

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018

mrt.com

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SATURDAY STABBING

The bond for a murder suspect has been set at \$200,000.

Page 4A



WILDFIRE THREAT

The Texas A&M Forest Service says West Texas and the Panhandle are at high risk for wildfires. Meanwhile, two people have died in historic wildfires in Oklahoma.

Page 2A

MISD board to tackle 3-year growth plan

Whole-school models, individual programs are being studied to improve student achievement

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Five years ago, 1 in 5 Midland ISD students was not receiving a "quality education," according to student achievement data.

Implementing a similar ratio, Midland ISD officials report that of the 26,000 students in the district today, 5,000 sit in "low-quality seats."

At today's school board meeting, trust-

ees will look at its three-year, high-quality growth plan, which is expected to add 1,200 high-quality seats in the first year, 1,400 in the second year and 1,600 in the third.

The plan is part of the transformation of the district toward a "system of great schools" theory of action. A transition toward the System of Great Schools means central administration grants more autonomy to higher-performing campuses, empowers partners to make choices, cre-

ates performance contracts with campuses, annually evaluates performance of and demand for schools and makes strategic decisions regarding growing access to high-performing schools and addressing low performers, according to the district.

This transition to a system of great schools was a key part of the superintendent search, which brought Orlando Riddick to Midland, as is indicated in the transformation overview that will be discussed today.

"With the board's selection of Orlando Riddick as superintendent of Midland ISD in summer of 2017, the foundation for transformation was forged," the overview states.

The transformation overview also provides a timeline beginning with Riddick assuming the role of superintendent — including the design of new schools and re-imagining of existing schools to support

Please see PLAN/2A

SEALING THE DEAL



Courtesy Midland College

Midland College President Steve Thomas, left, and UTPB President Sandra Woodley shake hands after signing an agreement to collaborate on an academic pathway for engineering students, allowing the transfer of credits between the two schools.

MC, UTPB partner on engineering pathway

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

Engineering students at Midland College will now have a clearer understanding of coursework requirements for the University of Texas at the Permian Basin. Presidents of the two institutions signed an articulation agreement Monday that identified courses guaranteed to transfer.

"Our students can start here, start their work in their engineering program, transfer to UTPB their junior year, and it's seamless," MC President Steve Thomas said.

The two institutions have long had a partnership, and Thomas thinks the engineering pathway will allow them to work together on a program that benefits the region. He also said the partnership gives students a chance to have a quality education while starting at an institution with lower tuition and fees.

Thomas joined UTPB administrators in announcing the agreement at a press conference in MC's Scheubauer Student Center.

"We know that this is an important degree program in the Permian Basin, where the geological properties and the technological advances make this a truly special place to pursue engineering," UTPB President Sandra Woodley told

those in attendance.

Woodley said the partnership helps the university move toward its goal of graduating more students because it creates a clear pathway. She thinks the agreement gives those studying engineering certainty about which courses will transfer.

"I started in the community college years ago, when there were not articulation agreements," Woodley said. "And so, so many of the courses that I selected didn't transfer. There also wasn't a clear roadmap for me to follow."

The new agreement gives MC students taking engineering, math, physics and other courses an outline of the requirements for mechanical and petroleum engineering bachelor's degrees at UTPB.

Alex Corrales, a sophomore mechanical engineering student at MC, plans to transfer to UTPB. He thinks the partnership will make the process easier for future students.

"I hope it streamlines the process between Midland College and UTPB, helping transfers and everything," Corrales said. "For me, this wasn't in place beginning as a freshman."

Monday's announcement came as construction continues on an engineering building at UTPB's Midland campus. The three-story building project is

projected to be completed next spring.

At MC, engineering enrollment has more than doubled since August 2016, according to Brian Flowers, assistant professor of engineering and physics. He said about 60 percent of his sophomore engineering students have expressed intent to transfer to UTPB.

"This route provides them confidence that what they've taken counts, and they don't have to retake anything," Flowers told the Reporter-Telegram.

Before Monday's announcement, personnel from the two institutions collaborated to plan the academic pathway. Thomas said the impetus for creating an engineering partnership was the local demand for high-quality professionals.

"This is really being industry-driven," Thomas said. "We're in the Permian Basin. It's a natural fit for petroleum engineers and other types of engineers."

Woodley said some industry leaders have expressed a need to recruit engineers who want to be in the region for the long-term. She said the new agreement creates a pathway for students with ties to the area.

"I think this gives us the opportunity to grow our own — our own programs that allow for talent in the Permian Basin, who already love the Permian Basin, to choose engineering and stay," Woodley said.

ANALYSIS

Analyst: US oil industry better off because of OPEC

By Chris Tomlinson
Houston Chronicle

Every oil executive owes Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and OPEC, a thank-you note, if not a steak dinner.

The historic production agreement between OPEC, Russia and a handful of other national oil companies has sopped up the crude oil glut. The International Energy Agency reports that storage levels are returning to five-year averages.

Crude prices have risen to roughly the cost of producing the last barrel needed to meet global demand. That's about \$65 a barrel on the international market and \$60 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Saudi Arabia, OPEC's de facto leader, has bailed out U.S. oil companies for their overly exuberant behavior.

"Americans love to disparage OPEC and the Saudis for manipulating prices," Jim Krane, a fellow at Rice University's Baker Institute, said. "But the truth is that Houston is much better off because of it."

Industry watchers will remember when soothsayers predicted oil production was about to peak, and prices routinely closed above \$100 a barrel. That inspired Houston oilman George Mitchell to experiment with new well completion techniques, including hydraulic fracturing shale rock and drilling horizontal wells.

