe" with her girls, 5 and 7, at Harrold.

"We're in an outlying area so far away from first responders, it would take at least 30 minutes to get police to us," she said. "If there was a shooter, they could take out our whole school."

She thinks Thweatt has come up with an ideal, if imperfect, solution.

"You can put in metal detectors and things like that," she said, "but that's not something I'm comfortable with my 5-year-old having to do before kindergarten. I don't want her to feel like she's walking into a prison. I like to keep them as innocent as possible while still keeping them safe."

Harrold senior Cheyenne Thomas, 18, said older students are more at ease, too.

"I do feel better that we're armed," Thomas said. "It's less likely to happen here and if it does, they will be able to stop it."

To date, Harrold has never had to put its security system to the test. That's all the validation Thweatt needs to keep things the way they are.

"We've never had anyone come up and say, 'We're going to shoot up Harrold,'" said Thweatt. "It's not a good idea — not a good idea to try."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Midland College student Miguel Ardiles won first place in the Collegiate Division of the West Texas Guitars Festival, which was Feb. 22-24.



Ardiles

played "El Condor Pasa," a song that Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel adapted as "If I Could."

For winning first place, Ardiles opened for classical guitarist Tavi Jinariu at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center on Feb. 24 and will perform a solo recital at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center later this spring.

SEARCHY, Ark. — Midlander Elisa McMurrey graduated from Harding University Dec. 16. She received a bachelor of arts degree in leadership and management.

Thirty-eight Midland College students were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in a ceremony Feb. 20. Fourteen of the inductees are high school students who are taking dual credit classes.

To be invited to join PTK, students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.5.

The newest members are: Rachael Adewoyin, Erin Bailey, Almee Breeden, Brittany Cano, Amy Carson, Genesis Chavira, Kevin Colomo, David Cross, Tatum Dotson, Jacob Edwards, Maddy Feagan, Madeline Flores, Gentry Foreman, Jaci Frazier, Caitlin Gamero, Landon Garnett, Jake Garrett, Kayo Goncalves, and Zenaida Gonzalez. And Jordan Holt,

MAKINGTHEGRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Zachary Hunter, Zaid Isa, Sloane Kelso, Connor Kendall, Brittany Landrum, Anna Lien, Arianda Leyva, Karina Lopez, Dakota Meeks, Frank Muniz, Anthony Munoz, Justin North, Micaela Sanchez, Austin Sikes, Alicia Soule, Austin Wagner, Halima White and Katherine Whiteman.

Greenwood High School senior Matthew Groeschel has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club.



Groeschel

He is the son of Jud and Amy Reed and Steve and Jo Groeschel. He is a member of the football and track teams and Interact. He is a member of first team All-District academic team and honorable mention All-State academic team.

He is a member of Kelview Heights Baptist Church and volunteers with Habitat for Humanity.

Groeschel plans to attend the University of Texas of the Permian Basin and major in business or engineering.

Lee High School senior Kasia J. Wilson has been honored by the



Kasia Wilson

Negro Business and Professional Women's Club of Midland. She is

the daughter of Tekeira Strambler-Ray and Freddie Ray.

She is a member of the track team and is involved in theater.

She is youth secretary at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, volunteers at Breaking Bread Soup Kitchen, Midland County Public Library, Keep Midland Beautiful, Toys for Tots and Boys & Girls Club.

Wilson plans to attend Midland College and transfer to Angelo State University.

Lee High School senior Avlon Demell Wilson has been honored by the



Avlon Wilson

Negro Business and Professional Women's Club of Midland. He is the son of

Tekeira Strambler-Ray and Freddie Ray.

He is a member of the track and basketball teams. He is president of New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church youth department and volunteers with Keep Midland Beautiful and Toys for Tots.

Wilson plans to attend Midland College and transfer to University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

PORTALES, N.M. — Midlander Taylor Conner has been named to the Greyhound Connection honor roll for the fall semester at Eastern New Mexico University. The distinction is for freshmen who maintain a GPA

of at least a 3.0.

DENTON — Midlander Karleigh Jurek graduated in December from Texas Women's University. She received a master of science in nutrition.

DENTON — Midlanders Audrey Menzel and Hannah Wright were named to the Chancellor's List for the fall semester at Texas Women's University.

To be eligible, students have to maintain a 4.0 GPA.

Midland High School senior Makaylee Carter has been honored by the



Carter

Midland Morning Lions Club. She is the daughter of Glenn and Theresa Carter. She is captain of the volleyball team, president of the National Society, vice president of the Student Council and member of Be the Change, Interact and Posse. She is an academic letterman and member of the All District academic team.

She volunteers with after-school Bible study, High Sky Children's Ranch, Midland Community Theatre, Midland Fair Havens and Septemberfest. She is tutor and serves as a science fair judge at Carver Center. She is member of Stonegate Fellowship youth group, Young Life and First Presbyterian Church Element.

Carter plans to attend the University of Texas and major in pre-dentistry.

VENUE

From 1B

public school district to host commencement ceremonies at a church?

That matter has been debated in school board meetings and online.

The answer, experts say, isn't simple.

"I hate it when I can't give clear, hard and fast answers," said Dale Carpenter, a law professor at Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law. "But in constitutional law, there are very rarely clear, hard and fast answers."

Lawrence Sager, law professor at the University of Texas School of Law, said he can't predict with "absolute confidence" what the legal outcome would be if the district was taken to court.

"But I think two things: I think there's a pretty good chance that a court would find that the prior arrangement was unconstitutional," said Sager, the Alice Jane Drysdale Sheffield Regents chair at the UT school. "And the second thing is I want to say: I think the court should find that it was unconstitutional."

Both professors pointed to sparse case law to draw from in regards to graduation venue.

The issue deals with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, which bars the government from favoring a particular faith. While the U.S. Supreme Court has waded into disputes that mix school and religion, it has not specifically offered guidance about the propriety of churches as graduation sites.

A high-profile ruling by a federal appeals court in 2012 seems to have raised even more questions.

'Pervasively CHRISTIAN'

Like McKinney ISD, Elmbrook School District in Wisconsin had a years-long arrangement to host commencement ceremonies at a church. Senior students found the gym to be too hot in June and too cramped, so they voted to have graduation at a church that offered air-conditioning and ample seating. School officials approved the move.

Some families felt uncomfortable, and they sued the district in 2009. The case eventually reached the Seventh Circuit Court

of Appeals, which decided that the choice of venue was unconstitutional.

A majority of the judges called the environment "pervasively Christian," citing a large Latin cross fixed to the wall, the Bibles and hymnals in the pews, and religious pamphlets at booths in the lobby. The church had a policy against covering its permanent religious displays.

"Regardless of the purpose of school administrators in choosing the location, the sheer religiosity of the space created a likelihood that high school students and their younger siblings would perceive a link between church and state," read the majority opinion.

The court said it was not making a sweeping judgment about graduations at churches. It also hinted that it might have ruled differently if the school district had gone to the church in an emergency.

"For example, if a church sanctuary were the only meeting place left in a small community ravaged by a natural disaster, we would confront a very different case," the opinion reads.

But Texas and other states that sided with Elmbrook viewed the ruling as a potential stumbling block for their own schools and cities. Gov. Greg Abbott, then attorney general, asked the Supreme Court to review the lower court's decision.

So did the American Association of School Administrators and other groups. They argued that the ruling was confusing and would put schools in a position of having to decide whether some venues are "too religious."

Schools consider issues of cost, proximity and accommodations when selecting a graduation venue," the association said in a briefing. "And not infrequently, these considerations lead schools to select religious facilities."

The Supreme Court declined to hear the case.

THE DEAL WITH PRESTONWOOD

McKinney had planned to hold this year's graduations at Prestonwood as in years past, but it hadn't signed the contract for the 2018 ceremonies. The district paid Prestonwood \$39,700 each year to hold graduations at the church,

according to its 2016 and 2017 contracts.

The 2017 contract stated that no items, including flowers, could cover or block the view of the cross on the podium. It also stipulated that a Prestonwood minister would give a "brief welcome at the beginning of each graduation."

Parent Amy Bennett, who considers herself a "progressive Christian," said those remarks at last year's graduation made her uncomfortable.

Bennett, who has spoken at previous school board meetings in defense of separation of church and state, said she remembers someone from Prestonwood inviting the crowd to attend a church service during her son's graduation from McKinney High School last year.

"I don't think anyone in public school should have to hear about God on their child's graduation day — the students or the families," she said. "That's just not appropriate."

The Supreme Court ruled on a related issue in the 1992 case *Lee vs. Weisman*. The judges split 5-4 in deciding that it's unconstitutional for a public school to invite a member of the clergy to offer prayers at a graduation.

Sager, the UT law professor, said religious symbols in a church and remarks by a pastor — even if they're not a prayer — could make a district appear as if its "endorsing some religious groups as insiders, and thereby by implication branding other groups as outsiders."

McKinney's decision to switch venues follows a wave of complaints about a prayer led by the superintendent at a staff convocation and comments hostile to Muslims and LGBT people made by two teachers who later resigned. A

parent said some critics were considering a lawsuit if the district didn't change course.

But McKinney ISD spokesman Cody Cunningham has said that fear of a lawsuit was not the driving force behind the district's move.

OTHER OPTIONS

Generally, it's not ideal for schools to host graduations in churches because it provokes questions, and it's best practice to look at other suitable alternatives first, said Joy Baskin, director of legal services for the Texas Association of School Boards.

"I would probably say, 'Have you really considered all other options?'" she said. "And then, if they truly had, I would want them to articulate a plan for why it's either a one-time use, or if it's going to be an ongoing use, do they have a plan to move toward improving their own facilities to be able to host, or use a civic center?"

Before announcing the move, McKinney ISD officials had said that pulling the graduation from Prestonwood couldn't be done this year because the plans for the event are made at least a year in advance.

Cunningham said the cost and capacity to host graduation at the Allen Event Center is comparable to Prestonwood. The event center also is closer for families in McKinney to drive than the Plano Baptist church. The district will pay about \$40,000 to the event center to hold its three graduation ceremonies on June 8.

Lovejoy, Melissa, Princeton and Wylie school districts also plan to hold graduations this year at the Allen Event Center.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

In Loving Memory of
Homer K. Winger

I want to express my gratitude to all the people who took care of Homer during his last days. (Hospice, ambulance driver, ER Nurses, ICU, CCU & others.)

I sincerely want to thank all of Homers friends, neighbors & family who came to pay their respect to him.

A Special thanks to my sisters, Sandra B. and Lisa G., the LDS Church for all their work fulfilling his last wishes.

He will be missed
Thank you family
Sincerely, Cruz Ramirez Winger

There's a little bit of everything in

Education

Look for it in Tuesday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram



Centers
for children & families

Providing counseling for those in need, for children and adults, regardless of level of income. Counseling emphasizes support and healing of individuals and families.

3701 Andrews Highway
Midland, Texas 79703
432.570.1084
www.centersstx.org



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF WEST TEXAS

1611 W Texas Ave.
Midland, TX 79701
(432) 683-1114



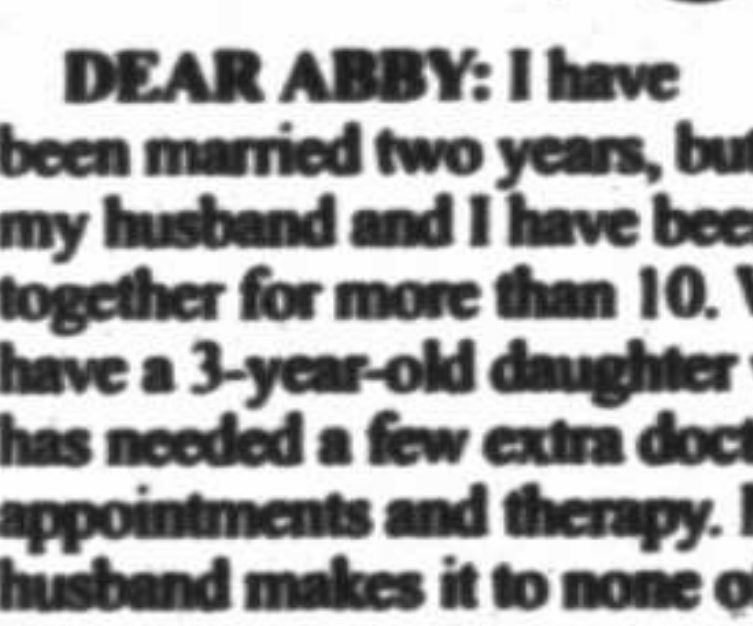
MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
"Change the Path of a Pet's Life"

4206 W. Loop 250
Midland, TX 79707
(Inside PetSmart)
432-520-3134 ext. 7
www.midlandhumane.org
LIKE us on Facebook



10th annual
BLUE RIBBON
RUN
THE RACE TO END
CHILD ABUSE
April 14, 2018

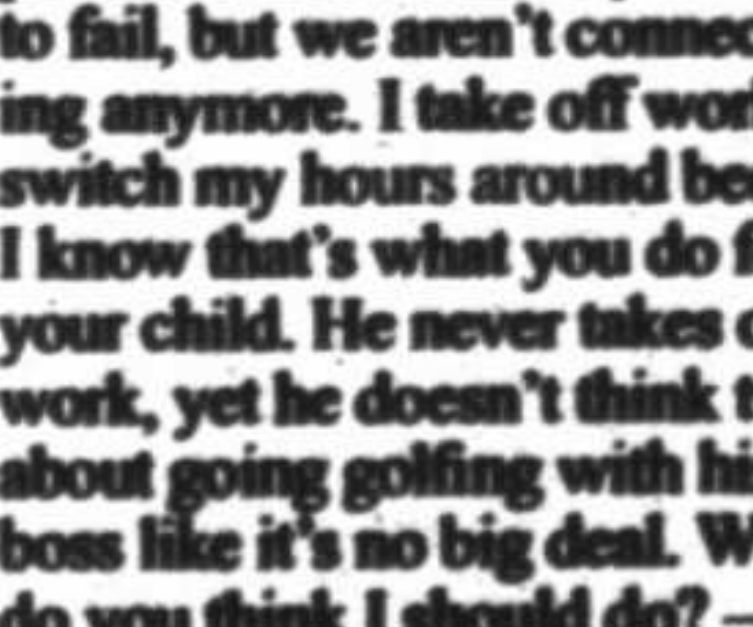
Register online!
MIDLANDCHILD
WELFARE.COM
SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Midland Texas

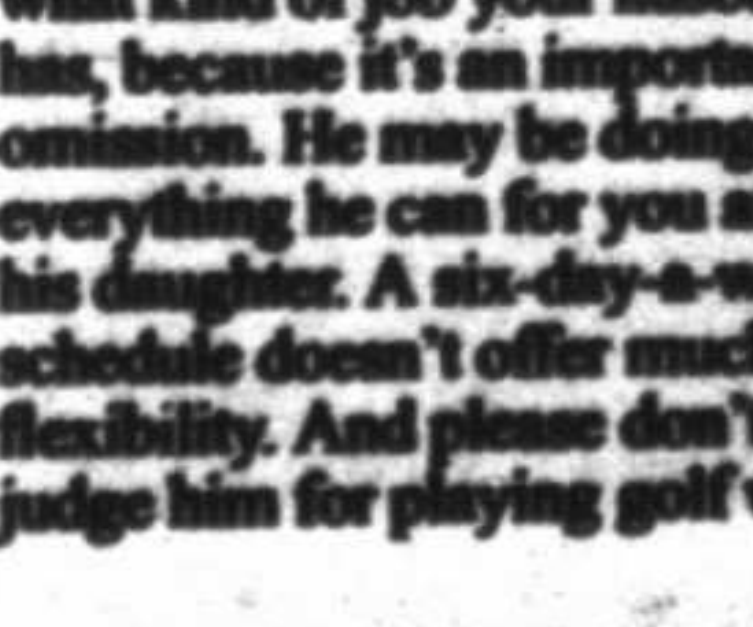
Mentoring children
for a better Midland

432-687-0195



Casado Amigos
HELPING
PEOPLE
HELP
THEMSELVES

1101 E. Gordon Ln., Midland, TX 79701
432-682-9701
casadoamigosmidland.org



basin
pbs

TUESDAY PRIME TIME						MARCH 6, 2018						For Complete Information PLEASE CHECK MOVIE LISTINGS					
	C	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMD ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jessie (R)	Wheel of Fortune (R)	The Middle	Fresh Off the Boat	Black-ish	Black-ish	Saves the World: The Right Thing (R)	News (R)	News (R)	1200 Army Corps	1200 News	1200 News
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (R)	Ent. Tonight	NBC's "Hank & Chris"	Ball "Absolution" (R)	NBC's "Hank & Chris"	NBC's "Hank & Chris"	CBS 7 News (R)	CBS 7 News (R)	1200 The Late Show	1200 The Late Show	1200 The Late Show	1200 The Late Show
KWWT CW	5	14	5	14	5	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"	Latifah's "Hank & Chris"
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	13	13	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
KUPB UNI	4	4	4	4	4	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
KOSA MNT	16	16	16	16	16	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
FLIX	340	375	105	105	105	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
HBO	300	300	14	14	14	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
HBO2	302	302	15	15	15	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
HBO3	304	304	16	16	16	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
MAX	302	302	17	17	17	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
MAX2	302	302	18	18	18	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
PLEX	302	302	19	19	19	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
SHOW	320	320	19	19	19	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
TMC	326	326	22	22	22	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News	News
ABC	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
BET	58	-	-	-	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
BRavo	65	76	41	-	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
CNBC	46	52	39	72	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
ESPN2	34	36	48	32	31	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
FX	45	48	53	23	55	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
FSW	37	38	50	45	29	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
FX	31	56	59	64	69	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
HALLMARK	54	71	58	34	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
HISTORY	63	69	26	48	44	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	40	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
MSNBC	47	53	40	79	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
NBCSN	38	43	-	-	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
NICK	35	-	39	34	37	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
SPRKE	30	-	55	53	58	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
TCM	41	75	24	63	68	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
TELE	20	-	10	20	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
TLC	51	61	32	30	52	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
TYLAND	49	-	35	54	35	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
USA	26	55	42	27	48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48
WGN	19	85	-	-	-	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48



DOING THE MOST GOOD

The Salvation Army
300 S Baird St.
Midland, TX 79701
432-683-3614



Habitat
for Humanity
RESTORE

Call for donation
pick-up.
Come shop our store.
Open to the public.