Mitchell's discoveries unleashed a torrent of oil, and soon every company wanted a piece of high crude prices. U.S. oil flooded the market, global supply exceeded global demand, and prices dropped precipitously in late 2014.

The Saudi oil minister at the time, Ali al-Naimi, convinced his king and OPEC counterparts to let the price drop. He believed that OPEC's low production costs would allow national oil companies to weather a bust better than private, for-profit producers pumping oil from expensive shale and deep-water wells.

"The challenge is to restore the supply-demand balance and reach price stability," Naimi said on April 7, 2015. Naimi's free-market plan, though, didn't work.

Oil prices dropped below \$30 a barrel in January 2016, and when Naimi tried to strike a deal with Russia, Iran and other countries to freeze production in April, the king's 30-year-old son, Mohammed bin Salman, called it off and named a new oil minister.

After months of new negotiations, the

Please see OPEC/4A

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Price of oil
\$66.22 ▼ \$1.17

The big number
416 million

Word of the Day
reboot

Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 2A.



Vol. 96, No. 37
Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



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Concern rises about wildfires in Midland

From staff reports

The Texas A&M Forest Service is calling for a high probability of a significant wildfire outbreak in West Texas and the Panhandle today.

The areas of concern, according to the TFS, include Amarillo, Fort Stockton and Midland/Odessa.

"With these conditions, wildfires can spread rapidly, present control issues for firefighters and pose a real threat to public safety," said Texas A&M Forest Service Fire Chief Mark Stanford. "The Southern Plains wildfire outbreaks can be extremely dangerous if a wildfire occurs. It is important that you heed any wildfire warnings from local officials."

Midland County is one of 91 counties across the state with a burn ban in place.

Most of Midland County is between 500 and 700 on the The Ketch-Byram Drought Index. The index, according to the Texas A&M Forest

Learn more

For information on wildfire situation in Texas, visit twfb.tamu.edu/currenthituation, or follow @twfbhazardrels on Twitter.

Service, is used to determine forest fire potential. Its measurements go from zero to 800:

- 800 means it would take 8 inches of precipitation to fully saturate the soil.
- A score between 600 and 800 indicates conditions that are often associated with severe drought and increased wildfire occurrence. Intense, deep-burning fires can be expected.
- A score of 400 to 600 indicates that a "lower litter and duff layers contribute to fire intensity and will burn actively. Wildfire intensity begins to increase significantly. Larger fuels could burn or smolder for several days."

Increased fire activity is a concern because of expected high wind speeds, above-normal sea-

sonal temperatures, low relative humidity and a dry line — a boundary that separates moist air mass from dry air — forming over the region, according to TFS.

Texas A&M Forest Service is monitoring the situation and is working with local fire departments to preposition state resources and with continued staffing of single engine air tanker bases in Amarillo, Childress, Abilene and Fort Stockton as well as heavy jet air tankers in Abilene.

With elevated fire danger, caution should be used with any outdoor activity that may cause sparks:

- Outdoor burning should be delayed until conditions improve.
- Avoid parking or idling vehicles in tall, dry grass. Catalytic converters can get hot enough to ignite the grass under a vehicle.
- Avoid placing chainsaws or other gas-powered equipment on grass.

Oklahoma wildfires kill 2; threat nears historic level

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Wildfires that have killed two people in western Oklahoma are nearing conditions not seen in at least a decade because of the mixture of high temperatures, low humidity and heavy winds, the National Weather Service said Monday.

Weather service meteorologist Doug Spehger said Tuesday's forecast represents the most potential for the spread of wildfires in the past 10 years of a database that considers a variety of factors.

Temperatures are projected to

reach the mid-90s with humidity below 10 percent and winds gusting to 40 mph. The forecast includes northwestern Texas and the Texas Panhandle where firefighting aircraft is stationed in Amarillo, Childress, Abilene and Fort Stockton.

"With these conditions wildfires can spread rapidly, present control issues for firefighters and pose a real threat to public safety," said Texas A&M Forest Service Fire Chief Mark Stanford.

The area also is in extreme to exceptional drought, the two most severe designations.

Firefighters sent by the U.S. Forest Service's Southern Area Coordination Center are fighting one fire that's burned more than 245,000 acres near Leedey, about 110 miles northwest of Oklahoma City and another blaze that's burned nearly 68,000 acres near Woodward, about 20 miles north of Leedey.

"We're out there strengthening fire lines ... widening lines to make sure they're in real good shape with the wind that is on the horizon," said spokesman Todd Schroeder at the scene of what's known as the Rhea Fire near Leedey. "The

winds that we may have tomorrow may make this really stand up and run again."

At the 34 Complex fire near Woodward, spokesman John Nichols said firefighters are doing much the same thing.

"The winds are coming, but wet weather is supposed to be coming too, and we're hoping the wet weather will arrive," Nichols said.

The weather service says rain and thunderstorm chances will increase Thursday night and Friday with strong to severe storms possible in southwestern Oklahoma and western north Texas on Friday.

Death Notices

Carlton Douglas Hopkins

Carlton Douglas Hopkins, 81, of Midland, Texas, passed away on Monday, April 16, 2018 surrounded by his family. The family will receive friends on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 from 6:00p.m.-8:00p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 3:00p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland. Burial will follow at Resthaven Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Linda Nelson Hopkins of Midland, three daughters, Lisa Holifield; Jane Smith; and Carrie Hopkins.

Vercie Jack

Funeral Services for Vercie Jackson of Midland, Texas are pending with Avalos-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home.

OTHER DEATH

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES 'Full Metal Jacket' actor R. Lee Ermy dies at 74

R. Lee Ermy, a former Marine who made a career in Hollywood playing hard-nosed military men like Gunnery Sgt. Hartman in Stanley Kubrick's "Full Metal Jacket," has died.

Ermy's longtime manager Bill Rogin says he died Sunday morning from pneumonia-related complications. He was 74.

The Kansas native was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for his memorable performance in "Full Metal Jacket," in which he immortalized lines such as: "What is your major malfunction?"

His co-stars Matthew Modine and Vincent D'Onofrio tweeted their condolences Sunday.

"SemperParas Always faithful. Always loyal. Do not go gentle into that good night. Rage, rage against the dying of the light," Modine wrote, quoting the Dylan Thomas poem. "RIP amigo. PVT. Joker."

Vincent D'Onofrio added: "Ermy was the real deal. The knowledge of him passing brings back wonderful memories of our time together."

Born Ronald Lee Ermy in 1944, Ermy served 11 years in the Marine Corps and spent 14 months in Vietnam and then in Okinawa, Japan, where he became staff sergeant. His first film credit was as a helicopter pilot in Francis Ford Coppola's "Apocalypse Now," which was quickly followed by a part in "The Boys in Company C" as a drill instructor.

He acted in more than 60 credits in film and television across his long career in the industry, often playing authority figures in everything from "Se7en" to "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" remake.

The part he would become most well-known for, in "Full Metal Jacket," wasn't even originally his. Ermy had been brought on as a technical consultant for the 1967 film, but he had his eyes on the role of the brutal gunnery sergeant and filmed his own audition tape of him yelling out insults while tennis balls flew at him. An impressed Kubrick gave him the role.

Kubrick told Rolling Stone that 50 percent of Ermy's dialogue in the film was his own.

"In the course of hiring the Marine recruits, we interviewed hundreds of guys. We lined them all up and did an improvisation of the first meeting with the drill instructor. They didn't know what he was going to say, and we could see how they reacted. Lee came up with I don't know, 150 pages of insults," Kubrick said.

Ermy would also go on to voice the little green army man Sarge in the "Toy Story" films. He also played truck and field coach and Nike co-founder Bill Bowerman in "Free State of Jones" and "The Sandlot" and Mayor Thomas in "Mississippi Burning."

PLAN

From 1A

MISD's most at-need students. Site visits and conversations have taken place to help narrow down the 30 applications for partners wanting to help the district execute its academic improvement strategies.

Midland ISD is applying for Senate Bill 1882 funding and Texas Education Agency grants to support these partnerships. The potential slate of partners, according to the district, include Midland College, AVID, Houston Education Leadership Partners, Young Women's Preparatory Network, Legacy Traditional Schools, TNTP, Project Lead the Way, No Excuses U and Code to the Future.

"Whole school models" being considered include the district's first internal transformation school — Houston College Preparatory Elementary. According to the overview, the foundation of the school will be a college preparatory learning environment with college-going atmosphere, increased expectations and a collaborative environment between parents, teachers, the community and students. AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) strategies incorporate inquiry-based learning, a student-centric instruction based on organization, study skills communication and self-advocacy. AVID "becomes a way of life for students and staff," according to the overview.

San Jacinto Junior High, according to the district, is undergoing transformational efforts through the redesign of Houston. For the first time, sixth-graders (current Houston fifth-graders) will be on a junior high campus. As SJ begins to develop its model using AVID, the school will investigate college preparatory models to prepare students for the dual-credit/AP pathway at Midland High and Lee High, as well as preparing interested students for Early College High School at Midland College.

At least four other "whole school programs" will be part of the information the board receives in the transformation overview. The programs will undergo planning in 2018-19 and begin operating in 2019-20.

The first program is from Legacy Traditional Schools, and Midland would be its first Texas campus. Saxon Math and Spalding Language Arts are part of the curriculum, and the model being considered is for kindergarten through eighth grade.

The Young Women's Preparatory Network is another program. It's a STEM-based "sisterhood" that promotes the core values of college readiness, responsible leadership and wellness life skills. Currently, there are eight YWPN campuses across the state; 68 percent of students across the network are from economically disadvantaged homes. The model is for grades six through 12. The initial year would feature sixth- and seventh-grade classes of 100 girls each.

The Midland ISD Newcomer Center would serve recent immigrants in grades two through 12. After one or two years of engaging in intensive language immersion strategies, students would be transferred to their neighborhood campus. The campus would house 100 to 150 students each and focus on language, instruction and opportunities for newcomer students.

The MISD Honor Program will provide a kindergarten through 12th-grade school with a vision of a three-tiered model encouraging students to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners, and to understand that diversity of opinions leads to a stronger depth of knowledge.

Individual programs include Code to the Future, which is a computer science immersion program for kindergartners through eighth-graders, and Project Lead the Way, which creates more intentional and integrated STEM pathways.

High school restructuring programs include expanding and cultivating college and career academies at existing campuses, deepening Early College work and a multi-disciplinary culinary/hospitality and tourism program at Midland High.

Information about "talent partnerships," cross-campus efforts, potential future partnerships are also part of the transformation overview.



Barbara Bush, center, sits at a rally for her son, Jeb Bush, in Miami on June 15, 2015. Bush, the wife and mother of presidents who has long been among the most popular members of her famous family, has decided to stop seeking medical treatment to prolong her life as she faces a variety of ailments, people close to the family said Sunday.

Granddaughter: Barbara Bush is 'a fighter,' in good spirits

By Michael Graczyk
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Former first lady Barbara Bush, who was reported in "failing health" over the weekend, is in "great spirits" and the family is grateful for "everybody's prayers and thoughts," her granddaughter said Monday.