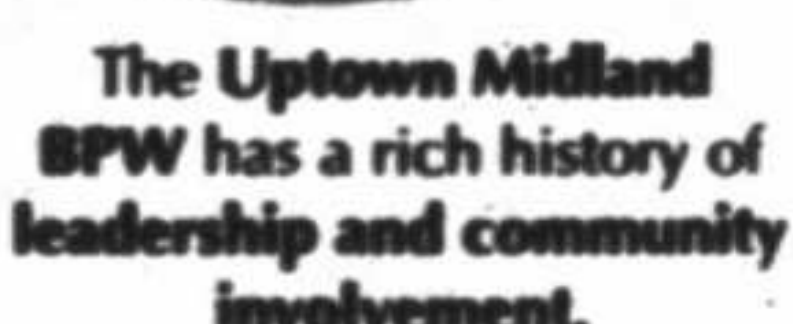
Tues.-Sat.
8:30-4:30.
305 E. Texas
432-682-9606



MARC
Empowering Lives

Offering
opportunities for
children and adults
with disabilities

2701 North A Street
Midland, TX
432.695.9901



The Uptown Midland
BPW has a rich history of
leadership and community
involvement.

We invite you to learn
more about us, and to
consider joining us!
Uptown Midland Business
& Professional Women
MidlandBPW.com

Man's work-life balance isn't working for overburdened mom

DEAR ABBY: I have been married two years, but my husband and I have been together for more than 10. We have a 3-year-old daughter who has needed a few extra doctor appointments and therapy. My husband makes it to none of these extra appointments, some of which are crucial to her future. We both work full-time, but he works six days a week. I have started to regard him differently because I'm doing everything for our daughter. Sometimes I feel like a single parent. I don't want my marriage to fail, but we aren't connecting anymore. I take off work or switch my hours around because I know that's what you do for your child. He never takes off work, yet he doesn't think twice about going golfing with his boss like it's no big deal. What do you think I should do? — **WISCONSIN MOMMY**

DEAR MOMMY: Talk to your husband. You won't be able to achieve a more equal balance until you make your feelings known and discuss this with him.

I'm sorry you didn't mention what kind of job your husband has, because it's an important omission. He may be doing everything he can for you and his daughter. A six-day-a-week schedule doesn't offer much flexibility. And please don't judge him for playing golf with

DEAR ABBY

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

AUCTION AT MIDLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Midland Christian School raised almost \$300,000 in live and silent auctions Feb. 23 at the school. The fundraiser is instrumental in helping keep the school's tuition as low as possible, according to Superintendent Eddie Lee, seen on stage.

Courtesy photos



MC's Thomas to receive award

Midland College President Steve Thomas congratulates graduates during commencement ceremony May 12 at Chaparral Center. Thomas is to receive the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction from Phi Theta Kappa during the honor society's convention next month in Kansas City, Mo. He is one of 35 community college presidents who will be recognized for their outstanding effort in promoting PTK's goals, according to the society's website.



SPORTS

Texas Tech basketball coach Chris Beard signs extension. Page 3C

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, March 6, 2018 | Section C

Brown leads No. 2 Baylor past No. 8 Texas in Big 12 final

By Cliff Brunt
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Kalani Brown scored 20 points to help No. 2 Baylor beat No. 8 Texas 77-69 in the Big 12 championship game on Monday night.

Brown, a 6-foot-7 center, was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player after averaging 24.7 points in three games.

Freshman point guard Alexis Morris scored 19 points for Baylor. She stepped in as a starter after senior point guard Kristy Wallace, an all-conference selection, tore her right ACL in the regular-season finale. Lauren Cox had 13 points and 12 rebounds and Dekeya Cohen added eight points and 12 rebounds for the Lady Bears.

(31-1), who won their 28th straight game. Baylor had won six straight tournament titles before losing last year's championship game to West Virginia.

Lashann Higgs scored 20 points, Brooke McCarty scored 16 and Ariel Atkins and Jatarie White each added 12 for Texas (26-6).

Baylor led 35-33 at halftime. Baylor got 10 points from Brown and nine rebounds from Cohen before the break. Texas countered with 14 points from Higgs.

Brown drove for a layup in the closing seconds of the third quarter and Texas' Jordan Hoxey fouled her hard. Brown was helped off the court. No flagrant was called, and Brown returned after the review. Baylor led 52-46 at the end of the third quarter.

Juicy Landrum's 3-pointer to start the fourth quarter pushed Baylor's lead to nine, and it looked like the Lady Bears might be off and running to another one of their blowouts. Instead, Texas responded with a 9-0 run. Joyner Holmes' layup with about seven minutes to play tied the score at 55, and McCarty's 3-pointer with just over five minutes to play finally gave Texas the lead at 58-57.

With Baylor leading 65-64 with 1:41 remaining, Cox was fouled by Holmes on a rebound and Cox swung her arm angrily after the contact. Aston thought there should have been a call against Cox, and her argument drew her first technical foul of the season. Cox made four free throws to make it a five-point game.



Sue Ogrocki/Associated Press

Baylor guard Alexis Morris (11) shoots over Texas guard Ariel Atkins, left, in the first half of the championship game of the women's Big 12 conference tournament Monday in Oklahoma City.

Softball slugfest



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Alex James (5) fields a base hit from Midland High in 2017, at Gene Smith Field.

Offensive fireworks could be the theme of 2-6A play

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

The 2018 District 2-6A campaign could be in for some slugfests.

Five of the six 2-6A teams are averaging seven runs or more per game as district play begins today.

At 4 p.m. at Gene Smith Field, Lee (10-8-2) hosts Odessa Permian (13-0), which is lighting up the scoreboard to the tune of 9.2 runs per contest.

Later in the day, Midland High (12-6-2), which is averaging 8.2 runs per game, visits hot-hitting Odessa High (14-2-1) at 7 p.m. at the Ratliff Softball Complex.

The Lady Bronchos lead the district with a blistering 10.8 runs per contest.

"Everybody is going to hit the ball," Lady Rebels head coach Mandy Davis said. "It's going to be a matter of who scores more."

Here are five things to watch as district play gets underway:

1. Midland High is shooting for a third straight district title.

The Lady Bulldogs have six starters back from their 2017 team that claimed the outright district title with an 8-2 mark.

While MHS has plenty of experienced

bats, its pitching depth took a hit with the graduation of current Midland College freshman Deandra Allen, who combined with current senior Alli Monarrez to give the Lady Dawgs a capable 1-2 punch in the circle.

Thus far, MHS has allowed an average of 4.6 runs per game, which ranks fourth in the district.

"I think they swing the bat very, very well," Davis said of the Lady Dawgs.

"They'll use the short game if they need to. Those girls are always aggressive on the bases. They definitely got that mentality of we're not going to lose and we want to be on top. They're going to fight to do what it takes to try to be there again."

2. Lee aims to get back to the postseason.

The Lady Rebels have missed the playoffs in two straight seasons (2016-17) after a string of 11 consecutive postseason trips between 2005-15.

Davis lauded the leadership efforts of her three seniors Kirklynd Newsom, Alaina Marquez and Jasmine Gonzales to end the dry spell.

"I've got a whole different mentality on my senior class and they want to make the playoffs this year," Davis said. "They

are working on that whatever it takes mentality."

This season Lee appears to have more offensive thump, as it is averaging 7.9 runs per game and has scored in double figures eight times.

"We are hitting the ball and that's where we know our strength is going to come," Davis said. "We're going to have to score some runs."

3. Permian enters district as the hottest team.

Not only do the Lady Panthers enter district with an unblemished record, but they are scoring in bunches and leading the district in run prevention, allowing only 2.9 runs per contest.

The run prevention can be attributed to the transfer of former Andrews ace Alexis Morales, who will vie for the distinction of the district's best hurler this season.

Permian's loaded lineup is led by three juniors — Hannah Banker, Monique Pando, Rylee Day — that earned first team, all-district honors last year.

4. Lady Bronchos have been winning lopsided affairs.

Odessa High has already scored 183

Please see SOFTBALL/2C

Mickelson a winner again and wants more

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Phil Mickelson knew this was coming, even when he had so little to show for it.

Mickelson had gone 101 tournaments around the world since he last won at Muirfield in the 2013 British Open, which moved him to No. 2 in the world and gave him the third leg of the career Grand Slam. In more than two decades on the PGA Tour, he had gone only two seasons without winning.

And then it was up to four straight years and counting.

There was more frustration than self-doubt. And with Mickelson, even at age 47, there was never a loss of confidence.

"I knew that wasn't going to be my last one, no," he said Sunday. "And this isn't either."

The most recent one came in the high altitude of the Mexico Championship, and it was another pulsating performance, as often is the case with Mickelson.

Five birdies in the opening 10 holes gave him the lead. Right when he was on the verge of taking control, he went for the green on the par-5 11th hole only for the shot to carom off a tree and into the bushes near the edge of Chapultepec Golf Club. Deep in the bushes, he blasted out and hit the crowd. He wound up making bogey. Then came another wild drive that bounced along the cart path, forcing him to scramble for par.

Three groups ahead of him, Justin Thomas delivered the shot of the tournament. Eleven shots behind going into the weekend and suddenly tied for the lead, Thomas holed out from 119 yards on the final hole for eagle to cap off a 62-64 weekend as he went for his second straight victory.

"I didn't know that he holed out,"

Mickelson said. "I just saw that he finished at 16 under when I was playing the 15th, and that meant that I needed to birdie two to get even with him."

And that's what he did. A perfect drive and a 6-iron for a two-putt birdie, and then a 20-foot birdie on the 16th.

Mickelson closed with a 66 and headed to a sudden-death playoff with Thomas, a duel between players separated by 23 years of age. Missing from the group was Tyrrell Hatton, who delivered his own charge with four straight 3s on his card, the last one an eagle to tie for the lead. But he missed the 18th green with a wedge, chipped strong and missed the par putt.

The sudden-death playoff ended

Please see MICKELSON/4C



Edwards Verdugo/Associated Press

Phil Mickelson, of the U.S., approaches the green on the 1st hole in the final round of the Mexico Championship at Chapultepec Golf Club in Mexico City on Sunday.

Harvick takes a bumpy road to 100 victories

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kevin Harvick once lay in wait for Greg Biffle on the pit road wall at Bristol Motor Speedway. Harvick was angry — he always seemed to be angry in the early days of his NASCAR career — and he was going to make sure Biffle knew it the moment the race was over.

How did Harvick send his message? He literally hurled over Biffle's car into a scum and lunged at Biffle's throat.

The Biffle incident back in 2002 would most certainly be

on Harvick's highlight reel. In his first two years in Cup, Harvick became the first driver to be "parked" by NASCAR for aggressive driving and he once tried to fight Ricky Rudd, usually considered a losing proposition. Harvick's nickname has always been "Happy" and he was anything but in those early days.

He said after the 2002 wrecking Coy Gibbs in a Truck Series race at Martinsville and generally being a thorn in NASCAR's side — that it was the wakeup call the 25-year-old needed.

Please see FRYER/4C



Steve Brakman/Associated Press

Kevin Harvick passes the start/finish line during a NASCAR Cup series auto race on Sunday in Las Vegas.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

College Baseball Dallas Baptist at Oklahoma, 6:30 p.m., FSCS College Softball Ole Miss vs. Boston College, 6 p.m., SEC Golf Asian Tour: ISPS Handa New Zealand Open, 3rd Round, 10 a.m., GOLF Major League Baseball Spring Training: Houston at NY Mets, Noon, MLB Spring Training: Colorado at Seattle, 7:30 p.m., MLB Men's College Basketball ACC 1st Round: Boston College vs. Georgia Tech, 11 a.m., ESPN2 ACC 1st Round: Notre Dame vs. Pitt, 1 p.m., ESPN2 Horizon League Championship, 6 p.m., ESPN2 NEC Championship, 6 p.m., ESPN2 ACC 1st Round: Syracuse vs. Wake Forest, 6 p.m., ESPN2 CAA Championship, 6 p.m., ESPN2 CBBSSN WCC Championship, 8 p.m., ESPN Summit League Championship, 8 p.m., ESPN2 Men's Soccer UEFA Champions Rd of 16, Leg 2: Paris Saint-Germain FC vs. Real Madrid, 1:30 p.m., FS1, FXDEP	UEFA Champions Rd of 16, Leg 2: Liverpool FC vs. FC Porto, 1:30 p.m., FS2, ESPNDEP National Basketball Association Houston at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m., TNT Denver at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW New Orleans at LA Clippers, 9:30 p.m., TNT National Hockey League Detroit at Boston, 6 p.m., NBCSN Dallas at Nashville, 7 p.m., FSSW Washington at Anaheim, 9 p.m., NBCSN Tennis ATP: BNP Paribas Open, 1 p.m., TENNIS Women's College Basketball Horizon Championship, 11 a.m., ESPN2 Summit League Championship, 1 p.m., ESPN2 WCC Championship, 3 p.m., ESPN2 American Championship, 4 p.m., ESPN2 Big East Championship, 6 p.m., FS1 RADIO National Basketball Association Denver at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)
---	--

WHAT'S ON DECK

HS Baseball Abilene High at Lee, 4:05 p.m. Midland High at San Angelo Central, 4 p.m. HS Boys Soccer Amarillo Tascosa at Lee, 7:30 p.m. Midland High at Odessa Permian, 7:30 p.m. HS Girls Soccer Amarillo Tascosa at Lee, 5:30 p.m. Midland High at Odessa Permian, 5:30 p.m. HS Softball Odessa Permian at Lee, 4 p.m. Midland High at Odessa High, 7 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL AMERICAN LEAGUE CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with LHP Robbie Ross Jr. on a minor league contract. DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with RHPs Jeremy Beckett, Brad Hand, Arlin Lewis and Drew Volkmann; LHP Daniel Norris; CF Graydon Greiner and John Hicks; RHPs Sergio Alcantara and Jesus Cordero; and OFs Mike Moustakas and Victor Reyes on one-year contracts. KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Agreed to OF Billy Burns outright to Omaha (PCL). TAMPA BAY RAYS — Traded RF Ryan Schimpf to Atlanta Braves in for a player to be named or cash. NATIONAL LEAGUE ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with C Anthony Rendon on a minor league contract. ATLANTA BRAVES — Optioned RHPs Alex Bland and RHP Jason Hight to Gwinnett (IL). ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Agreed to terms with RF Paul DeJong on a six-year contract and with RHPs Matt Bowman, John Brebbia, Josh Palumbo, John Gant, Devin Gonzalez, Connor Cozart, Daniel Lugo, Josh Lucas, Mike Moustakas, Alex Reyes, Sam Thielke and Luis Valbuena; LHPs Austin Gomber and Ryan Sherriff; C Connor Kelly; RHPs Greg Garcia, Jose Martinez, Yusei Kikuchi, Eduardo Escobar, Bryce Veltus, Luis Val and CFs Harrison Bader, Oscar Mercado and Tyler O'Neill on one-year contracts. Reassigned the contract of OF Tony Plouffe. Reassigned RHPs Hector Sanchez, Daniel Pineda and John Woodruff; LHPs Austin Schaller, Ca. Jeremy Martinez and Danny Onteja; and RF Mike Schiller to their minor league camps. WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with OF Alexander De Azavedo on a minor league contract. BASEBALL National Baseball Association ATLANTA BRAVES — Called up G. Josh Maglio.	AND F. Andrew White II from Erie (PWL). WASHINGTON WIZARDS — Signed G. Roman Saunders to a 10-day contract. FOOTBALL National Football League ATLANTA FALCONS — Agreed to terms with Matt Bryant on a three-year contract extension. DALLAS COWBOYS — Placed the franchise tag on Oakland Raiders' LB Akeem Ayers. ONLINE RAIDERS — Released LB Akeem Ayers. HOCKEY National Hockey League COLORADO AVALANCHE — Reassigned G. Spencer Martin to San Antonio (AHL). DALLAS STARS — Reassigned F. Rasmus Ristolainen to AHL and re-signed him back to Texas. EDMONTON OILERS — Signed F. Colin Laferriere to a one-year AHL entry level contract beginning in 2019-20. NEW YORK RANGERS — Agreed to terms with F. Ryan O'Reilly on a one-year contract and with RHPs John Gant, Devin Gonzalez, Connor Cozart, Daniel Lugo, Josh Lucas, Mike Moustakas, Alex Reyes, Sam Thielke and Luis Valbuena; LHPs Austin Gomber and Ryan Sherriff; C Connor Kelly; RHPs Greg Garcia, Jose Martinez, Yusei Kikuchi, Eduardo Escobar, Bryce Veltus, Luis Val and CFs Harrison Bader, Oscar Mercado and Tyler O'Neill on one-year contracts. Reassigned the contract of OF Tony Plouffe. Reassigned RHPs Hector Sanchez, Daniel Pineda and John Woodruff; LHPs Austin Schaller, Ca. Jeremy Martinez and Danny Onteja; and RF Mike Schiller to their minor league camps. WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with OF Alexander De Azavedo on a minor league contract. BASEBALL National Baseball Association ATLANTA BRAVES — Called up G. Josh Maglio.
--	---

HS TENNIS

MHS' STEWART WINS COUGAR CLASSIC ABILENE — Midland High senior Allison Stewart won 5-0 in girls singles to win the Cougar Classic Tennis Tournament hosted by Cooper High School on Friday and Saturday.	Stewart improved to 36-1 during the 2017-18 season. The MHS boys doubles team of Nick Martinez and Diego Martinez finished third, while MHS boys singles player Tyler Stewart came in fifth.
--	--

HS POWERLIFTING

BIG SPRING'S ROBERTS QUALIFIES FOR STATE POWERLIFTING MONAHAN — Big Spring senior Carlie Roberts won the girls 181-pound weight class with a meet record of 520 pounds lifted during the Regional Powerlifting Meet Saturday to qualify for the State Powerlifting Meet March 17 in Waco.	Roberts set the regional bench press in her weight class with 185 pounds and tied the regional deadlift record for her weight class with 385 pounds. Big Spring's Jeneigh Vanderbilt finished third in the 148-pound weight class and is an alternate for the state meet.
---	---

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division Tampa Bay 65-31-16, 104 pts Boston 58-28-16, 102 pts Toronto 50-28-22, 100 pts Florida 48-28-24, 98 pts Detroit 47-29-25, 96 pts Montreal 46-30-26, 94 pts Carolina 45-31-27, 92 pts Washington 44-32-28, 90 pts Pittsburgh 43-33-29, 88 pts New Jersey 42-34-30, 86 pts Columbus 41-35-31, 84 pts Carolina 40-36-32, 82 pts N.Y. Rangers 39-37-33, 80 pts N.Y. Islanders 38-38-34, 78 pts	Pacific Division Vegas 55-25-10, 110 pts San Jose 53-23-12, 108 pts Anaheim 51-21-14, 106 pts Los Angeles 49-19-16, 104 pts Calgary 47-17-18, 102 pts Edmonton 45-15-20, 100 pts Vancouver 43-13-22, 98 pts Seattle 41-11-24, 96 pts Arizona 39-9-26, 94 pts Chicago 37-7-28, 92 pts St. Louis 35-5-30, 90 pts Minnesota 33-3-32, 88 pts Dallas 31-1-34, 86 pts San Antonio 29-0-36, 84 pts
---	---

MLB SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

AMERICAN LEAGUE New York Yankees 10-1, 0.625 Houston Astros 9-2, 0.818 Tampa Bay Rays 8-3, 0.727 Chicago White Sox 7-4, 0.636 Boston Red Sox 6-5, 0.545 Toronto Blue Jays 5-6, 0.455 Detroit Tigers 4-7, 0.364 Cleveland Indians 3-8, 0.273 Oakland Athletics 2-9, 0.182 Kansas City Royals 1-10, 0.091	NATIONAL LEAGUE Chicago Cubs 10-1, 0.909 St. Louis Cardinals 9-2, 0.818 San Francisco Giants 8-3, 0.727 Los Angeles Dodgers 7-4, 0.636 Pittsburgh Pirates 6-5, 0.545 San Diego Padres 5-6, 0.455 Arizona Diamondbacks 4-7, 0.364 Colorado Rockies 3-8, 0.273 Milwaukee Brewers 2-9, 0.182 Washington Nationals 1-10, 0.091
--	---

Erik Karlsson scores in overtime, Ottawa Senators beat Stars 3-2

Associated Press

DALLAS — Erik Karlsson scored on a breakaway with 2:19 left in overtime and Ottawa Senators beat the Dallas Stars 3-2 on Monday night.

Karlsson picked up a loose puck after a missed Dallas opportunity and beat goalie Kari Lehtonen.

Stars goalie Ben Bishop left because of a lower-body injury after making 12 saves in the first period. Lehtonen replaced Bishop and had 15 saves.

Ottawa's Craig Anderson made 31 saves.

Dallas' Tyler Seguin scored twice, on the power play in the first period and from the top of the right faceoff circle with 1:02 left in the third period to tie it. Goals by Mike Hoffman.



Tony Gutierrez/Associated Press

The Ottawa Senators gather around defenseman Erik Karlsson (65), of Sweden, while celebrating Karlsson's goal against the Dallas Stars in overtime Monday in Dallas.

on the power play in the second period and Matt Duchene in the third gave Ottawa a 2-1 lead.

lead for the first wild card in the Western Conference to three points over Los Angeles.

The Senators are 2-5-1 in

their last eight games. Seguin first scored from the left of the net on a narrow angle. His shot went in off Ottawa defenseman Ben Harpur's skate.

Play was stopped with 11:05 left in the first period after Bishop and Dallas defenseman Dan Hamhuis fell in a heap in front of the goal. A trainer attended to Bishop, who stayed in the game but didn't return for the second period.

Each team had two power plays in the second, and Ottawa cashed in on its second power play just two seconds before the period ended.

Mark Stone passed from the left faceoff circle across to Hoffman behind the edge of the right circle. His shot went off the sprawling Lehtonen's upper left arm and into the net.

Stanton's Snellgrove wins Coahoma Golf Invite

From staff reports

COAHOMA — Stanton's Blake Snellgrove shot a 79 to win the boys tournament of the Coahoma High School Golf Invitational Monday at Comanche Golf Course.

Garden City No. 1 placed second in the boys team standings with a score of 359. Garden City was led by Nick Lara, who finished third with a round of 83.

The Garden City girls also placed second with a team score of 417.

Garden City's Logan Wood finished third in the girls medalist standings with a round of 89.

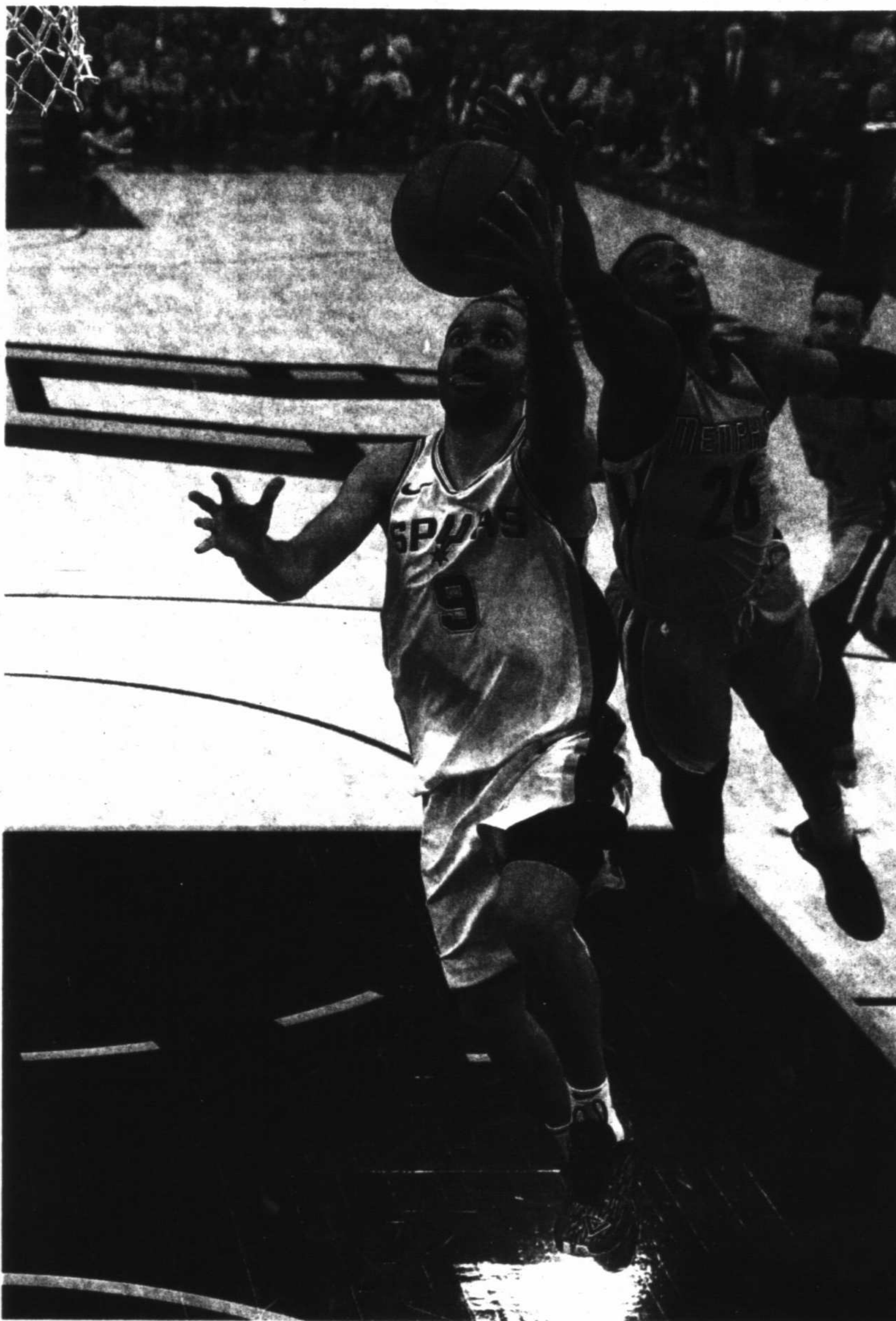
Coahoma High School Golf Invitational

At Coahoma Golf Course

Monday

Boys

Team standings — 1. Garden City 359, 2. Garden City 361, 3. Garden City 363, 4. Garden City 365, 5. Garden City 367, 6. Garden City 369, 7. Garden City 371, 8. Garden City 373, 9. Garden City 375, 10. Garden City 377, 11. Garden City 379, 12. Garden City 381, 13. Garden City 383, 14. Garden City 385, 15. Garden City 387, 16. Garden City 389, 17. Garden City 391, 18. Garden City 393, 19. Garden City 395, 20. Garden City 397, 21. Garden City 399, 22. Garden City 401, 23. Garden City 403, 24. Garden City 405, 25. Garden City 407, 26. Garden City 409, 27. Garden City 411, 28. Garden City 413, 29. Garden City 415, 30. Garden City 417, 31. Garden City 419, 32. Garden City 421, 33. Garden City 423, 34. Garden City 425, 35. Garden City 427, 36. Garden City 429, 37. Garden City 431, 38. Garden City 433, 39. Garden City 435, 40. Garden City 437, 41. Garden City 439, 42. Garden City 441, 43. Garden City 443, 44. Garden City 445, 45. Garden City 447, 46. Garden City 449, 47. Garden City 451, 48. Garden City 453, 49. Garden City 455, 50. Garden City 457, 51. Garden City 459, 52. Garden City 461, 53. Garden City 463, 54. Garden City 465, 55. Garden City 467, 56. Garden City 469, 57. Garden City 471, 58. Garden City 473, 59. Garden City 475, 60. Garden City 477, 61. Garden City 479, 62. Garden City 481, 63. Garden City 483, 64. Garden City 485, 65. Garden City 487, 66. Garden City 489, 67. Garden City 491, 68. Garden City 493, 69. Garden City 495, 70. Garden City 497, 71. Garden City 499, 72. Garden City 501, 73. Garden City 503, 74. Garden City 505, 75. Garden City 507, 76. Garden City 509, 77. Garden City 511, 78. Garden City 513, 79. Garden City 515, 80. Garden City 517, 81. Garden City 519, 82. Garden City 521, 83. Garden City 523, 84. Garden City 525, 85. Garden City 527, 86. Garden City 529, 87. Garden City 531, 88. Garden City 533, 89. Garden City 535, 90. Garden City 537, 91. Garden City 539, 92. Garden City 541, 93. Garden City 543, 94. Garden City 545, 95. Garden City 547, 96. Garden City 549, 97. Garden City 551, 98. Garden City 553, 99. Garden City 555, 100. Garden City 557, 101. Garden City 559, 102. Garden City 561, 103. Garden City 563, 104. Garden City 565, 105. Garden City 567, 106. Garden City 569, 107. Garden City 571, 108. Garden City 573, 109. Garden City 575, 110. Garden City 577, 111. Garden City 579, 112. Garden City 581, 113. Garden City 583, 114. Garden City 585, 115. Garden City 587, 116. Garden City 589, 117. Garden City 591, 118. Garden City 593, 119. Garden City 595, 120. Garden City 597, 121. Garden City 599, 122. Garden City 601, 123. Garden City 603, 124. Garden City 605, 125. Garden City 607, 126. Garden City 609, 127. Garden City 611, 128. Garden City 613, 129. Garden City 615, 130. Garden City 617, 131. Garden City 619, 132. Garden City 621, 133. Garden City 623, 134. Garden City 625, 135. Garden City 627, 136. Garden City 629, 137. Garden City 631, 138. Garden City 633, 139. Garden City 635, 140. Garden City 637, 141. Garden City 639, 142. Garden City 641, 143. Garden City 643, 144. Garden City 645, 145. Garden City 647, 146. Garden City 649, 147. Garden City 651, 148. Garden City 653, 149. Garden City 655, 150. Garden City 657, 151. Garden City 659, 152. Garden City 661, 153. Garden City 663, 154. Garden City 665, 155. Garden City 667, 156. Garden City 669, 157. Garden City 671, 158. Garden City 673, 159. Garden City 675, 160. Garden City 677, 161. Garden City 679, 162. Garden City 681, 163. Garden City 683, 164. Garden City 685, 165. Garden City 687, 166. Garden City 689, 167. Garden City 691, 168. Garden City 693, 169. Garden City 695, 170. Garden City 697, 171. Garden City 699, 172. Garden City 701, 173. Garden City 703, 174. Garden City 705, 175. Garden City 707, 176. Garden City 709, 177. Garden City 711, 178. Garden City 713, 179. Garden City 715, 180. Garden City 717, 181. Garden City 719, 182. Garden City 721, 183. Garden City 723, 184. Garden City 725, 185. Garden City 727, 186. Garden City 729, 187. Garden City 731, 188. Garden City 733, 189. Garden City 735, 190. Garden City 737, 191. Garden City 739, 192. Garden City 741, 193. Garden City 743, 194. Garden City 745, 195. Garden City 747, 196. Garden City 749, 197. Garden City 751, 198. Garden City 753, 199. Garden City 755, 200. Garden City 757, 201. Garden City 759, 202. Garden City 761, 203. Garden City 763, 204. Garden City 765, 205. Garden City 767, 206. Garden City 769, 207. Garden City 771, 208. Garden City 773, 209. Garden City 775, 210. Garden City 777, 211. Garden City 779, 212. Garden City 781, 213. Garden City 783, 214. Garden City 785, 215. Garden City 787, 216. Garden City 789, 217. Garden City 791, 218. Garden City 793, 219. Garden City 795, 220. Garden City 797, 221. Garden City 799, 222. Garden City 801, 223. Garden City 803, 224. Garden City 805, 225. Garden City 807, 226. Garden City 809, 227. Garden City 811, 228. Garden City 813, 229. Garden City 815, 230. Garden City 817, 231. Garden City 819, 232. Garden City 821, 233. Garden City 823, 234. Garden City 825, 235. Garden City 827, 236. Garden City 829, 237. Garden City 831, 238. Garden City 833, 239. Garden City 835, 240. Garden City 837, 241. Garden City 839, 242. Garden City 841, 243. Garden City 843, 244. Garden City 845, 245. Garden City 847, 246. Garden City 849, 247. Garden City 851, 248. Garden City 853, 249. Garden City 855, 250. Garden City 857, 251. Garden City 859, 252. Garden City 861, 253. Garden City 863, 254. Garden City 865, 255. Garden City 867, 256. Garden City 869, 257. Garden City 871, 258. Garden City 873, 259. Garden City 875, 260. Garden City 877, 261. Garden City 879, 262. Garden City 881, 263. Garden City 883, 264. Garden City 885, 265. Garden City 887, 266. Garden City 889, 267. Garden City 891, 268. Garden City 893, 269. Garden City 895, 270. Garden City 897, 271. Garden City 899, 272. Garden City 901, 273. Garden City 903, 274. Garden City 905, 275. Garden City 907, 276. Garden City 909, 277. Garden City 911, 278. Garden City 913, 279. Garden City 915, 280. Garden City 917, 281. Garden City 919, 282. Garden City 921, 283. Garden City 923, 284. Garden City 925, 285. Garden City 927, 286. Garden City 929, 287. Garden City 931, 288. Garden City 933, 289. Garden City 935, 290. Garden City 937, 291. Garden City 939, 292. Garden City 941, 293. Garden City 943, 294. Garden City 945, 295. Garden City 947, 296. Garden City 949, 297. Garden City 951, 298. Garden City 953, 299. Garden City 955, 300. Garden City 957, 301. Garden City 959, 302. Garden City 961, 303. Garden City 963, 304. Garden City 965, 305. Garden City 967, 306. Garden City 969, 307. Garden City 971, 308. Garden City 973, 309. Garden City 975, 310. Garden City 977, 311. Garden City 979, 312. Garden City 981, 313. Garden City 983, 314. Garden City 985, 315. Garden City 987, 316. Garden City 989, 317. Garden City 991, 318. Garden City 993, 319. Garden City 995, 320. Garden City 997, 321. Garden City 999, 322. Garden City 1001, 323. Garden City 1003, 324. Garden City 1005, 325. Garden City 1007, 326. Garden City 1009, 327. Garden City 1011, 328. Garden City 1013, 329. Garden City 1015, 330. Garden City 1017, 331. Garden City 1019, 332. Garden City 1021, 333. Garden City 1023, 334. Garden City 1025, 335. Garden City 1027, 336. Garden City 1029, 337. Garden City 1031, 338. Garden City 1033, 339. Garden City 1035, 340. Garden City 1037, 341. Garden City 1039, 342. Garden City 1041, 343. Garden City 1043, 344. Garden City 1045, 345. Garden City 1047, 346. Garden City 1049, 347. Garden City 1051, 348. Garden City 1053, 349. Garden City 1055, 350. Garden City 1057, 351. Garden City 1059, 352. Garden City 1061, 353. Garden City 1063, 354. Garden City 1065, 355. Garden City 1067, 356. Garden City 1069, 357. Garden City 1071, 358. Garden City 1073, 359. Garden City 1075, 360. Garden City 1077, 361. Garden City 1079, 362. Garden City 1081, 363. Garden City 1083, 364. Garden City 1085, 365. Garden City 1087, 366. Garden City 1089, 367. Garden City 1091, 368. Garden City 1093, 369. Garden City 1095, 370. Garden City 1097, 371. Garden City 1099, 372. Garden City 1101, 373. Garden City 1103, 374. Garden City 1105, 375. Garden City 1107, 376. Garden City 1109, 377. Garden City 1111, 378. Garden City 1113, 379. Garden City 1115, 380. Garden City 1117, 381. Garden City 1119, 382. Garden City 1121, 383. Garden City 1123, 384. Garden City 1125, 385. Garden City 1127, 386. Garden City 1129, 387. Garden City 1131, 388. Garden City 1133, 389. Garden City 1135, 390. Garden City 1137, 391. Garden City 1139, 392. Garden City 1141, 393. Garden City 1143, 394. Garden City 1145, 395. Garden City 1147, 396. Garden City 1149, 397. Garden City 1151, 398. Garden City 1153, 399. Garden City 1155, 400. Garden City 1157, 401. Garden City 1159, 402. Garden City 1161, 403. Garden City 1163, 404. Garden City 1165, 405. Garden City 1167, 406. Garden City 1169, 407. Garden City 1171, 408. Garden City 1173, 409. Garden City 1175, 410. Garden City 1177, 411. Garden City 1179, 412. Garden City 1181, 413. Garden City 1183, 414. Garden City 1185, 415. Garden City 1187, 416. Garden City 1189, 417. Garden City 1191, 418. Garden City 1193, 419. Garden City 1195, 420. Garden City 1197, 421. Garden City 1199, 422. Garden City 1201, 423. Garden City 1203, 424. Garden City 1205, 425. Garden City 1207, 426. Garden City 1209, 427. Garden City 1211, 428. Garden City 1213, 429. Garden City 1215, 430. Garden City 1217, 431. Garden City 1219, 432. Garden City 1221, 433. Garden City 1223, 434. Garden City 1225, 435. Garden City 1227, 436. Garden City 1229, 437. Garden City 1231, 438. Garden City 1233, 439. Garden City 1235, 440. Garden City 1237, 441. Garden City 1239, 442. Garden City 1241, 443. Garden City 1243, 444. Garden City 1245, 445. Garden City 1247, 446. Garden City 1249, 447. Garden City 1251, 448. Garden City 1253, 449. Garden City 1255, 450. Garden City 1257, 451. Garden City 1259, 452. Garden City 1261, 453. Garden City 1263, 454. Garden City 1265, 455. Garden City 1267, 456. Garden City 1269, 457. Garden City 1271, 458. Garden City 1273, 459. Garden City 1275, 460. Garden City 1277, 461. Garden City 1279, 462. Garden City 1281, 463. Garden City 1283, 464. Garden City 1285, 465. Garden City 1287, 466. Garden City 1289, 467. Garden City 1291, 468. Garden City 1293, 469. Garden City 1295, 470. Garden City 1297, 471. Garden City 1299, 472. Garden City 1301, 473. Garden City 1303, 474. Garden City 1305, 475. Garden City 1307, 476. Garden City 1309, 477. Garden City 1311, 478. Garden City 1313, 479. Garden City 1315, 480. Garden City 1317, 481. Garden City 1319, 482. Garden City 1321, 483. Garden City 1323, 484. Garden City 1325, 485. Garden City 1327, 486. Garden City 1329, 487. Garden City 1331, 488. Garden City 1333, 489. Garden City 1335, 490. Garden City 1337, 491. Garden City 1339, 492. Garden City 1341, 493. Garden City 1343, 494. Garden City 1345, 495. Garden City 1347, 496. Garden City 1349, 497. Garden City 1351, 498. Garden City 1353, 499. Garden City 1355, 500. Garden City 1357, 501. Garden City 1359, 502. Garden City 1361, 503. Garden City 1363, 504. Garden City 1365, 505. Garden City 1367, 506. Garden City 1369, 507. Garden City 1371, 508. Garden City 1373, 509. Garden City 1375, 510. Garden City 1377, 511. Garden City 1379, 512. Garden City 1381, 513. Garden City 1383, 514. Garden City 1385, 515. Garden City 1387, 516. Garden City 1389, 517. Garden City 1391, 518. Garden City 1393, 519. Garden City 1395, 520. Garden City 1397, 521. Garden City 1399, 522. Garden City 1401, 523. Garden City 1403, 524. Garden City 1405, 525. Garden City 1407, 526. Garden City 1409, 527. Garden City 1411, 528. Garden City 1413, 529. Garden City 1415, 530. Garden City 1417, 531. Garden City 1419, 532. Garden City 1421, 533. Garden City 1423, 534. Garden City 1425, 535. Garden City 1427, 536. Garden City 1429, 537. Garden City 1431, 538. Garden City 1433, 539. Garden City 1435, 540. Garden City 1437, 541. Garden City 1439, 542. Garden City 1441, 543. Garden City 1443, 544. Garden City 1445, 545. Garden City 1447, 546. Garden City 1449, 547. Garden City 1451, 548. Garden City 1453, 549. Garden City 1455, 550. Garden City 1457, 551. Garden City 1459, 552. Garden City 1461, 553. Garden City 1463, 554. Garden City 1465, 555. Garden City 1467, 556. Garden City 1469, 557. Garden City 1471, 558. Garden City 1473, 559. Garden City 1475, 560. Garden City 1477, 561. Garden City 1479, 562. Garden City 1481, 563. Garden City 1483, 564. Garden City 1485, 565. Garden City 1487, 566. Garden City 1489, 567. Garden City 1491, 568. Garden City 1493, 569. Garden City 1495, 570. Garden City 1497, 571. Garden City 1499, 572. Garden City 1501, 573. Garden City 1503, 574. Garden City 1505, 575. Garden City 1507, 576. Garden City 1509, 577. Garden City 1511, 578. Garden City 1513, 579. Garden City 1515, 580. Garden City 1517, 581. Garden City 1519, 582. Garden City 1521, 583. Garden City 1523, 584. Garden City 1525, 585. Garden City