Bush family spokesman Jim McGrath said in a news release Sunday that "Mrs. Bush, now age 92, has decided not to seek additional medical treatment and will instead focus on comfort care" at home in Houston following consultations with her doctors and family.

McGrath did not elaborate on the nature of Bush's health problems but on Monday said she's suffered in recent years from congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. She also has been treated for decades for Graves' disease, which is a thyroid condition, had heart surgery in 2009 for a severe narrowing of her main heart valve and was hospitalized a year before that for surgery on a perforated ulcer.

Jenna Bush Hager, an anchor on NBC's "Today" show, told the program Monday morning that Bush is resting comfortably with family.

"She's a fighter. She's an enforcer," Hager said, using the family's nickname for her grandmother. "We're grateful for her, for everybody's prayers and thoughts, and just know the world is better because she is in it."

"We are grateful for her. She's the best grandma anybody could have ever had ... or have," she said.

Bush is one of only two first ladies who was also the mother of a president. The other was Abigail Adams, wife of John Adams, the nation's second president, and mother of John Quincy Adams, the sixth president.

What is known about Bush's health

Former first lady Barbara Bush is receiving "comfort care" at her family's home in Houston after deciding she wanted no further medical treatment for unspecified health problems.

The 92-year-old has suffered from congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in recent years, and had surgery in 2009 for severe narrowing of her main heart valve. She also has been treated for decades for a thyroid condition called Graves' disease, and had surgery on a perforated ulcer in 2009.

Comfort care

People who opt for comfort care receive treatment only for their symptoms, such as shortness of breath or pain, rather than trying to prolong life or cure the underlying health problem, said Tim Brennan, a certified hospice and palliative nurse for almost 25 years.

Hospice care has some technical differences. It's for patients who are not expected to live more than six months who sign a waiver, usually saying they want only non-life-prolonging treatment of symptoms by a team of caregivers, and it may be covered by Medicare. Comfort care is more of a verbal understanding between doctor and patient, Brennan said.

COOPD

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a progressive lung disease that causes inflamed airways, which become smaller and trap a person's ability to get air out of their lungs, said Dr. Ryle Hager, a pulmonologist and associate professor in pulmonary and critical care at the University of Chicago Medicine.

Hager said symptoms of the disease in the lungs, always collapse

It's usually a combination of things, including chronic obstruction and emphysema, he said. People who are frequently diagnosed with emphysema, especially in the winter, might have undiagnosed COOPD, he said.

Congestive heart failure

Heart failure is one of the top reasons why people are hospitalized, and a leading cause of death. It develops when the heart muscle becomes weaker over time and can no longer pump effectively, sometimes because of damage from a heart attack. Fluid can back up into the lungs and cause people to cough or breathe.

Many people have both heart and lung problems, Hager said.

Bush married George H.W. Bush on Jan. 6, 1945. They had six children and have been married longer than any presidential couple in American history.

Eight years after she and her husband left the White House, Mrs. Bush stood with her husband as their son George W. was sworn in as the 43rd president.

Hager said the former president "still says, 'I love you Barbie' every night," describing their grandparents' close relationship as "romantic."


McGrath said Bush was concerned more for her family than herself.

"It will not surprise those who know her that Barbara Bush has been a rock in the face of her failing health, worrying not for herself — thanks to her abiding faith — but for others," he said.

President Donald Trump's press secretary, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, said in a statement Sunday evening that "the President and first lady's prayers are with all of the Bush family during this time."

WORD OF THE DAY
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Jumburrto
robust
[ro-bust]
adjective
1 a : having or exhibiting strength or vigorous health
b : having or showing vigor, strength, or firmness a robust debate a robust faith



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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Getting kids on track



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Members of Early Childhood Action Network take part in presentation April 4. The network, which was organized in June by Educate Midland, is made up of early childhood professionals, business leaders, funders and civic leaders. The group's goal is to increase the number of young children who are developmentally ready for school and are on track for later learning.

State of Education
The Midland Chamber of Commerce will present the State of Education luncheon 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Horseshoe Pavilion.

Kids can compete in MILB event
The city of Midland Parks and Recreation Department is hosting Major League Baseball's Pitch, Hit, and Run skills competition. The event is 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Security Bank Ballpark. Boys and girls compete in four

age groups: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14. Finalists earn the chance to advance to next level of competition, including team championships at Major League ballparks. For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 685-7355 or visit www.pitchhitrun.com.

This date in Texas
Five years ago: Fifteen people were killed when a fertilizer plant exploded in West. Source: Associated Press

Today in History
Today is Tuesday, April 17, the 107th day of 2018. There are 258 days left in the year.
Today's highlight:
On April 17, 1961, some 1,500 CIA-trained Cuban exiles launched the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in an attempt to topple Fidel Castro, whose forces crushed the invasion by the third day.
On this date:
In 1492, a contract was signed by Christopher Columbus and a representative of Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, giving Columbus a commission to seek a westward ocean passage to Asia.
In 1924, the motion picture studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer was founded, the result of a merger of Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures and the Louis B. Mayer Co.
In 1937, cartoon character Daffy Duck made his debut in the Warner Bros. animated short "Porky's Duck Hunt" directed by Tex Avery.
In 1972, the Boston Marathon allowed women to compete for the first time; Nina Kuscsik was the first officially recognized women's champion, with a time of 2:10:26.
In 1985, a federal jury in Los Angeles convicted two former police officers of violating the civil rights of beaten motorist Rodney King; two other officers were acquitted.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 4-4-6
Pick 3 day: 8-6-8
Pick 3 evening: 1-4-1
Pick 3 night: 6-7-3
Daily 4 morning: 4-7-9-9
Daily 4 day: 0-6-0-0
Daily 4 evening: 9-4-9-4
Daily 4 night: 4-0-0-2
Cash Five: 7-14-17-23-33
Mega Chance: 03-05-09-18-31-34-39-40-42-49
Texas Two Step: 04-17-30-34