San Antonio Spurs guard Tony Parker (9) scores past Memphis Grizzlies Xavier Rathan-Mays (26) during the second half on Monday, in San Antonio.

Tony Parker propels Spurs past Grizzlies

By Raul Dominguez
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The Spurs leaned on their championship pedigree, and Tony Parker turned back the clock.

Parker had 23 points, sparking San Antonio to a needed 100-98 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Monday night before embarking on a difficult road trip.

Parker, the Spurs' starting point guard since his rookie season in 2001, was supplanted by second-year player Dejounte Murray earlier this season. The 17-year veteran responded to an increased workload in the fourth quarter by scoring eight points in eight minutes.

"He was great tonight for us," Spurs veteran Danny Green said. "Tony was his old self, got a little rhythm going. We got him open, had some screens (and) we got some defensive stops, which we were able to get our pace going. He found his mid-range and started knocking them down, put a lot of pressure on them. We needed it. It was big tonight."

Green had 14 points and Davis

Bertans added 17 points for San Antonio, which snapped a four-game losing streak at home.

The Grizzlies had lost 14 straight, but the Spurs' recent skid has had a greater impact on the Western Conference playoff picture. San Antonio had dropped eight of 10 and fallen from third to sixth in the crowded West, putting them at risk of missing the postseason for the first time in 21 years.

The Spurs moved up to fifth place ahead of Minnesota with the victory. San Antonio needed the victory considering its next three games are at Golden State, Oklahoma City and Houston.

The Spurs were thrown into this dilemma after losing two straight at home by blowing a lead in the final two minutes of each game. LaMarcus Aldridge returned after spraining his right ankle in the first half against New Orleans and missing the following game against the Los Angeles Lakers. Aldridge's absence contributed to San Antonio blowing a 15-point lead against the Pelicans and a 17-point lead to the Lakers.

Grizzlies center Marc Gasol,

who finished with 24 points and 10 rebounds, did scare the crowd by draining a 3-pointer and then banking in jumper with 0.3 seconds remaining to cut the Spurs lead to 100-98. Gasol pleading for a foul, but none was given as San Antonio inbounded the ball to close out the win.

"In the fourth quarter we played a little bit better defense than we have, but we still make it tough on ourselves," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "But we got the win, and that's what matters."

The championship reserve squad of sub Parker, Green and Manu Ginobili prevented another crushing last-minute loss.

"Tony, you could see he had a couple of days off," Bertans said. "He did what he does, he got some shots going."

Parker's 11 points in the first quarter were the most he's scored in any quarter this season, and Green's 3-pointer at the close of the first half erased an eight-point deficit and gave the Spurs a 47-45 lead.

Memphis rookie Dillon Brooks finished with 21 points, one off his season high.

NBA ROUNDUP

CAVALIERS 112, PISTONS 90
CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 31 points before taking a rest on the bench, Larry Nance Jr. reached career highs with 22 points and 15 rebounds in his first start for Cleveland, and the Cavaliers closed a disappointing five-game homestand on a positive note with a 112-90 win Monday night over the Detroit Pistons, who haven't won on the road in nearly two months.

With Cleveland missing three big men — All-Star Kevin Love, Tristan Thompson and Jeff Green — because of injuries, the Cavs needed someone to step up and Nance came through. Wearing the same No. 22 his father had retired by Cleveland, the 25-year-old Nance had the best game of his young career.

James was his usual brilliant self, making 5 of 7 3-pointers and adding seven rebounds and seven assists. With the Cavs comfortably ahead, James sat the entire fourth quarter, a rarity in this odd season.

Blake Griffin scored 25 to lead Detroit, which has lost nine straight away from home.

CELTICS 105, BULLS 99
CHICAGO — Jaylen Brown scored 21 points and Boston pounded Chicago even though

Kyrie Irving sat out because of a sore left knee. Even without their All-Star guard, the Celtics took control right from the start and led by as many as 37 en route to their 9th win in six games. Jayson Tatum added 14 points, while Al Horford and Terry Rozier scored 13 apiece for Boston.

The Bulls lost for the 14th time in 17 games. Deron Williams scored 20 points and nailed four 3-pointers for Chicago, but that was about the only positive for the Bulls. Heat, which had seven players in double figures.

MIAMI 125, SUNS 103
MIAMI — Hassan Whiteside had 24 points and 14 rebounds, Goran Dragic scored 17 and Miami moved into the No. 7 spot in the Eastern Conference by topping Phoenix.

Whiteside had his highest-scoring game since Jan. 28, making 10 of his 13 shots. He averaged only 12.2 points on 46-percent shooting in his most recent 12 games.

Kelly Olynyk scored 15 points for the Heat, who gave four of their starters — Whiteside included — the entire fourth quarter off and beat the Suns for the 18th time in their last 20 meetings.

Dwyane Wade, Josh Richardson, Justise Winslow and Luke Babbitt each had 12 for the

PACERS 92, BUCKS 89
INDIANAPOLIS — Bojan Bogdanovic tied his season high with 28 points and grabbed a key jump ball late to lift Indiana over Milwaukee.

Milwaukee's Khris Middleton stole Victor Oladipo's pass with 10 seconds left and Indiana leading 90-89. He rushed to the basket, but Cory Joseph chased

him down and got a hand on the basketball before Middleton could attempt a shot. The ball rolled out of bounds, and referees called a jump ball after video replay. Bogdanovic came down with the tip off the jump ball and added a pair of free throws with six seconds left.

Thaddeus Young had 10 points and seven rebounds, and Oladipo finished with 14 points, five assists and five rebounds along with 10 turnovers.

NBA GLANCE

Team	W	L	Pct	Streak
Atlanta Hawks	27	14	.659	W-1
Boston Celtics	27	14	.659	W-1
Brooklyn Nets	26	15	.632	W-1
Charlotte Hornets	26	15	.632	W-1
Chicago Bulls	26	15	.632	W-1
Cleveland Cavaliers	26	15	.632	W-1
Dallas Mavericks	26	15	.632	W-1
Denver Nuggets	26	15	.632	W-1
Detroit Pistons	26	15	.632	W-1
Golden State Warriors	26	15	.632	W-1
Houston Rockets	26	15	.632	W-1
Indiana Pacers	26	15	.632	W-1
Los Angeles Lakers	26	15	.632	W-1
Memphis Grizzlies	26	15	.632	W-1
Minnesota Timberwolves	26	15	.632	W-1
Mississippi State	26	15	.632	W-1
New Orleans Pelicans	26	15	.632	W-1
New York Knicks	26	15	.632	W-1
Oklahoma City Thunder	26	15	.632	W-1
Orlando Magic	26	15	.632	W-1
Philadelphia 76ers	26	15	.632	W-1
Phoenix Suns	26	15	.632	W-1
Portland Trail Blazers	26	15	.632	W-1
Sacramento Kings	26	15	.632	W-1
San Antonio Spurs	26	15	.632	W-1
San Diego State	26	15	.632	W-1
Seattle Storm	26	15	.632	W-1
Utah Jazz	26	15	.632	W-1
Washington Wizards	26	15	.632	W-1
Wichita State	26	15	.632	W-1
Winnipeg Jets	26	15	.632	W-1
Yale Bulldogs	26	15	.632	W-1

Team	W	L	Pct	Streak
Atlanta Hawks	27	14	.659	W-1
Boston Celtics	27	14	.659	W-1
Brooklyn Nets	26	15	.632	W-1
Charlotte Hornets	26	15	.632	W-1
Chicago Bulls	26	15	.632	W-1
Cleveland Cavaliers	26	15	.632	W-1
Dallas Mavericks	26	15	.632	W-1
Denver Nuggets	26	15	.632	W-1
Detroit Pistons	26	15	.632	W-1
Golden State Warriors	26	15	.632	W-1
Houston Rockets	26	15	.632	W-1
Indiana Pacers	26	15	.632	W-1
Los Angeles Lakers	26	15	.632	W-1
Memphis Grizzlies	26	15	.632	W-1
Minnesota Timberwolves	26	15	.632	W-1
Mississippi State	26	15	.632	W-1
New Orleans Pelicans	26	15	.632	W-1
New York Knicks	26	15	.632	W-1
Oklahoma City Thunder	26	15	.632	W-1
Orlando Magic	26	15	.632	W-1
Philadelphia 76ers	26	15	.632	W-1
Phoenix Suns	26	15	.632	W-1
Portland Trail Blazers	26	15	.632	W-1
Sacramento Kings	26	15	.632	W-1
San Antonio Spurs	26	15	.632	W-1
San Diego State	26	15	.632	W-1
Seattle Storm	26	15	.632	W-1
Utah Jazz	26	15	.632	W-1
Washington Wizards	26	15	.632	W-1
Wichita State	26	15	.632	W-1
Winnipeg Jets	26	15	.632	W-1
Yale Bulldogs	26	15	.632	W-1

UTPB to face Arkansas-Fort Smith in NCAA tournament

From staff reports

The UT-Permian Basin men's basketball team has garnered a No. 2 seed in the South Central Region and will face the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith in the opening round of the NCAA Division II Tournament at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at First United Bank Center in Canyon. Arkansas-Fort Smith (24-5) finished second in the Heartland Conference with a 12-4 record. The Li-

ons are led by senior guard DaVaunta Thomas, who earned Heartland Conference Player of the Year honors after averaging 14.2 points and 6.9 rebounds.

UTPB fell to West Texas A&M, 80-76, in Sunday's Lone Star Conference championship game in Frisco.

The Falcons (24-6) and Arkansas-Fort Smith were former Heartland Conference rivals until UTPB joined the Lone Star Conference in summer 2016.

Texas Tech gives Beard new \$19M contract through 2023-24

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Texas Tech coach Chris Beard was rewarded Monday with a new \$19 million contract after leading the Red Raiders to 23 wins in the regular season and their best finish in the Big 12 Conference.

The No. 14 Red Raiders (23-8) go into this week's Big 12 tournament as the No. 2 seed.

"Coach Beard continues to elevate Texas Tech basketball to a record level of success," athletic director Kirby Hocutt said. "Under his leadership, our program is going to continue to elevate to an elite level. I am extremely proud of the direction of his program and know that Red Raider Nation joins me in our level of excitement for the future." The 23 wins already match the most for the Red Raiders since they were 30-2 and made it to the NCAA Sweet 16 in 1995-96, the final season of the Southwest Conference.

Beard spent a decade as an assistant coach at Texas

Tech for the Knights, first Bobby and then Pat, until the younger Knight was fired after the 2010-11 season. After that, Beard was a head coach for one season in the semipro American Basketball Association before stops at two lower-division schools in Texas and a 30-win season at Arkansas-Little Rock two years ago. He then agreed to a five-year contract to become UNLV's coach, but returned to Texas Tech after Tubby Smith unexpectedly left for Memphis.

Beard has a 41-22 record in his two seasons at Texas Tech, and is 71-27 in his 98 games as a Division I coach. The new deal replaces the five-year contract Beard initially got from Texas Tech through the 2020-21 season.

Texas Tech has been ranked in the top 10 six times this season, and its No. 6 ranking in mid-February was the highest in program history. The Red Raiders play their Big 12 tournament opener Thursday night in Kansas City against Texas or Iowa State.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

Team	W	L	Pct	Streak
Alabama	27	14	.659	W-1
Arizona	27	14	.659	W-1
Arkansas	27	14	.659	W-1
Auburn	27	14	.659	W-1
Baylor	27	14	.659	W-1
Baylor 77, Texas 69				
Florida	27	14	.659	W-1
Florida 88, Houston 84				
Georgia	27	14	.659	W-1
Georgia 88, Mississippi 84				
Illinois	27	14	.659	W-1
Illinois 88, Kansas 84				
Iowa	27	14	.659	W-1
Iowa 88, Michigan 84				
Kansas	27	14	.659	W-1
Kansas 88, Texas 84				
LSU	27	14	.659	W-1
LSU 88, Oklahoma 84				
Marquette	27	14	.659	W-1
Marquette 88, Saint Louis 84				
Michigan	27	14	.659	W-1
Michigan 88, Indiana 84				
Minnesota	27	14	.659	W-1
Minnesota 88, Wisconsin 84				
Mississippi	27	14	.659	W-1
Mississippi 88, Florida 84				
Missouri	27	14	.659	W-1
Missouri 88, Kentucky 84				
Nebraska	27	14	.659	W-1
Nebraska 88, Iowa 84				
Nevada	27	14	.659	W-1
Nevada 88, Utah 84				
New Mexico	27	14	.659	W-1
New Mexico 88, Arizona 84				
New York	27	14	.659	W-1
New York 88, Connecticut 84				
North Carolina	27	14	.659	W-1
North Carolina 88, Duke 84				
Oklahoma	27	14	.659	W-1
Oklahoma 88, Texas 84				
Oregon	27	14	.659	W-1
Oregon 88, Washington 84				
Penn State	27	14	.659	W-1
Penn State 88, Maryland 84				
San Diego	27	14	.659	W-1
San Diego 88, San Jose 84				
San Jose	27	14	.659	W-1
San Jose 88, San Diego 84				
Seattle	27	14	.659	W-1
Seattle 88, Portland 84				
South Carolina	27	14	.659	W-1
South Carolina 88, Clemson 84				
Stanford	27	14	.659	W-1
Stanford 88, UCLA 84				
Texas	27	14	.659	W-1
Texas 88, Baylor 84				
Texas Tech	27	14	.659	W-1
Texas Tech 88, Oklahoma 84				
UCLA	27	14	.659	W-1
UCLA 88, Stanford 84				
Utah	27	14	.659	W-1
Utah 88, Nevada 84				
Virginia	27	14	.659	W-1
Virginia 88, Wake Forest 84				
Wake Forest	27	14	.659	W-1
Wake Forest 88, Virginia 84				
Washington	27	14	.659	W-1
Washington 88, Oregon 84				
West Virginia	27	14	.659	W-1
West Virginia 88, Kentucky 84				
Wisconsin	27	14	.659	W-1
Wisconsin 88, Minnesota 84				
Wichita State	27	14	.659	W-1
Wichita State 88, Kansas 84				
Yale	27	14	.659	W-1
Yale 88, Connecticut 84				

Men's Schedule

Johnson St. at Brainerd St., 7:30 p.m.
SC State vs. Morgan St. at Nashville, Mo., 9 p.m.
9:00 WEST

St. Andrews vs. N. Colorado at Reno, Nev., 4:30 p.m.
S. Utah vs. Idaho St. at Reno, Nev., 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento St. vs. Portland St. at Reno, Nev., 10:00 p.m.

9:00 WEST

Georgia Tech vs. Notre Dame at Brooklyn, N.Y., 1:30 p.m.
Minnesota St. vs. North Dakota at Reno, Nev., 2:30 p.m.

8:00

Georgia Tech vs. Southern College at Brooklyn, N.Y., 11 p.m.
Ohio State at Harvard, 6 p.m.
LSU State at Chicago, 6 p.m.
White Forest vs. Syracuse at Brooklyn, N.Y., 6 p.m.
Portland at UNIC, 6:30 p.m.

Women's Schedule

Boyer 77, Texas 69

9:00 WEST

Florida 88, Houston 84
Albany St. 88, Coppin St. 91

Women Schedule

8:00

Dartmouth St. vs. MSU-Eastern Shore at Norfolk, Va., 12:30 p.m.

9:00 WEST

SC State vs. NC Central at Norfolk, Va., 10 p.m.

Louisiana-Moreau vs. South Alabama at New Orleans, La., 2 p.m.
Georgia St. vs. Coastal Carolina at New Orleans, La., 5 p.m.
Ark. Pine Bluff at Southern U., 5:30 p.m.
Alcorn St. at Tusculum St., 6:30 p.m.
Georgia Southern vs. Louisiana-Lafayette at New Orleans, La., 7:30 p.m.

9:00 WEST

Appalachian St. vs. Arkansas St. at New Orleans, La., 11:30 a.m.
Arkansas St. at Texas Southern, 5:30 p.m.
Johnson St. at Fresno State, 6 p.m.

9:00 WEST

Missouri St. vs. Furman St. at Portland, Ore., 4:30 p.m.
Hawaii vs. CS Northridge at Fullerton, Calif., 8 p.m.
Long Beach St. vs. UC Riverside at Fullerton, Calif., 10:30 p.m.

FRYER

From 1C

"I haven't been racing since I was 5 years old and made it this far in my career to throw it all away now," Harvick said then. "Having to miss the race in Martinsville definitely got my attention."

OK, so it hasn't been exactly smooth sailing since that wakeup call.

But here Harvick is now, 100 NASCAR national wins later, and one of the most consistent drivers of his era.

Harvick doesn't have the statistics to show just how exceptional a race car driver he is in part because he came along at the same time as another Californian, Jimmie Johnson, with a laid-back Southern California persona, debuted a year after Harvick and has collected seven championships along the way.

Harvick has so far managed just one championship. But he's a two-time Daytona 500 winner, a two-time Coca-Cola 600 winner, a Southern 500 winner and a Brickyard 400 winner.

That's a Hall of Fame career right there, and one many might not have seen coming when he was thrust into a miserable situation at what should have been the best time of his life.

Harvick was on schedule to drive a Cup car for Richard Childress in 2002 but when Dale Earnhardt was killed on the final lap of the 2001 Daytona 500, that plan was scrapped.

Harvick got Earnhardt's ride the next week, went forward with his scheduled Las Vegas wedding the week after that and won his first Cup race the week after that. It was a whirlwind three weeks for the 24-year-old from Bakersfield, California, and when he had to time to take a breath, there was a lot going on.

Maybe that's why he snapped so easily back then. And although some of that went away, he never really changed who he was. Harvick continued to stir the pot in the garage, spoke his mind even when he didn't have anything nice to say and never lacked for confidence. It was just over three years ago when Harvick, locked into the championship battle, shoved Brad Keselowski from behind to trigger a melee between Keselowski and Jeff Gordon.

Harvick just stood back and watched the chaos between two drivers he was racing for the title.

The next race was at Phoenix, where Harvick had to win, at a track here he always wins, and Harvick didn't want to answer any questions. He didn't want to talk about what role he might have had in the Keselowski scuffle, or how his championship was one race away from slipping through his fingers.

But as he thought more about it, Harvick, by then a father to a young son, saw the bigger picture. To be a role model to Keelan, he had to be a professional and do the right thing. So he met his media obligations in Phoenix, won the race, and won the championship a week later.

Harvick and his wife welcomed a daughter this offseason and he's now a 42-year-old father of two. His future is in broadcasting and Fox already uses him quite a bit in its booth. But he's still got racing left, he's certainly shown that out of the gate this season with two dominant wins.

An eight-time Phoenix winner, including a streak of six wins in eight races, Harvick hasn't been to victory lane at the track in three whole races.

MICKELSON

From 1C

quickly. Thomas went long with a gap wedge to the par-3 17th and chipped to 10 feet short of the hole. Mickelson hit the green, narrowly missed the birdie putt and walked off a winner — finally — when Thomas missed his putt.

The disappointment was tempered by the guy who beat him.

Mickelson took interest in Thomas before he even reached the PGA Tour. They played a practice round at the 2014 U.S. Open, and Mickelson said that day to the media, "You'll get to know Justin Thomas soon enough."

Thomas, the PGA Tour player of the year last season and already a two-time winner this season, moved to No. 2 in the world.

He is the type of player — along with Dustin Johnson, Jordan Spieth, Jon Rahm, Jason Day and Rory McIlroy — who represent a powerful young generation that Mickelson now has to beat if he wants to reach one of his goals.

Mickelson, who captured his third World Golf Championship, now has 43 victories on the PGA Tour. The first was in 1991 — before Thomas, Spieth and Rahm were even born — when he was an amateur. He has long said he wants to get to 50.

The more pertinent number might be 48. That's how old Mickelson will be in June. No one has won more than five times on the

PGA Tour after turning 47. "Oh, I will," Mickelson said about reaching 50 titles. "I'll get there."

That's not all he wants. One of his chief goals for the year was to be on his 12th consecutive Ryder Cup team for a chance to win in Europe, which he has never done. The victory should be enough to move him to No. 4 in the standings. Given his value in the team room, winning the Mexico Championship makes it hard to overlook Mickelson.

Left unsaid is the U.S. Open, the only major keeping him from the career Grand Slam. It returns this summer to Shinnecock Hills, where Mickelson was on the cusp of winning the last two times in 1995 and 2004.

For now, the focus is on the Masters and a chance to add a fourth green jacket.

"I needed to get a win before Augusta so I wasn't trying to win for the first time in four-and-a-half, five years at that event," he said.

He got his validation in Mexico City. It was meaningful because it was the first victory since he began working with Andrew Getson, and the first victory with his younger brother, Tim, as his caddy. And it was the next victory, no matter how long it took.

"I don't think this is the peak," he said. "I think I'm going to continue to get better."

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Baseball America Top 25

DUPLICATE, N.C. — The top 25 teams in the Baseball America poll, with records through March 4, and previous ranking indicated by the date of Baseball America.

Rank	Team	Record	PW
1	Florida	10-1	1
2	Oregon State	10-0	2
3	Florida State	11-0	3
4	Stanford	11-1	4
5	Texas Tech	10-0	5
6	Arizona	9-0	6
7	TCU	11-1	7
8	Northwestern	11-1	8
9	Texas A&M	11-1	9
10	Chattanooga	10-1	10
11	UCF	10-0	11
12	North Carolina	9-0	12
13	Virginia	9-0	13
14	Eastern Illinois	9-0	14
15	LSU	9-0	15
16	Illinois	9-0	16
17	San Diego State	9-0	17
18	Indiana	9-0	18
19	Louisville	9-0	19
20	Arizona State	9-0	20
21	San Diego State	9-0	21
22	UCF	9-0	22
23	Central Carolina	9-0	23
24	San Diego State	9-0	24

College Baseball Poll

TUCSON, Ariz. — The College Baseball poll, with records through March 4, and previous ranking indicated by the date of Baseball America.

Rank	Team	Record	PW
1	Oregon St.	10-0	1
2	Florida St.	11-0	2
3	Texas Tech	10-0	3
4	Northwestern	11-1	4
5	Chattanooga	10-1	5
6	Stanford	11-1	6
7	Arizona	9-0	7
8	UCF	10-0	8
9	Florida State	11-0	9
10	LSU	9-0	10
11	San Diego State	9-0	11
12	Arizona State	9-0	12
13	Illinois	9-0	13
14	Virginia	9-0	14
15	Eastern Illinois	9-0	15
16	San Diego State	9-0	16
17	UCF	9-0	17
18	Indiana	9-0	18
19	Louisville	9-0	19
20	Arizona	9-0	20
21	San Diego State	9-0	21
22	UCF	9-0	22
23	Central Carolina	9-0	23
24	San Diego State	9-0	24



AP file photo

Bill Haas hits from the sand during the final round of the Dean & DeLuca Invitational golf tournament at Colonial Country Club in 2017 in Fort Worth. Haas returns to golf this week knowing the Valspar Championship will be unlike any of the previous 347 times he has played on the PGA Tour. He is playing for the first time since he was the passenger in a car accident that killed the driver in Los Angeles.

Shaken, grieving Bill Haas back at golf after friend's death

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

Bill Haas returns to golf this week knowing the Valspar Championship will be unlike any of the previous 347 times he has played on the PGA Tour.

The deep bruise on his left leg and the soreness in his right ankle have subsided. Still tender are memories of a friend, Mark Gibello, who was killed Feb. 13 on a winding road outside Riviera Country Club in Los Angeles when his Ferrari clipped another car and slammed into a pole.

Haas was the passenger. "There's not many templates to go by on something like this," Haas said in his first interview since the accident. "I was in a state of shock, disbelief. It was a tragic event, traumatic. I'm still unsure how to handle it. I keep going back to focusing on the Gibello family."

He described the Gibellos as mutual friends he planned to stay with during the Genesis Open.

Haas and Gibello played golf the previous weekend at Los Angeles Country Club, where Gibello was a member and played a role in the club hosting the Walker Cup last year. Gibello was a close friend of Bill Harmon, the swing coach who works with Haas.

"It didn't take me long to realize how much his family loved him, how nice he was to me and my family," Haas said.

His wife, Julie, has kept in touch with Gibello's wife. The funeral service in Santa Monica, California, was Friday, the same day the final field was set for the Valspar Championship in Florida. Tiger Woods is playing for the first time. So is Rory McIlroy. That figures to deflect plenty of attention from Haas trying to get back to work.

The 35-year-old Haas returns with a greater appreciation of life and a level of support he never realized he had.

His golf bag remained in the Riviera locker room for the rest of the Genesis Open until it was shipped home to him in South Carolina. Haas hasn't practiced much. He played golf Sunday in Greenville and planned to leave Monday night for the Valspar Championship in Palm Harbor, Florida.

"The amount of love and support and outreach I got from my peers and friends has been amazing," he said. "At the same time, a friend of mine is not here anymore. ... There's just no real way to explain life, why it happens and how it happens. You can't take tomorrow for granted. You have to enjoy today and prepare for tomorrow. All that said, I still feel like I have to go compete. I can't just say golf doesn't matter. That's what I do. I think that's what Mark would want. He was a golf fan. He loved golf. He would want me to care about how I play."

Haas has not responded to all of the phone calls and text messages because of the sheer volume, but he looks forward to being back out again among his golfing family.

Webb Simpson, a fellow Wake Forest alum, is among those who reached out to him.

"I remember waking up the morning after it happened. My wife got a text from Julie, and we were pretty emotional that morning," Simpson said. "He hated it more than anything for that family. He needs to get over it mentally now probably more than physically, but I think it will be good for him to get out on tour."

Simpson lost his father late last year and remembers how much it helped to get back inside the ropes. "Time doesn't necessarily heal,

but with time it gets easier," Simpson said.

Haas is a six-time winner on the PGA Tour, though he has gone three years since his last victory. He's best known for saving par from the shallow water at East Lake during a play-off he won at the Tour Championship to claim the FedEx Cup, and making the clinching putt in the Presidents Cup with his father, Jay, as the U.S. captain.

Along with leaning on his wife and his family, he has spent time with a therapist to cope with the wide range of emotions and the lingering questions.

"I don't know that I won't have recurring images and thoughts and feelings about that night," he said. "Why was he taken and I wasn't? I ask, 'Why?' all the time. From the people who have reached out to me and the advice I've been given, you can't ask, 'Why?' in life. Life happens in ways you can't explain. There's no point in asking. It won't solve anything, and it only brings more questions."

He doesn't know what to expect at Innisbrook, only that he wants to focus on golf as much as he can.

Haas will need a good week at Innisbrook to get into the Dell Match Play in two weeks. Otherwise, he'll take a few more weeks off.

"Once I get inside the ropes, I think there will be a sense of relief," he said. "It's what I know best, to be competitive. Every time we tee it up, we want to do well. That's important to me. Hopefully, I can do that. I think I'll be able to do that."

What makes him most anxious about his return is the reception he might get from friends and from fans.

"This needs to not be about me," he said. "This has got to be about golf and the Gibello family."

Clemson rides its revamped rotation to best start since 2010

By Eric Olson
Associated Press

It looks like Clemson is going to be just fine after having to replace its entire rotation and top two hitters from last season.

The Tigers won two of three against South Carolina over the weekend and combined for a 1.91 ERA and 41 strikeouts against nine walks in 47 innings over nine appearances. Hennessy is a converted reliever, Crawford was a long reliever in 2016 but last year was limited to 22 innings because of illness, and Higginbotham hadn't pitched since 2016 because of an arm injury.

A strong bullpen has allowed Lee to limit his starters to five or six innings per outing. "When we came back in the spring, we pitched very well," Lee said. "I saw a pitching staff go from a concern at the end of the fall to, 'Man, we've got a chance to be pretty good on the mound.'"

"Any time you're going into ACC play you want to feel like your team is as prepared as it can be."

Monte Lee, Head baseball coach at Clemson

of sophomore left-hander Jacob Hennessy, junior right-hander Brooks Crawford and sophomore lefty Jake Higginbotham has combined for a 1.91 ERA and 41 strikeouts against nine walks in 47 innings over nine appearances. Hennessy is a converted reliever, Crawford was a long reliever in 2016 but last year was limited to 22 innings because of illness, and Higginbotham hadn't pitched since 2016 because of an arm injury.

A strong bullpen has allowed Lee to limit his starters to five or six innings per outing.

"When we came back in the spring, we pitched very well," Lee said. "I saw a pitching staff go from a concern at the end of the fall to, 'Man, we've got a chance to be pretty good on the mound.'"

Drew Wharton's one-out triple in the ninth inning produced an 8-7 walk-off win over South Carolina on Sunday. That gave the Tigers a fourth straight series win against their in-state rival and made them 6-1 in one-run games.

"We just believe if we can keep the game close, we're going to find a way to win the game," Lee said. "So we've got a very confident group right now, a very loose group, as I'm

very proud of how we've played up to this point."

A look around the country:

In the polls

Florida (12-1) went 5-0 last week, sweeping three from Stony Brook at home, and remained No. 1 in the D1 Baseball.com and Baseball America polls. Collegiate Baseball's No. 1 team is Oregon State (12-0), which took four from Hartford. Florida State (11-0) is No. 3 by Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball; Texas Tech (13-0) is No. 3 by D1 Baseball.com.

Bohm goes boom

Wichita State's Alec Bohm has hit three grand slams, including two in the Shockers' weekend series win over Nebraska. Bohm homered in each of the three games. He's on an 11-game hitting streak and is batting .452 with five homers and 17 RBIs.

Flustered frogs

The TCU bullpen's scoreless streak ended with a thud in a 15-2 loss to UC Irvine on Sunday. Four relievers combined to allow seven runs, five earned, over the last 5 1/3

innings. The 15 runs were the most allowed by the Horned Frogs since Texas Tech hung 21 on them last April.

10, or more, to win

Texas scored double-digit runs in three straight games for the first time since 2009 when it beat Northwestern 10-7, 16-3, 12-1 Friday through Sunday. The Longhorns (8-4) will see a higher level of pitching this week when they host Stanford (11-1) for a four-game series. The Cardinal have a 2.08 ERA, and top starters Tristan Beck (2-0) and Kris Bubic (2-0) each have combined to allow six earned runs in 35 1/3 innings (1.53).

No-hitter

Nebraska-Omaha's Payton Kinney pitched a no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Ohio on Sunday. Kinney struck out nine and walked four in the Mavericks' first no-hitter since February 2015 against Chicago State.