Donut: 14
All or Nothing morning: 01-02-05-06-07-08-10-11-16-19-21-24
All or Nothing day: 02-04-05-06-08-13-17-18-19-21-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 03-04-06-08-09-10-14-15-16-17-19-21
All or Nothing night: 04-05-06-08-09-10-15-16-17-20-21-23

Weather


Monday's temperatures
High: 90
Low: 46
Normal high: 79
Normal low: 49

April 16's records
Record high: 96 set in 1937
Low: 31 set in 1999

Precipitation
Sunday: 0.00 in.
Monday: 0.00 in.
Month total: 0.00 in.
Year total: 0.16 in.
Normal total (year to date): 2.21 in.

Winds
Average wind speed: 14 mph
Highest sustained wind speed: 21 mph
Highest gust speed: 37 mph

Forecast for Tuesday, April 17, 2018



Today's forecast
High: 93
Low: 52
Conditions: Sunny during the day/mostly clear at night

Winds: 20-25 mph (gusts up to 40 mph) during the day and night
Chance of rain: none
Sunrise: 7:18 a.m.
Sunset: 8:19 p.m.

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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

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You could feel abandoned by a set of circumstances that no longer suit you. Your smiling ways and open dialogue bring forth an important realization. You might not be sure how to handle an emerging situation. Just take your time. Tonight: Opt for a good night's sleep.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You could feel overwhelmed by the possibility of a fast change. You will be needing a lot of energy around you, and might not be sure what the best way to handle it is. Be more open with a partner or loved one, and he or she is likely to stop being so distant. Tonight: Join a friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You could be approaching a situation calmly. A partner reacts to you and your wild ideas. You might need to settle in, rather than come across problems. A situation around your home life could create havoc, yet somehow you'll work out well for you. Tonight: Slow down.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Stay "you" in any kind of mental activity. Listen to what is happening, but also do some research to see if the words ring true. You also can make that judgment. Open up through detachment, and you'll hear many different perspectives.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be tired from all the recent activity. Your partner and associates can't seem to leave you alone, and they claim to need you for various reasons. Remain responsive, but know that you will have to say "enough is enough" at some point. Tonight: Paint the town red.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)
★★★★ You probably are waiting for a loved one to make the first move. However, consider that this person might be doing the same thing. Ask yourself whether it is worth it to play this game. Let go, and do whatever your heart desires! Tonight: Make plenty of time for a close friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might have given up pushing so hard for now. You could try to persuade someone else to accept your ideas through some flattery. If you follow your instincts, you will land on your feet. Be careful with your finances, as you could create havoc. Tonight:

Do some research.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might see a downside to a recent agreement. You will need to give yourself some space to decide which way you should go. Your caring attitude emerges when dealing with a new friend. Recognize how creative you can be. Tonight: Go along with the moment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might want to have some time to work through a problem. Understand what is going on at home and in your work life. The contrast between them could be shocking.

Optimism surrounds a family member. Tonight: Take some personal time, and do what you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Reach out to a loved one who seems to want your input. Remain more sensitive to this person's feelings for a while. Let go of needing to have certain situations go your way. Include a friend who wants to call the shots. Tonight: Spend time with a child who is acting strangely.

BORN TODAY
Actress Jennifer Garner (1972), actor Sam Ross (1959), actress Olivia Hussey (1951)

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\$200,000 bond set for murder suspect found covered in blood

From staff reports

A \$200,000 bond has been set for a Midland man who is being held on a first-degree felony charge of murder in connection with a stabbing that occurred early Saturday morning.

Midland police were dispatched to a residence in the 900 block of West Montgomery Avenue at about 1:40 a.m. Saturday on a disturbance call.

Upon arrival, officers found a man — identified as Don Del Real Herrera, 42 —



Herrera

standing over a woman. He was covered in blood and had a knife in his hand, according to his arrest affidavit.

Officers ordered Herrera to drop the knife. He refused to comply and began stabbing himself, according to the affidavit.

The woman, identified as Francisca Sanchez, 41, had a large laceration to the neck and stomach area

and died at the scene, according to the affidavit.

Sanchez was undressed from the chest down and was not wearing shoes, according to the affidavit. Detectives searched the residence and found two pairs of jeans and shoes near the bed, according to the affidavit.

Herrera was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital for treatment and then to Midland Police Department where he was interviewed. Herrera told detectives that Sanchez had contacted him to pick her

up from her work place, according to the affidavit. When he arrived, he discovered she had left with another man and was at his house down the street, according to the affidavit. When he entered the house, he found Sanchez with another man, who fled the scene.

Herrera said he initially pulled out the knife to threaten suicide, but used it to stab Sanchez, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of the first-degree felony charge, Herrera could face up to life imprisonment.



On April 5, West High School football coach David Woodard, his wife Kim and daughters Kearnyn and Layla, right, stand outside their home in West. Five years ago, the family lost their home and schools in the West fertilizer plant explosion.

Recovery continues in West 5 years after fertilizer plant explosion

By Shelly Conlon
Waco Tribune-Herald

WEST — Head football coach David Woodard, like others in West, lost his home and his place of employment on a Wednesday evening five years ago, when an explosion at the West Fertilizer Co. plant rocked the town, killed 15 and injured hundreds.