Show hand, still win

Cal State Northridge needed three outs to finish the win over Valparaiso on Friday when it entered the top of the ninth inning leading 13-4. Valpo scored nine runs on eight hits to tie it. Northridge won 14-13 on Joey Cooper's base-loaded single in the bottom half.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:
1 2
3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

3/6/18 © 2018 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- Easy thing to do
- Lobster serving
- Great time
- Skin opening
- Tranquil; refrain
- Main artery
- Snapchat co-founder Spiegel
- Cyberzine
- Parakeets' quarters
- Have things finally go one's way
- Photo; media events
- Charged particles
- Intl. news broadcaster
- Singer's quavers
- Recently
- Harry's pal Weasley
- Mosquito-borne disease
- Permeable vodka
- Singer Damone
- Trig ratio
- Engage in hard-nosed negotiations
- "Just a..."
- Dress-for-success accessory
- New York Giants legend with 511 career home runs
- Used a bench
- Location
- Sponsors' spots
- Make an annual clock adjustment ... and what the end of 20-, 36- and 42-Across may literally have
- Georgia state fruit
- Smell
- Gold rush animal
- "Orange" tea grade
- Kind of pittance?
- The "A" of NEA
- Drive too fast
- New England NFLers
- Barnes & Noble reader

DOWN

- 1 smell...
- Crossword solver's choice
- Remove dirt from
- Petting zoo youngsters
- Bygone apple spray
- Regular pay
- "Not so closer"
- Extended pd. away from work
- Golden Fleece ship
- How-to instruction
- Soviet news agency
- Sanctified
- Declare emphatically
- Drinks in schooners
- Maria von ... family singers' matriarch
- Rich boy in "Nancy" comics
- Groom's new relative
- Author Hoffman
- Foot cover
- French dispatch boat
- Guiding principle
- Standing tall

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	H	I	P	T	V	S	D	E	E
A	U	R	A	P	R	I	M	P	U
D	E	A	S	A	D	O	O	R	N
O	R	N	A	I	L				
S	I	O	L	E	T	O	E	V	O
A	V	E	N	O		R	E	P	E
L	I	L	A	L	A	D	D	I	N
S	E	T	S	D	R	O	O	P	F
A	D	A	M	S	M	E	G	B	A
O	R	E	G	O	N		E	G	R
H	E	N	T	I	N	C	A	N	S
B	E	T	A	G	O	U	L	D	S
O	V	A	L	M	A	R	G	E	P
Y	E	L	A	H	E	A	D	F	R

03/06/18

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

ACROSS

- Not
- oil
- Shield
- plan

DOWN

- Farmer
- Copy
- bottle
- Small unit of length

CLUE: In the mid-1930s, _____ was the highest paid Hollywood film star.

BONUS

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

© 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC & Hoyt Designs. All Rights Reserved.

ANSWERS: 1A-Guilty 5A-Clue 6A-Arrow 7A-Lesson 8A-Crowd 9A-Indie 10A-Thomson 11A-Machete 12A-Machete 13A-Machete 14A-Machete 15A-Machete 16A-Machete 17A-Machete 18A-Machete 19A-Machete 20A-Machete 21A-Machete 22A-Machete 23A-Machete 24A-Machete 25A-Machete 26A-Machete 27A-Machete 28A-Machete 29A-Machete 30A-Machete 31A-Machete 32A-Machete 33A-Machete 34A-Machete 35A-Machete 36A-Machete 37A-Machete 38A-Machete 39A-Machete 40A-Machete 41A-Machete 42A-Machete 43A-Machete 44A-Machete 45A-Machete 46A-Machete 47A-Machete 48A-Machete 49A-Machete 50A-Machete 51A-Machete 52A-Machete 53A-Machete 54A-Machete 55A-Machete 56A-Machete 57A-Machete 58A-Machete 59A-Machete 60A-Machete 61A-Machete 62A-Machete 63A-Machete 64A-Machete 65A-Machete 66A-Machete 67A-Machete 68A-Machete 69A-Machete 70A-Machete 71A-Machete 72A-Machete 73A-Machete 74A-Machete 75A-Machete 76A-Machete 77A-Machete 78A-Machete 79A-Machete 80A-Machete 81A-Machete 82A-Machete 83A-Machete 84A-Machete 85A-Machete 86A-Machete 87A-Machete 88A-Machete 89A-Machete 90A-Machete 91A-Machete 92A-Machete 93A-Machete 94A-Machete 95A-Machete 96A-Machete 97A-Machete 98A-Machete 99A-Machete 100A-Machete

Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NUWSG

RIHEK

CRUPES

CAYPFI

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Krueck

It's nice to not have passengers on board. We never get a chance to do this.

AFTER ALL THE PASSENGERS LEFT, THE OCEAN LINER WAS THE _____

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: THINK AFTER SMOOTH JUGGLE
Answer: He wasn't sure how much sandpaper he'd need, but he had a — ROUGH ESTIMATE

WUZZLES

WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, saying, etc. For example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS

"The Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.00), "More of the Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.50), and "Wuzzles for Kids" (\$4.25) are available, postpaid, from Wuzzles, Box 1141, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

1. TIME

2. DINT

Print Your Answers Here:

1. _____

2. _____

Today's Answers:

1. The beginning of time

2. Half pint

Created by Tom Underwood
www.wuzzles.com

© North America Syndicate, 2018

3-6

Answers

1. The beginning of time

2. Half pint

WUZZLES

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

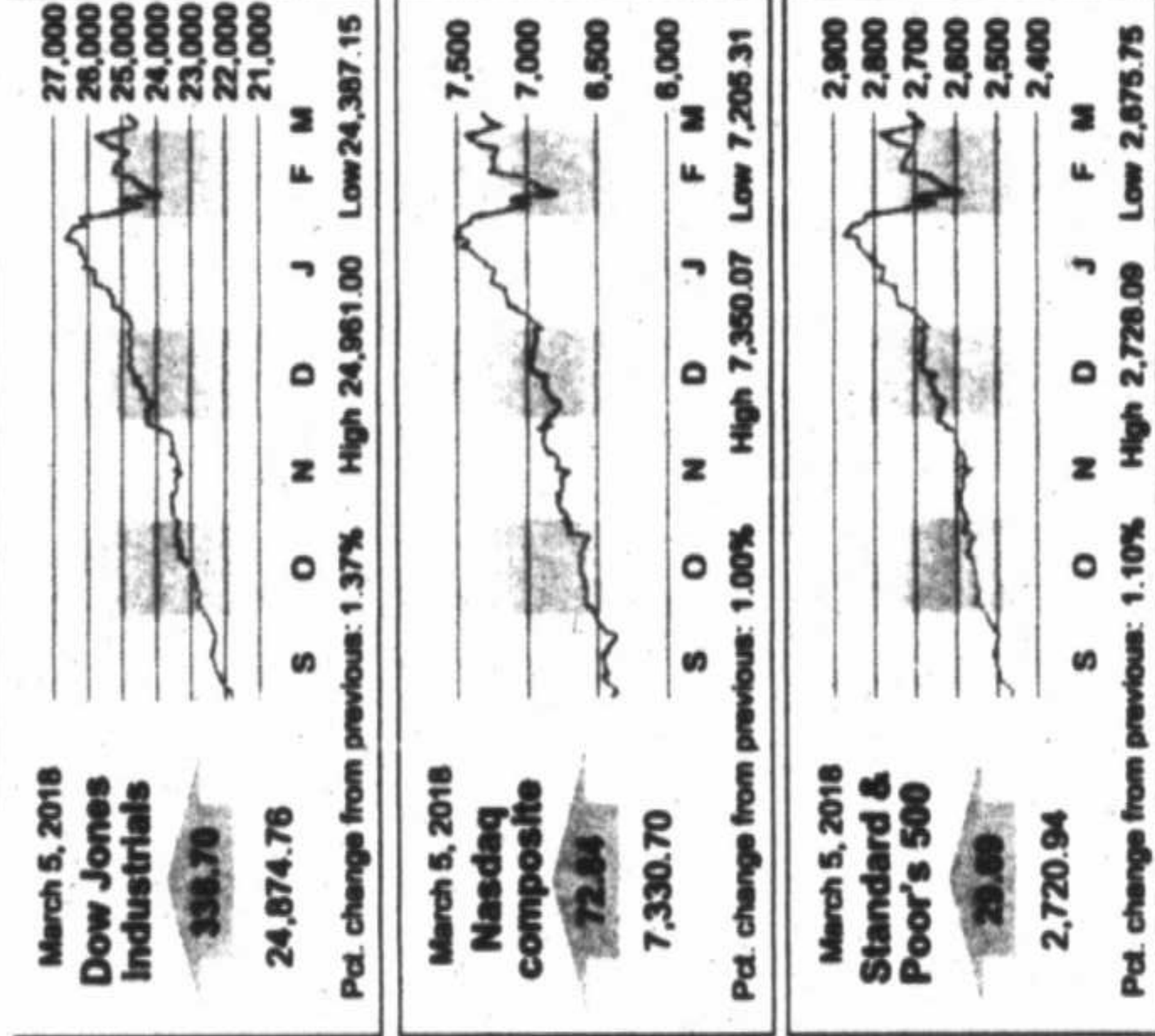
Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
NYSE Composite		24,874.76	+1.37%
Dow Jones Industrial		24,874.76	+1.37%
Nasdaq Composite		7,330.70	+1.00%
Standard & Poor's 500		2,720.94	+1.10%

March 5, 2018
Dow Jones Industrial
24,874.76
Pct. change from previous: 1.37% High 24,981.00 Low 24,387.15

March 5, 2018
Nasdaq Composite
7,330.70
Pct. change from previous: 1.00% High 7,350.07 Low 7,205.31

March 5, 2018
Standard & Poor's 500
2,720.94
Pct. change from previous: 1.10% High 2,729.09 Low 2,675.75

A DAY ON WALL STREET



NYSE MOST ACTIVE (BY VALUE)			
Stock	Vol	Last	Chg
Apple	10,143,420	172.42	+0.30
Microsoft	8,758,210	144.25	+0.10
Amazon	7,500,000	145.25	+0.10
Facebook	6,500,000	155.25	+0.10
Google	5,500,000	105.25	+0.10

NASDAQ MOST ACTIVE (BY VALUE)			
Stock	Vol	Last	Chg
Twitter	10,143,420	172.42	+0.30
LinkedIn	8,758,210	144.25	+0.10
Slack	7,500,000	145.25	+0.10
Dropbox	6,500,000	155.25	+0.10
Zoom	5,500,000	105.25	+0.10

NYSE LOSERS (BY VALUE)			
Stock	Vol	Last	Chg
Netflix	10,143,420	172.42	-0.30
Twitter	8,758,210	144.25	-0.10
LinkedIn	7,500,000	145.25	-0.10
Slack	6,500,000	155.25	-0.10
Dropbox	5,500,000	105.25	-0.10

NASDAQ LOSERS (BY VALUE)			
Stock	Vol	Last	Chg
Twitter	10,143,420	172.42	-0.30
LinkedIn	8,758,210	144.25	-0.10
Slack	7,500,000	145.25	-0.10
Dropbox	6,500,000	155.25	-0.10
Zoom	5,500,000	105.25	-0.10

INDEXES

Index	Last	Chg	% Chg
Dow Jones Industrial	24,874.76	+15.36	+0.06
Nasdaq Composite	7,330.70	+72.84	+1.00
Standard & Poor's 500	2,720.94	+29.89	+1.10
Russell 2000	1,305.00	+12.00	+0.93

PERMANENT STOCKS

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg	% Chg
Apple		172.42	+0.30	+0.17
Microsoft		144.25	+0.10	+0.07
Amazon		145.25	+0.10	+0.07
Facebook		155.25	+0.10	+0.06
Google		105.25	+0.10	+0.09

MUTUAL FUNDS

Fund	Last	Chg	% Chg
Fidelity Asset Manager	10.14	+0.01	+0.10
Fidelity Asset Manager	10.14	+0.01	+0.10
Fidelity Asset Manager	10.14	+0.01	+0.10
Fidelity Asset Manager	10.14	+0.01	+0.10
Fidelity Asset Manager	10.14	+0.01	+0.10

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
Twitter		172.42	+0.30
LinkedIn		144.25	+0.10
Slack		145.25	+0.10
Dropbox		155.25	+0.10
Zoom		105.25	+0.10

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Stock	Dr	Last	Chg
Twitter		172.42	+0.30
LinkedIn		144.25	+0.10
Slack		145.25	+0.10
Dropbox		155.25	+0.10
Zoom		105.25	+0.10

Read Stock Business and the Oil Report every Sunday to catch up with business news before the week begins.

TODAY'S COMICS SPONSORED BY

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
432-522-1117
QUALITY, INTEGRITY, EXPERIENCE
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!!!

The wiseman built his house on a rock
Then he hired Hartman to roof it!!!
All Types of Roof and Roof repair • Free Estimates
Commercial • Residential
www.HartmanRoofing.com

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
Mention this ad. and receive \$300.00 off a full roofing job or \$50.00 off any repair of \$200.00 or more

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



LUANN



BLONDIE



MARY WORTH



BEETLE BAILEY



ZITS



CLASSIC PEANUTS



BABY BLUES



SHOE



MUTTS



GARFIELD



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID



LOCKHORNS



FAMILY CIRCUS



DILBERT



42nd & JBS Parkway • Odessa

at home

The Home Décor Superstore



at home **Burlington** Coat Factory JCPenney Dillard's

42nd & JBS Parkway • Odessa



Burlington
Coat Factory
and so much more!

at home **Burlington** Coat Factory JCPenney Dillard's

mrt★com/jobs



Employment ads by:



432.682.6999



432.682.6222



mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES

Commercial Construction Project Superintendents

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring commercial construction project superintendents. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction a must. Please send resume to 5208 W. Wadley Ave. Midland, Texas 79707 or email them to Billy Mays at billy@midtexofmidland.com. You may also fax your resume to (432) 694-0627.

EDUCATION TRAINING

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/post trip inspections, coupling and uncoupling of equipment
- Computer literacy
- Knowledge of rules and regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
- Knowledge of Double Clutching techniques and how to teach it as required by TXDPS
- Knowledge of air brake testing procedures and be able to instruct and evaluate
- Knowledge of Hours of Service Regulations and be able to log and teach log book entries as well as log book recap
- 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 training needs
- Maintain a high level of record keeping, utilize creativity, and meet 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, stooping, and repetitive twisting
- Must successfully pass a DOT physical and DOT drug test

EOE

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Gas Measurement/Communications Technician

HELP WANTED - GAS MEASUREMENT/COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN. Duties include Installation, Calibration, Maintenance, Troubleshooting and Repair of Electronic Meters, Gas Sampling Systems and Radio Communications System. Excellent record keeping, communication and computer skills necessary. Salary DOE. Competitive wages and benefits. Mail resume to: Measurement Technician Position, 2673 FM 820, Stanton, TX or Fax to: 432-458-3423 or email to: vmccormack@wtggs.com.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Warehouse Customer Service Associate

Griffin Oil Company 3910 S. FM 1788, Midland, Texas 79706
Warehouse Customer Service Associate. Duties include:
• Answer phones • Take customer orders • Coordinate deliveries
• Maintain inventory • Encourage safe work habits • Keep all files current
• Needs computer skills/telephone etiquette. Good pay, Good benefits, Let's discuss. Resume to: pgilbert@griffin.com for an interview

OTHER JOBS

CDL Drivers Needed

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving
We want your work experience and your hard work!
NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

- Water truck drivers • Belly Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience.
Valid Texas Class A CDL, wherever for water truck driver.

Benefits: Medical, dental/Vision, life insurance
After 1 year of service Paid vacation and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc.
1401 S. Grandview
Odessa, Texas 79761

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram
HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS
DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR
PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. 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 hold and stand for at least a 6 hr shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing mail.

Handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependent's transportation.

Apply in person at 501 E. Wadley, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 9-5 or email hr@mrt.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

MULTIPLE POSITIONS
Lobby Assistant in lobby 1 garage gap, 3 floor area and working outside. Hours are 8-5 evening hours. Starting pay is \$10. Job is 10-15 with weekends and major holidays off. Please send resume or call me at 432-760-0000. "Must pass a background check"

OTHER JOBS

Endeavor
Energy
Resources

DOT Driver II

JOB DESCRIPTION: Job responsibilities include local (within Midland City and County) transportation by truck for Endeavor Energy completions or production crews. Cargo transport varies depending on driver's licensing.

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 frigid 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.

OTHER JOBS

Endeavor
Energy
Resources

Now hiring for a Field Technician.

he Field Technician will provide advanced refining services to support the Frac 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 pre and post trip of equipment
- Constantly demonstrate safe unloading of fuels while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safely 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 Frac site or similar responsibilities is preferred

Work Environment:

Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from frigid 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/carry/push/pull/move/drag up to 60 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.

Field Service Mechanics

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving
We want your work experience and your hard work!
NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

Field Service Mechanics

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience.
Must have own tools, Valid Texas Drivers license, Pay will depend on work experience, 50 plus work week.
Benefits: Medical, dental/Vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc.
1401 S. Grandview
Odessa, Texas 79761

Moving Company

Moving company looking for furniture moving help. Must be honest and dependable good starting pay. Call Jack at 432-412-9452.

OUT OF CITY DELIVERY DRIVER/MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

- Must have a clean, valid license & acceptable driving history
- Late night/early morning hours
- Obey all traffic laws
- Strong commitment to safety is a must
- Professional communication with management, co-workers and customers
- Ability to lift, push or pull up to 50-lbs
- Must be able to reach, bend, sit as needed
- Must be able to work independently & in a team environment
- Ability to read, understand & follow oral and written instructions
- Perform other duties as delegated or assigned by Supervisor
- Required education: High School or equivalent

This is a full time position that offers paid vacation and full package of benefits.

Please mail resume to P-419 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram
501 E. Wadley, Midland, TX 79701

Warehouse

Please apply in person at: One Pegasus 3700 W Front Midland, TX 79701

Midland Reporter-Telegram
HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS
DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR
NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights 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 hold and stand for at least a 6 hr shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing mail.

Handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependent's transportation.

Apply in person at 501 E. Wadley, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 9-5 or email hr@mrt.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

ESCROW OFFICER & ESCROW ASSISTANTS

West Texas Abstract & Title Company is currently looking for an escrow officer and an escrow assistant for immediate employment with a thriving company which offers many excellent benefits who has a strong customer service background and who is detail oriented. Must have good communication and problem solving skills with the ability to multi task. The position will be assisting closers in the last steps of the real estate closing process. Title company experience is preferred and/or a strong communication skill to work with clients throughout the closing process. Salary will be DOE. If you are looking for a rewarding career that can take you to any level you want to achieve, please drop off resumes at or send to West Texas Abstract & Title Company, Attn: HR Department at 3700 N Big Spring St. Midland, TX 79705. WTA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a part of the FNF family.

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Restaurant Positions

Osa Japanese Steakhouse FT
Would you like to make \$15 to \$20 an hour, depending on position?
Now hiring Hibachi Chefs, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders, Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Come apply in person: 11am-2pm at 1207 Tradewinds Blvd. 79706 or online at: www.mg-osa.com

SALES JOBS

Multi-Media Sales Executive

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking Multi-Media Sales Executives just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

Multi-Media Sales Executives maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships and promotion of new advertising products. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-development with local businesses. We pride ourselves on simplifying the marketing process for our customers, while helping advertisers track the impact of their campaigns and understand their advertising options. In short, we help our customers grow their business.

Responsibilities include:
Consistently meet/exceeds all print and digital revenue goals.
Understanding the client's advertising needs, and develop the ideal marketing solution for them.
Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demos.
Generating new leads by making cold calls and maintaining an awareness of new businesses opening in the area.
Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience.

The Ideal Candidate:
You're self-motivated and results oriented.
You have an outgoing, resilient personality.
You enjoy the thrill of the hunt by bringing in new business.
You're confident and not willing to accept average.

Required Skills & Experience:
2+ years of sales experience with a proven record of successfully exceeding goals.
Passion to educate clients in their marketing options and close deals.
Exceptional communication and presentation skills.
Strong computer skills. Digital Sales experience a plus.
Bachelor's degree preferred.

What's in it for you?
Paid training.
Competitive Base Salary & Commissions.
Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage.
Flex spending accounts.
Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance.
401K with company match.
Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbs@hearst.com
No Phone Calls Please.

SKILLED LABOR

Field Service Techs, Shop Techs & Machinist

J&W Services and Equipment Company is seeking Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians and Machinist. Experience preferred. However, we are willing to train. Hourly pay and overtime with benefits of group health, dental, life insurance and vacation pay. There is an opportunity to earn commissions and be awarded bonuses. Participation in matching 401k plan after one year of employment. You can stop by 3510 E. Hwy 158 in Midland or go online to www.jandwservices.com for application and submit to jobs@jandwfields.com.

Laborers and Carpenters

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring laborers and carpenters. Reliable transportation a must. You may apply or leave an application at 5206 W. Wedley Avenue, Midland, Texas.

SKILLED LABOR

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintain all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well services equipment. Home nightly.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- 6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment.
- Valid operator's license with clean driving record.

Comprehensive Benefits package!

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnd.com/careers/job-openings

SKILLED LABOR

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts 5am - 5pm (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- Valid operator's license.
- Clean driving record.
- DOT compliant.

Comprehensive Benefits package!

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnd.com/careers/job-openings

SKILLED LABOR

Plumber Apprentices

Plumber apprentices needed for new commercial projects. Must possess valid DL. Experience preferred. Good work environment with competitive pay and standard benefits. Call 432-682-6222

PIONEER

NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/caliche to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/caliche 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 Tanker endorsement.
- Clean driving record.
- Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Comprehensive Benefits package!

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnd.com/careers/job-openings

Shop/ Yard/ Field Help

Pay based on experience. Submit resumes to: PRODUCTION LIFT, Box 9423, Midland, TX 79706 or mawhart@productionlift.com. Apply at # 14 E Industrial Loop, Midland, TX, 79701, (432) 699-1200. www.productionlift.com

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CDL Driver

CDL Driver needed. Slower Roofing Supply. Apply in person at 3010 W. Front Street, Midland Texas. Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm.

CDL DRIVERS

As a rapidly growing concrete manufacturing company, Ingram Concrete is currently seeking CDL DRIVERS for our Midland facility. Excellent benefits with pay rates and compensation based on driving experience. Paid weekly and home daily/weekends. Guaranteed hours year round and bonus potential. New pay rates. Come be a part of our family style atmosphere.

Please apply at 2808 N. FM 1786 in Midland or call (432) 581-8922 for additional information.

Ingram Concrete is an EOE. M/F/D/V



Delivery Driver

Wanted: DELIVERY DRIVER for local offsite chemical service company. Good pay, good benefits. Requirements: • High School Diploma or GED • CDL • Must be willing to acquire or currently possess: Hazmat endorsement, Tanker endorsement. Call Tim (408) 388-4161

Let Classifieds Work for
You! Call

432-682-6222

CLASSIFIEDS

The Midland Reporter-Telegram

JOBS



CARS



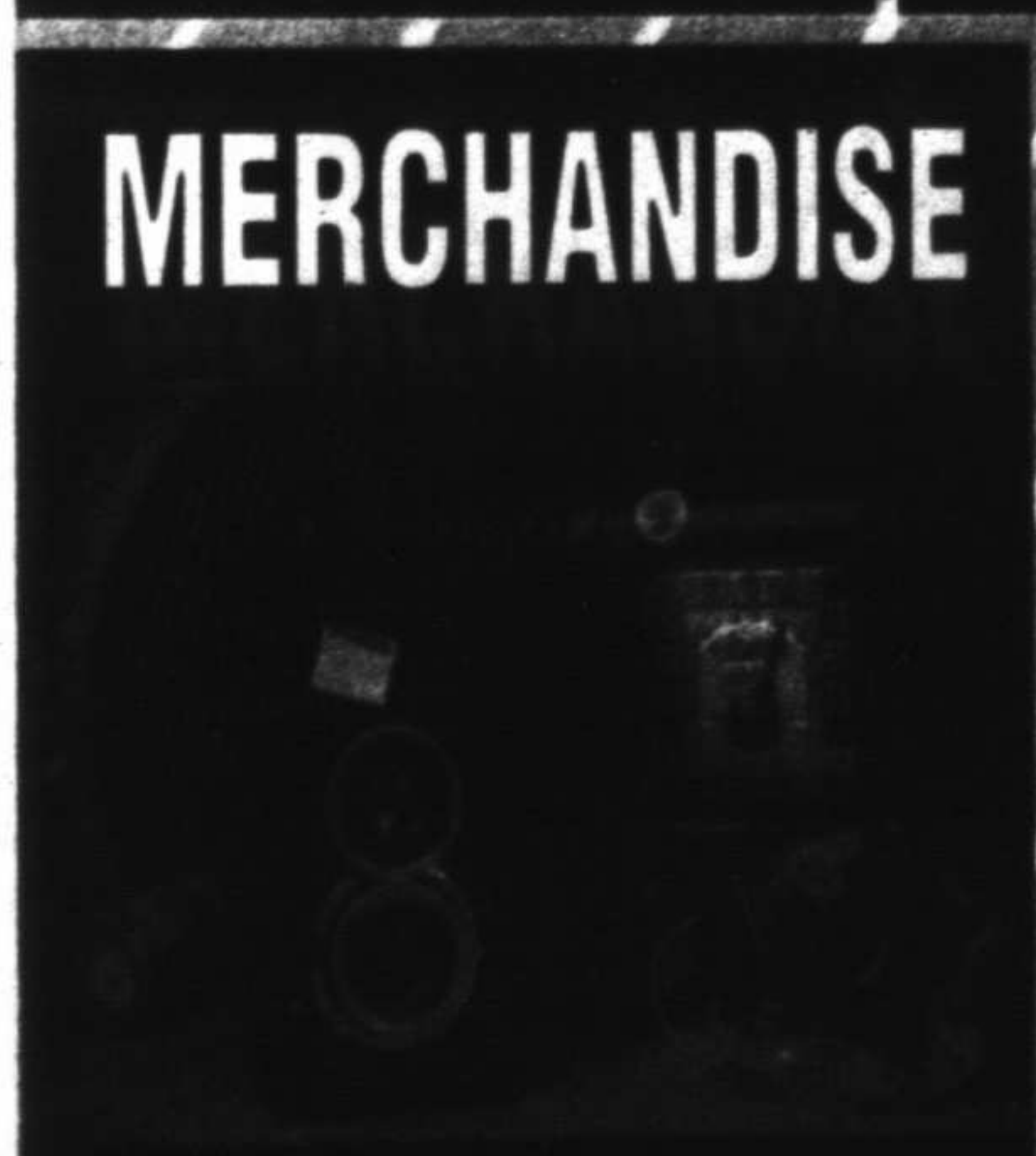
HOMES



SERVICES



MERCHANDISE



GARAGE SALE



TO ADVERTISE CALL

432-682-6222

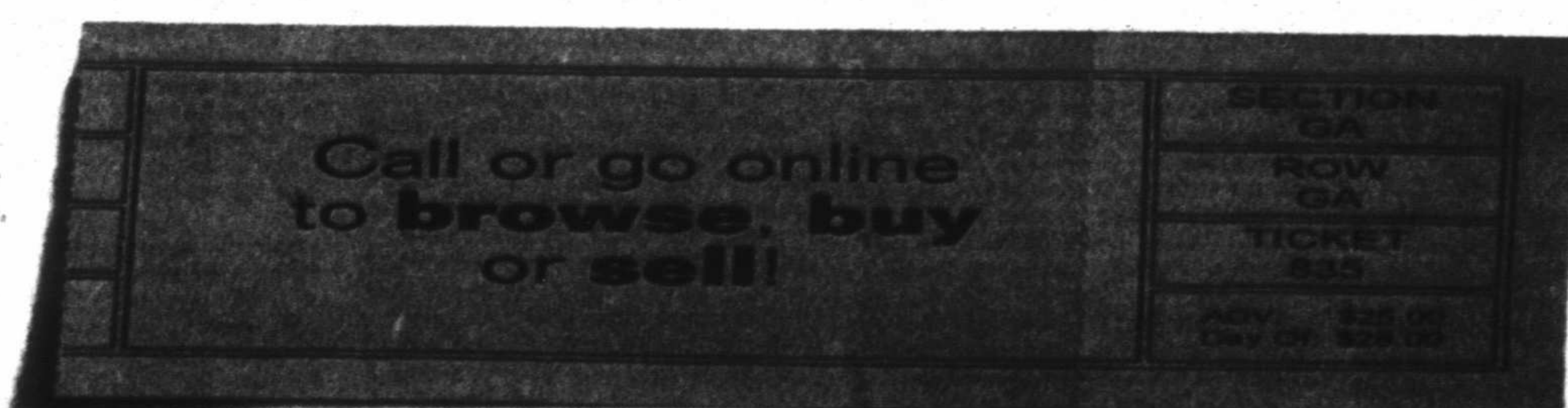
OR PLACE
YOUR AD
ONLINE @

mrt.com



[illegible]

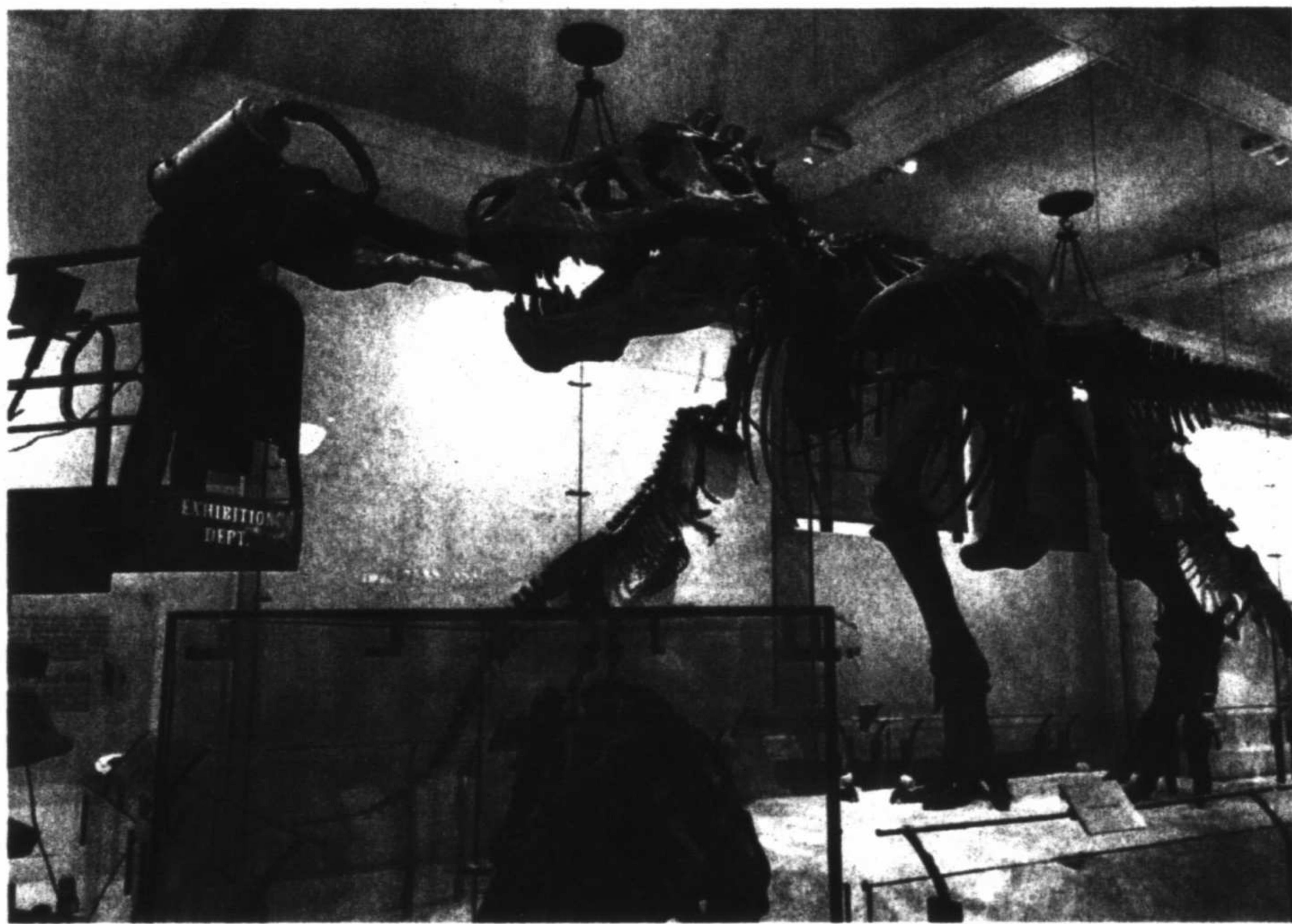
The Classifieds: Your Ticket to Local Finds



Midland Reporter-Telegram
CLASSIFIEDS
sellittexas.com • 432-682-6222

FRONTIERS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, March 6, 2018 | Page 4D



Trenton Duerksen, exhibition maintenance manager at the American Museum of Natural History, cleans the museum's Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton on Feb. 14.

T. rex survived millions of years. But at this museum it needs a hand battling dust

By Nina Agrawal
Los Angeles Times

NEW YORK — Trenton Duerksen's eyes scanned the massive skull before him, darting left and right as he searched for his nemesis: particles of fine, sticky dust that resemble gray snow.

Perched atop a scissor lift in the dinosaur wing of the American Museum of Natural History, Duerksen was standing eye to eye with Tyrannosaurus rex. His task for the day: ridding the 39-foot-long specimen of dust and dander that accumulates on it from 5 million visitors passing through the museum every year.

Duerksen started with the head. "Top-down, that's the most important rule," he said, explaining how the approach limits airborne dust and minimizes repeat cleaning.

Armed with an ordinary household duster, a vacuum strapped to his back, and wands and brushes of various sizes and shapes, Duerksen methodically worked his way across the surface of the head, cleaning 2-inch strips at a time.

When he got to the dinosaur's jaw — believed to have given it the strongest bite of any land animal ever — he switched to what looked like a cartoonishly oversized toothbrush, moving its bristles over and between 6-inch-long, conical teeth.

"I go top to bottom, side to side, and along the gum line," Duerksen said cheerfully. No fluffing needed.

Duerksen is the natural history museum's "exhibition maintenance manager," meaning that he is in charge of cleaning all the objects on display in the museum's 1 million-plus square feet of exhibition space and fixing anything that breaks.

On this particular morning this month, Duerksen was cleaning T. rex, a task he performs twice a year, usually over one or two mornings before the museum is opened to the public.

But all year long, Duerksen is sweeping, dusting and repairing things that become

cracked, frayed or somehow damaged — everything from the museum's 94-foot-long fiberglass blue whale to tiny shells, sponges and butterflies. (The wildlife dioramas encased in glass are rarely opened and thus exempt from the cleaning.)

"It's fun when it's really dirty," said Duerksen, who has thick, muscular fingers and wide knuckles. "You get a lot of satisfaction from seeing the fossil all shiny again."

Duerksen, 38, is an artist by training. Before joining the natural history museum two years ago, he worked as a professional illustrator and sculptor.

"We look for somebody who has good hands, the ability to handle things firmly but carefully — somebody who has attention to detail," Dean Markosian, director of exhibitions at the museum, said.

A zest for cleaning helps. "I love to collect dust," Duerksen said, sincerely. "I love sweeping and I love vacuuming, and this is probably the most exotic form of that."

Like many people, Duerksen developed a fascination with dinosaurs at a young age in his native Kansas and began drawing them around age 5.

"They looked like enormous monsters," Duerksen said. "The imagination required to understand them is astonishing."

But Duerksen never thought of dinosaurs as being just for kids, retaining his fascination and passion for the creatures through adulthood.

When the job opportunity came up at the natural history museum, Duerksen said, "it was kind of a no-brainer. I mean, I get to stare at the T. rex."

Duerksen received training from the museum's previous maintenance manager and conservation department, Markosian said, on which vacuum tools to use when and how to hold and use them in a way that won't damage any specimens.