The Waco Tribune-Herald reports Woodard chose to rebuild and rely on the resilience he saw around him as community members immediately went into action, both before and after the blast, which came at 7:51 p.m. April 17, 2013. There was never a question of whether he and his family would choose to stay, Woodard said.

The town saw some leave after the blast to start their lives over and has seen some return. Woodard watched as enrollment in West Independent School District dropped for four years after the blast, only to see it turn around as the district's recovery reached a new high point with the opening of a new joint middle school and high school building at the start of last school year.

He never had any doubt West would thrive again, Woodard said. Five years later, the signs of a strong, unbroken community are easy to find. Beyond the new buildings and houses in town, smaller threads of compassion are visible — the same threads that held the town together after the tragedy, he and other West ISD employees said.

In addition to the 15 people killed, mostly first responders in the line of duty, and the hundreds of people injured, three of West ISD's schools and more than 350 homes were damaged or destroyed in the town with a population about 2,800.

A commemorative service marking the fifth anniversary of the explosion was scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday at West Middle School/High School.

Woodard was driving through Marlin, returning from a track meet with about 20 students, when he heard the West Fertilizer Co. plant on fire. The team stopped for a quick bite and waited for word about whether to return and where to go, said Woodard, also the district's athletics director.

"I thought nothing of it really. I don't know why," he said. "Then one of the other coaches, he was in the back seat of the Ford Expedition and said, 'Holy cow, they just said it exploded.'"

Woodard asked what the coach meant. The coach replied simply, "It's bad."

West Intermediate School, declared a complete loss, was the closest school to the fertilizer plant, and West High School was also nearby. It sustained most of its damage on the north side, the district's website states.

Once Woodard checked that his family was safe, he and others could not get out of their heads how much worse the tragedy would have been if the blast happened at a different time of day, or if they had gotten back to the school a little earlier.

In the years that followed, West ISD has seen an almost 10 percent decline in enrollment, some of which can be attributed to families who

were unsure whether West could ever thrive again, Superintendent David Truitt said.

West ISD's enrollment fell from 1,440 students for the 2012-13 school year to 1,311 in the 2015-16 year, as staffing levels fell from 205 to 189, according to the Texas Education Agency.

By the time the district opened its new combined middle school and high school at the start of the 2016-17 year, enrollment had turned around and grown to 1,325, and district employment was back up to 197.

And the increase in enrollment is expected to continue. By the 2021-2022 school year, West ISD is projected to have 1,395 students, Truitt said.

The new building and student growth have become symbols of what a community can do in the wake of a tragedy that left much of the town in ruins. And a quick drive up and down West streets shows more signs of a town thriving once again. Much of the success is tied to one of West's largest employers — West ISD.

Maybe it is the sign staked in a front yard, urging residents to vote in the upcoming May school bond election for a new \$20 million elementary school.

Maybe it is a new house in a once-empty lot or a train of school buses from other districts trucking into town for a tournament or competition at a West ISD facility that could not host such an event before the explosion.

Maybe it is the removal of the football stadium first responders used as a triage center in the aftermath of the explosion and the plans to build a new one in its place.

But often, the sign comes when someone new follows the access road off Interstate 35, turns past the Czech Stop Bakery to explore and decides to ask locals about how the town has managed to stay alive, Truitt said. Each time, residents relive the moments following the tragedy, mourning lost loved ones and sharing the blessings that helped keep the town glued together during the past five years, he said.

"My phone rang constantly that night of coaches in our area asking, 'What do you need?'" Woodard said. "The guys from Riesel brought buses over here for us. Every coach around here knew and asked, 'What do you need? What can we do?' At the time, we really didn't know."

Beyond outside financial support from state and federal agencies, a strong ingredient in the glue that binds the city comes from compassion shown by West ISD staff, administrators, community members and outside school districts in the weeks and months and years after the explosion rocked the town.

These moments helped lay the foundation for future stability and two critical stages of recovery, said John Crowder, pastor at First Baptist Church of West.

"There's the immediate disaster relief and then there's the long-term disaster recovery, two different experiences," Crowder said. "In that relief time, we were able to say to the

community, 'God is good and that God is bigger than all of this.' Then we moved into the recovery time and were able to say everyone 'God is good, and West is blessed' and we started looking at the blessing in the way that God is working."

Crowder has been in West more than 20 years and helped lead the recovery effort by setting up a center to organize volunteers, provide meals and showers to those in need, and work closely with district officials.

He, his wife and his daughter were part of the caravan returning from the track meet with Woodard the night of the explosion, he said. Crowder also lost his home that night. Now he is one of the newest members on the district's school board.

The day after the explosion, West ISD administrators and board members immediately went to work to find ways to get school back in session, said Charles Mikeska, assistant superintendent for finance and operations.

Mikeska, other administrators and a group of volunteers made sure students did not miss more than two days of school before the district was up and running again, he said. They worked nonstop to prepare what was left of West ISD for class, and relied on the grace of neighboring school districts to house students and evacuate residents until another solution could be found, he said.

"The things that go through my mind mostly is the outpouring of the help from people you just can't imagine," West ISD maintenance supervisor Brian Renegar said. "I distinctly remember going to Connally (ISD) that Saturday, because we made numerous trips down there. They had a building that was shut down. They brought in their staff to wax the floors. They painted every wall. They put signs above their signs to cover them up that said West High School and Middle School."

Renegar still gets goose bumps when he thinks about seeing 13 school buses from another school district headed to West to help, he said.

Consistency became the most important element in helping students and the community move forward, said Amanda Adams, the district's executive director for teaching and learning who served as the West Middle School principal five years ago.

School officials weighed the options of doing shorter school days or only continuing certain subjects. At one point, they even considered canceling the rest of the year for seniors to take some of the pressure off students who lost everything, she said.

In the end, what officials found is they, like their students, wanted to cling to each other and chose to go on with the school year as much as possible, she said.

"I don't think we would've had the courage had we not had so many people step up," Adams said. "We had schools do things even like coming in and writing lesson plans for our teachers and provide what they could do with their kids the next day, because there was so much personal stress on our teachers. Without those gifts, I don't know."

Man found guilty, gets life in woman's dismemberment

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — A Texas jury on Monday convicted a man of murder and sentenced him to life in prison for the death of a college student found dismembered, burned and with her heart cut out.

Tarrant County jurors deliberated less than three hours before finding Charles Dean Bryant guilty of murdering Jacqueline Vandagriff, rejecting a defense attorney's argument that her client panicked only after the woman died during consensual sex. The jurors briefly deliberated later Monday before returning the maximum penalty allowed by law in the murder of the 24-year-old Texas Woman's University student.

Bryant, 31, also was found guilty of tampering with evidence and received 20 years behind bars. The sentences will be served concurrently.

Defense attorney Glynis McGinty argued that Vandagriff died accidentally during consensual sex with Bryant. She said a plastic tie was placed around

Vandagriff's neck, causing asphyxiation. Prosecutors countered that there's no evidence the two had sex.

McGinty said Bryant committed a crime by panicking and disposing of the woman's body in September 2016, but he did not commit murder.

But prosecutor Lucas Allan told jurors that contrary to defense claims, Bryant didn't "freak out" because Vandagriff died. Bryant deliberately killed her and calmly dismembered her body while cutting out her heart, Allan said.

"Why cut out the heart? What does it have to do with disposing of a body? He cut her heart out," the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Allan as telling jurors Monday. "I want that image to sink in."

Bryant and Vandagriff met at a bar in Denton and went to a second bar before leaving together. Her purse was found in the trash at Bryant's home. Investigators later learned that a former girlfriend had a protective order against Bryant for allegedly stalking and harassing the woman.

OPEC

From 1A

prince signed off on a deal in November 2016 to work with Iran, Russia and others to cut the crude supply. Their goal: return inventory levels to five-year norms and stabilize crude prices in the \$60 range.

This is no small achievement. OPEC members have routinely cheated on quotas in the past, and this time they didn't. The prince also convinced Russian President Vladimir Putin to deny his nation's oil companies significant revenues.

After this success, the king named Mohammad bin Salman crown prince in June 2017, placing him in day-to-day control of the country. After spending six months consolidating his power among Saudi elites, in some cases jailing them until they conformed, Mohammad bin Salman toured the U.S. this month to promote himself as a reformer and U.S. ally.

His last stop was a low-key visit to Houston, where our oil executives should have welcomed him as a hero. That's because without the crown prince's deft diplomacy, a lot of their companies would be in bankruptcy.

The OPEC-Russia agreement established a baseline of oil production and a minimum price. This left mostly private companies to compete for the remainder of global demand. The lowest-cost producers win the remaining market share.

The 2014-16 oil bust

sent more than 140 U.S. companies into bankruptcy, usually due to excessive debt. But those that cut costs and survived have learned to thrive at prices above \$35 a barrel.

Since prices broke that threshold, U.S. oil production, led by the Permian Basin, has risen to 11 million barrels a day, the highest level in 50 years. That is more than Saudi Arabia's and Russia's quotas.

"MBS shouldn't stink into town for a quiet visit, he should be celebrated," Krane said.

How much longer this will last, though, remains unclear. The prince said he wants to extend OPEC's cooperation with Russia for at least another decade, but he also told Time magazine that the existing quotas will not last.

"There is new growing demand," he said. "We are not only keeping the 10 million barrels we're producing. It seems that we will produce much, much, much — a lot of barrels in the future."

All the more reason why oil executives should send thank-you notes, because they don't want to be on the wrong side of the crown prince.

Oil prices rise and fall on much more than how many barrels of oil OPEC and Russia produce. But Mohammad bin Salman holds most of the cards when it comes to production quotas and geopolitics, making him the most important oilman of all.

Enterprise Products finishes Midland pipeline expansion

Houston Chronicle

Houston's Enterprise Products Partners has completed an expansion of a Midland pipeline that will bring more crude oil out of the prolific Permian Basin.

The 416-mile Midland-to-Seely pipeline has a capacity of 540,000 barrels per day and connects in Seely to another Enterprise pipeline that will bring oil to the company's terminal in southeast Houston. The terminal connects to refineries in Houston and Beaumont.

Oil production in the Permian is expected to reach more than 5 mil-

lion barrels per day over the next four years, a 60 percent jump from what it is today, according to Enterprise Products.

The Midland-to-Seely pipeline is expected to be fully operational in May, Enterprise said. The expanded pipeline network will bring several grades of crude oil to the Gulf Coast, including West Texas Intermediate, West Texas Intermediate, West Texas sour and condensate.

The Enterprise terminal has access to Gulf Coast refineries in Houston, Texas City and Beaumont and Enterprise's network of deepwater docks.

Researchers mark death of Pearl Harbor mastermind

By Chris Carola
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — A group from the U.S. and Japan is trekking to a remote Pacific island jungle to document what is considered one of the most important wreck sites of World War II: where American fighters shot down a Japanese bomber carrying the mastermind of the Pearl Harbor attack.



Yamamoto

Three members of a New York-based WWII research organization and a Japanese aviation expert plan to visit the crash site on Bougainville, part of Papua New Guinea, on Wednesday, the 75th anniversary of Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto's death.