"Fossils are really rocks — these are very sturdy," Markosian said, adding that some of the museum's leather and taxidermy specimens are much more delicate.

Once Duerksen had finished with T. rex's

head, he moved onto the spine and ribs.

His lips pursed and brow furrowed in concentration, Duerksen leaned out over the edge of the lift, his head just inches from T. rex's rib cage. Steadily, he ran the vacuum brush down the length of each rib, then went back to dust the underside of the vertebrae.

That was all he was going to get done for the day. It was almost 10 o'clock, time to open.

"We've gotta get out before the kids come in here!" he said.

Duerksen lowered the lift and hopped out, packing away his tools and carting them away. Within half an hour, the hall swarmed with school groups and tourists, many looking up in awe at one of the largest and most powerful land predators to have ever lived.

Elizabeth Arkley Hammett, 30, was visiting from Baton Rouge, La., with her husband, mother, toddler and infant.

Robby, 3, wore a dinosaur sweater, dinosaur socks and what looked like a dinosaur hand puppet. He also owns a pair of light-up dinosaur rain boots and has dinosaur sheets on his bed. He has dinosaur pants, too, but was persuaded to leave them at home.

"He's in heaven," she said. Hammett had been excited to show Robby a completely assembled T. rex skeleton for the first time.

"I love it because it's rooted in reality, as opposed to superheroes and fairy tales," she said.

At the museum Robby, who was running back and forth between T. rex and its companion in the Hall of Saurischian dinosaurs, the Apatosaurus, was getting acquainted with the two creatures. He pointed at the bones that once formed the beefy forelimb of an Apatosaurus, and then pointed at his own arm, and said, matter-of-factly, "arm."

Then he ran across the way. It wasn't hard to imagine Duerksen marveling at a tyrannosaur when he was a kid, too. Robby pointed up at the fossil he knew and loved best.

Astronomers glimpse cosmic dawn, when the stars switched on

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For the first time, astronomers have glimpsed the dawn of the universe 13.6 billion years ago when the earliest stars were just beginning to glow after the Big Bang. And if that's not enough, they may have detected mysterious dark matter at work, too.

The glimpse consisted of a faint radio signal from deep space, picked up by an antenna that is slightly bigger than a refrigerator and costs less than \$5 million but in certain ways can go back much farther in time and distance than the celebrated, multibillion-dollar Hubble Space Telescope.

Judd Bowman of Arizona State University, lead author of a study in Wednesday's journal Nature, said the signal came from the very first objects in the universe as it was emerging out of darkness 180 million years after the Big Bang.

Seeing the universe just lighting up, even though it was only a faint signal, is even more important than the Big Bang because "we are made of star stuff and so we are glimpsing at our origin," said astronomer Richard Ellis, who was not involved in the project.

The signal showed unexpectedly cold temperatures and an unusually pronounced wave. When astronomers tried to figure out why, the best explanation was that elusive dark matter may have been at work.

If verified, that would be the first confirmation of its kind of dark matter, which is a substantial part of the universe that scientists have been searching for over decades.

"If confirmed, this discovery deserves two Nobel Prizes" for both capturing the signal of the first stars and potential dark matter confirmation, said Harvard astronomer Avi Loeb, who wasn't part of the research team. Cautioning that "extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence," he said independent tests are needed to verify the findings.

Bowman agreed independent tests are needed even though his team spent two years double- and triple-checking their work.

"It's a time of the universe we really don't know anything about," Bowman said. He said the discovery is "like the first sentence" in an early chapter of the history of the cosmos.

This is nothing that astronomers could actually see. In fact, it's all indirect, based on changes in the wavelengths produced by radio signals.

The early universe was black and cold, filled with just hydrogen and helium. Once stars formed, they emitted ultraviolet light into the dark areas between them. That ultraviolet light changes the energy signature of hydrogen atoms, Bowman said.

Astronomers looked at a specific wavelength. If there were stars and ultraviolet light, they would see one signature. If there were no stars, they would see another. They saw a clear but faint signal showing there were stars, probably many of them, Bowman said.

Finding that trace signal wasn't easy because the Milky Way galaxy alone booms with radio wave noise 10,000 times louder, said Peter Kurczynski, advanced program technology director for the National Science Foundation, which helped fund the research.

Predicting the Bitcoin market is all but impossible to do

Dear PropellerHeads: Tell me the truth: is the Bitcoin bubble about to burst?

A: It is hard to miss the avalanche of news about cryptocurrencies. Let me catch everyone up.

The most famous of these is Bitcoin, which first appeared in 2009. I wrote a Bitcoin Propeller Head article in 2012 when they were trading at \$6. I updated the article 2 years later when trading hovered at \$600 per coin. Today a Bitcoin will cost you about \$10,000 after a peak in late 2017 at \$19,000. If you don't think that is a bubble, maybe it's time to stop and smell the tulips (bit.ly/2nHTMXm).

There are many opinions on where this will head. The Sage of Omaha is not a fan (bit.ly/2COh4Au). Forbes concludes (bit.ly/2F0yVKB) there is a lot of upside, but "if you do invest, you should go in expecting to lose all of it." Bill Miller, respected fund manager, respectfully disagrees (bit.ly/2F0h0ta).

In the "beware of zealots department", there are a lot of Bitcoin evangelists out there and the requisite urban myths. Just ask 50 Cent who was said to find \$7.5 million in Bitcoin he forgot about (he really



didn't).

For those who need a primer on cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, these are digital/virtual currencies that are transferred with public ledgers (block chains) reflecting their transaction history. They are decentralized and provide some level of transaction anonymity. Since Bitcoin showed up, Litecoin, Ethereum, Ripple and others have surfaced. All have seen wild fluctuations in price and enjoyed meteoric rises.

By the way, decentralized means no bank or governmental control. Thus, the buzz that you may have heard about how this makes some folks nervous. It also explains why much of the current cryptocurrency usage is reportedly for supporting underground economic activities (drugs, sex and rock 'n' roll).

There are about 16 million Bitcoins in circulation with 21 million planned by

2041. New currency is created using an elaborate and VERY expensive computer "mining" process. Because of the high mining costs and scarcity, you can impute "value", just like gold. To give you a sense of the high cost of mining a coin, there are computer viruses that can latch onto your computers to mine Bitcoins using its processing power (bit.ly/2Fk9UJU).

Cryptocurrency banking is not without controversy. There have been some widely publicized thefts, government seizures, frauds and clearinghouse failures (<http://canon.ie/2BKj19>). But many say these are to be expected in something this new. This is not for the faint of heart.

I don't know what is going to happen in the future, but I can give you my experience. When I wrote my first article on the subject 6 years ago, I opened the requisite accounts, traded, bought and sold some coins. When it was all said and done, I made about 10x my initial (very modest) investment and then decided to get out. Due to timing issues, I had the tiniest fraction of a Bitcoin left and that bank eventually went bankrupt. Mark me lucky.

I decided to dip my toe in again last fall,

this time buying Ethereum. After doubling my investment in 30 days, I cashed out my initial deposit. It doubled again, I cashed out half again. It did so again, and I cashed out the rest.

Since then, the price has dropped almost in half. So again, I was lucky. In my case I was making modest investments mostly just to have a bit of fun and do research. I do not have the makings of someone who would risk my 401(k) on any of these... yet.

So, I don't know if you have missed your opportunity, or if there is a bubble. OK, I am lying. You did and there is. Watch your eyes, she's gonna blow!

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email us at askthepropellerheads@data-directions.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at data-directions.com/askthepropellerheads.



Thank you Chevron for supporting Newspapers in Education

FRONTIERS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, March 6, 2018 | Page 4D



Carolyn Cole/Los Angeles Times/TNS

Trenton Duerksen, exhibition maintenance manager at the American Museum of Natural History, cleans the museum's Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton on Feb. 14.

T. rex survived millions of years. But at this museum it needs a hand battling dust

By Nina Agrawal
Los Angeles Times

NEW YORK — Trenton Duerksen's eyes scanned the massive skull before him, darting left and right as he searched for his nemesis: particles of fine, sticky dust that resemble gray snow.

Perched atop a scissor lift in the dinosaur wing of the American Museum of Natural History, Duerksen was standing eye to eye with Tyrannosaurus rex. His task for the day: ridding the 39-foot-long specimen of dust and dander that accumulates on it from 5 million visitors passing through the museum every year.

Duerksen started with the head. "Top-down, that's the most important rule," he said, explaining how the approach limits airborne dust and minimizes repeat cleaning.

Armed with an ordinary household duster, a vacuum strapped to his back, and wands and brushes of various sizes and shapes, Duerksen methodically worked his way across the surface of the head, cleaning 2-inch strips at a time.

When he got to the dinosaur's jaw — believed to have given it the strongest bite of any land animal ever — he switched to what looked like a car: oversized toothbrush, moving its bristles over and between 6-inch-long, conical teeth.

"I go top to bottom, side to side, and along the gum line," Duerksen said cheerfully. No flossing needed.

Duerksen is the natural history museum's "exhibition maintenance manager," meaning that he is in charge of cleaning all the objects on display in the museum's 1 million-plus square feet of exhibition space and fixing anything that breaks.

On this particular morning this month, Duerksen was cleaning T. rex, a task he performs twice a year, usually over one or two mornings before the museum is opened to the public.

But all year long, Duerksen is sweeping, dusting and repairing things that become

cracked, frayed or somehow damaged — everything from the museum's 94-foot-long fiberglass blue whale to tiny shells, sponges and butterflies. (The wildlife dioramas encased in glass are rarely opened and thus exempt from the cleaning.)

"It's fun when it's really dirty," said Duerksen, who has thick, muscular fingers and wide knuckles. "You get a lot of satisfaction from seeing the fossil all shiny again."

Duerksen, 38, is an artist by training. Before joining the natural history museum two years ago, he worked as a professional illustrator and sculptor.

"We look for somebody who has good hands, the ability to handle things firmly but carefully — somebody who has attention to detail," Dean Markosian, director of exhibitions at the museum, said.

A zest for cleaning helps. "I love to collect dust," Duerksen said, sincerely. "I love sweeping and I love vacuuming, and this is probably the most exotic form of that."

Like many people, Duerksen developed a fascination with dinosaurs at a young age in his native Kansas and began drawing them around age 5.

"They looked like enormous monsters," Duerksen said. "The imagination required to understand them is astonishing."

But Duerksen never thought of dinosaurs as being just for kids, retaining his fascination and passion for the creatures through adulthood.

When the job opportunity came up at the natural history museum, Duerksen said, "it was kind of a no-brainer. I mean, I get to stare at the T. rex."

Duerksen received training from the museum's previous maintenance manager and conservation department, Markosian said, on which vacuum tools to use when and how to hold and use them in a way that won't damage any specimens.

"Fossils are really rocks — these are very sturdy," Markosian said, adding that some of the museum's leather and taxidermy specimens are much more delicate.

Once Duerksen had finished with T. rex's

head, he moved onto the spine and ribs.

His lips pursed and brow furrowed in concentration, Duerksen leaned over the edge of the lift, his head just inches from T. rex's rib cage. Steadily, he ran the vacuum brush down the length of each rib, then went back to dust the underside of the vertebrae.

That was all he was going to do for the day. It was almost 10 o'clock, time to open.

"We've gotta get out before the kids come in here!" he said.

Duerksen lowered the lift and hopped out, packing away his tools and carting them away. Within half an hour, the hall swarmed with school groups and tourists, many looking up in awe at one of the largest and most powerful land predators to have ever lived.

Elizabeth Arley Hammett, 30, was visiting from Baton Rouge, La., with her husband, mother, toddler and infant.

Robby, 3, wore a dinosaur sweater, dinosaur hand puppet. He also owns a pair of light-up dinosaur rain boots and has dinosaur sheets on his bed. He has dinosaur pants, too, but was persuaded to leave them at home.

"He's in heaven," she said. Hammett had been excited to show Robby a completely assembled T. rex skeleton for the first time.

"I love it because it's rooted in reality, as opposed to superheroes and fairy tales," she said.

At the museum Robby, who was running back and forth between T. rex and its companion in the Hall of Saurischian dinosaurs, the Apatosaurus, was getting acquainted with the two creatures. He pointed at the bones that once formed the beefy forelimb of an Apatosaurus, and then pointed at his own arm, and said, matter-of-factly, "arm."

Then he ran across the way. It wasn't hard to imagine Duerksen marveling at a tyrannosaurus when he was a kid, too. Robby pointed up at the fossil he knew and loved best.

Astronomers glimpse cosmic dawn, when the stars switched on

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For the first time, astronomers have glimpsed the dawn of the universe 13.6 billion years ago when the earliest stars were just beginning to glow after the Big Bang. And if that's not enough, they may have detected mysterious dark matter at work, too.

The glimpse consisted of a faint radio signal from deep space, picked up by an antenna that is slightly bigger than a refrigerator and costs less than \$5 million but in certain ways can go back much farther in time and distance than the celebrated, multibillion-dollar Hubble Space Telescope.

Judd Bowman of Arizona State University, lead author of a study in Wednesday's journal Nature, said the signal came from the very first objects in the universe as it was emerging out of darkness 180 million years after the Big Bang.

Seeing the universe just lighting up, even though it was only a faint signal, is even more important than the Big Bang because "we are made of star stuff and so we are made of star origin," said astronomer Richard Ellis, who was not involved in the project.

The signal showed unexpectedly cold temperatures and an unusually pronounced wave. When astronomers tried to figure out why, the best explanation was that elusive dark matter may have been at work.

If verified, that would be the first confirmation of its kind of dark matter, which is a substantial part of the universe that scientists have been searching for over decades.

"If confirmed, this discovery deserves two Nobel Prizes" for both capturing the signal of the first stars and potential dark matter confirmation, said Harvard astronomer Avi Loeb, who wasn't part of the research team. Cautioning that "extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence," he said independent tests are needed to verify the findings.

Bowman agreed independent tests are needed even though his team spent two years double- and triple-checking their work.

"It's a time of the universe we really don't know anything about," Bowman said. He said the discovery is "like the first sentence" in an early chapter of the history of the cosmos.

This is nothing that astronomers could actually see. In fact, it's all indirect, based on changes in the wavelengths produced by radio signals.

The early universe was black and cold, filled with just hydrogen and helium. Once stars formed, they emitted ultraviolet light into the dark areas between them. That ultraviolet light changes the energy signature of hydrogen atoms, Bowman said.

Astronomers looked at a specific wavelength. If there were stars and ultraviolet light, they would see one signature. If there were no stars, they would see another. They saw a clear but faint signal showing there were stars, probably many of them, Bowman said.

Finding that trace signal wasn't easy because the Milky Way galaxy alone booms with radio wave noise 10,000 times louder, said Peter Kuczynski, advanced program technology director for the National Science Foundation, which helped fund the research.

Predicting the Bitcoin market is all but impossible to do

Dear Propellerheads: Tell me the truth: is the Bitcoin bubble about to burst? A: It is hard to miss the avalanche of news about cryptocurrencies. Let me catch everyone up.

The most famous of these is Bitcoin, which first appeared in 2009. I wrote a Bitcoin Propeller Head article in 2012 when they were trading at \$6. I updated the article 2 years later when trading hovered at \$600 per coin. Today a Bitcoin will cost you about \$10,000 after a peak in late 2017 at \$19,000. If you don't think that is a bubble, maybe it's time to stop and smell the tulips (bit.ly/2nHTMCKm).

There are many opinions on where this will head. The Sage of Omaha is not a fan (bit.ly/2COB4Au). Forbes concludes (bit.ly/2F0yVKB) there is a lot of upside, but "if you do invest, you should go in expecting to lose all of it." Bill Miller, respected fund manager, respectfully disagrees (bit.ly/2Fa08ts).

In the "beware of zealots department", there are a lot of Bitcoin evangelists out there and the requisite urban myths. Just ask 50 Cent who was said to find \$7.5 million in Bitcoin he forgot about (he really



the Propellerheads

didn't).

For those who need a primer on cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, these are digital/virtual currencies that are transferred with public ledgers (block chains) reflecting their transaction history. They are decentralized and provide some level of transaction anonymity. Since Bitcoin showed up, Litecoin, Ethereum, Ripple and others have surfaced. All have seen wild fluctuations in price and enjoyed meteoric rises.

By the way, decentralized means no bank or governmental control. Thus, the buzz that you may have heard about how this makes some folks nervous. It also explains why much of the current cryptocurrency usage is reportedly for supporting underground economic activities (drugs, sex and rock 'n' roll).

There are about 16 million Bitcoins in circulation with 21 million planned by

2041. New currency is created using an elaborate and VERY expensive computer "mining" process. Because of the high mining costs and scarcity, you can impute "value", just like gold. To give you a sense of the high cost of mining a coin, there are computer viruses that can latch onto your computers to mine Bitcoins using its processing power (bit.ly/2Fic9UJ).

Cryptocurrency banking is not without controversy. There have been some widely publicized thefts, government seizures, frauds and clearinghouse failures (<http://cannnon.io/2BKj19>). But many say these are to be expected in something this new. This is not for the faint of heart.

I don't know what is going to happen in the future, but I can give you my experience. When I wrote my first article on the subject 6 years ago, I opened the requisite accounts, traded, bought and sold some coins. When it was all said and done, I made about 10x my initial (very modest) investment and then decided to get out. Due to timing issues, I had the tiniest fraction of a Bitcoin left and that bank eventually went bankrupt. Mark me lucky.

I decided to dip my toe in again last fall,

this time buying Ethereum. After doubling my investment in 30 days, I cashed out my initial deposit. It doubled again, I cashed out half again. It did so again, and I cashed out the rest.

Since then, the price has dropped almost in half. So again, I was lucky. In my case I was making modest investments mostly just to have a bit of fun and do research. I do not have the makings of someone who would risk my 401(k) on any of these... yet.

So, I don't know if you have missed your opportunity, or if there is a bubble. OK, I am lying. You did and there is. Watch your eyes, she's gonna blow!

When the Propellerheads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email us at askthepropellerheads@data-directions.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at data-directions.com/askthepropellerheads.



Thank you Chevron for supporting Newspapers in Education