Yamamoto had spent several years in the U.S. earlier in his military career, studying at Harvard University and admiring America's industrial might. In the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, he was quite possibly the most hated man in America.

"As long as he lived, the Japanese navy was a threat," said Donald A. Davis, a Colorado-based writer who told the story of "Operation Vengeance" in a 2005 book. "He was feared in the Pacific."

Historians generally credit Yamamoto, an innovative proponent of air power, with the idea of attacking the U.S. Pacific fleet and convincing Japanese military leaders that his plan could work. The Dec. 7, 1941, sneak attack on the naval base at Pearl Harbor on Hawaii's Oahu Island killed more than 2,400 people, sunk or damaged 18 ships, destroyed 300 warplanes and drew the U.S. into the war.

Getting Yamamoto became very much a mission of its own.

The big break for the U.S. came on April 13, 1943, when Navy code breakers discovered that Yamamoto planned to tour bases in areas of the Solomon Islands still held



AP file photo

A combined force of American and Royal New Zealand Air Force dive bombers taxi to a runway on the island of Bougainville in Papua New Guinea on April 16, 1944. The island is where American fighters shot down Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, the mastermind of the Pearl Harbor attack, making the wreck site one of the most important of World War II. Now, 75 years later, a group from the U.S. and Japan is trekking to the remote Pacific island to document the site.

by Japanese forces. The admiral's tour was scheduled for April 18 — just five days away.

U.S. military officials quickly approved an air mission to intercept the admiral's plane and shoot it down. The task fell to a squadron of Army Air Forces P-38 Lightnings based on Guadalcanal, in the Solomons. After the pilots closely reviewed Yamamoto's flight plan, 16 P-38s flew 400 miles west and spotted two enemy bombers over Bougainville, another island in the Solomon archipelago.

While some of the P-38s engaged Yamamoto's fighter escort, other American planes attacked the two bombers. One slammed into the jungle, while the other crashed off shore. Yamamoto, 59, was among 11 men who died in the plane that crashed on land.

Yamamoto's death was yet another blow to the Japanese after the tide of the Pacific war turned with the American victory at Midway and the taking of Guadalcanal.

Japanese troops recovered Yamamoto's body, cremated it and sent his ashes back to Japan, where the admiral was given a state funeral.

But Japan didn't officially announce Yamamoto's death until weeks later, saying he died aboard a warplane "while directing general strategy on the front line," according to an Associated Press story on the announcement in Tokyo.

The U.S. military had wanted to keep his death a secret lest the Japanese learn their code had been broken.

But one of the American pilots on the mission had spilled the beans almost immediately, telling everyone upon landing that he had shot down Yamamoto's plane. (Decades later, historians determined another pilot had fired the fatal burst). As the worst-kept secret in the Pacific spread among American troops, AP correspondent J. Norman Lodge confirmed details of the mission even before the Japanese announcement, but U.S. military censors withheld his story.

The Pentagon didn't officially release details of the mission until Sept. 11, 1945, nine days after Japan surrendered.

The wreckage of the Yamamoto's Mitsubishi G4M "Betty" bomber remains in the jungle. Most of the plane was destroyed on impact but a large section of the tail survives. Over the

decades, parts of the plane were removed and placed in museums.

Justin Taylor, founder of New York-based Pacific Wrecks who has been compiling data on WWII airplane crashes for more than 20 years, said the purpose of visiting the Yamamoto site is to "document the wreckage and perform digital preservation of what remains for posterity."

The group will commemorate the anniversary at the site with a Shinto religious ceremony conducted by Japanese WWII aircraft expert Yoji Sakaida.

Yamamoto remains a revered figure in Japan, where a museum was established in his honor in his hometown of Nagasaki. Artifacts on display include the left wing from Yamamoto's aircraft. Museum officials say an annual memorial event will be held Wednesday morning at nearby Yamamoto Memorial Park, where the house in which he was born once stood.

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Starbucks to train workers on 'unconscious bias,' CEO says

PHILADELPHIA — Starbucks wants to add training for store managers on "unconscious bias," CEO Kevin Johnson said Monday, as activists held more protests at a Philadelphia store where two black men were arrested after employees said they were trespassing.

Johnson, who has called the arrests "reprehensible," arrived in Philadelphia this weekend after video of the incident gained traction online. He said he hopes to meet with the two men in the next couple of days and apologize face to face. A company spokesman said the men have agreed to a meeting with Johnson, but it was not immediately known when it would take place.

"I'd like to have a dialogue with them and the opportunity to listen to them with compassion and empathy through the experience they went through," said Johnson, who has been CEO for about a year. Stewart Cohen, the lawyer for the two men, said he hopes "something productive for the community" can come out of such a meeting.

The incident is a major blow to Starbucks' image, since the company has promoted its coffee shops as neighborhood hangouts where anyone is welcome. After a video of the arrests spread online, the hashtag #BoycottStarbucks trended on Twitter.

And on Monday morning, about two dozen protesters took over the Philadelphia shop, chanting slogans like, "A whole lot of racism, a whole lot of crap. Starbucks coffee is anti-black." A Starbucks regional vice president who attempted to talk to the protesters was shouted down.

"We don't want this

Starbucks to make any money today. That's our goal," said Abdul-Ally Muhammad, one of the protest's organizers and co-founder of the Black and Brown Workers Collective.

Over the weekend, demonstrators called for the firing of the employee who contacted police, who arrested the men on Thursday. Starbucks did not respond to a request for comment about the employment status of the manager who called police.

Officials have said the officers were told the men had asked to use the store's restroom but were denied because they hadn't bought anything, and they refused to leave.

Video shows several police talking quietly with two black men seated at a table. After a few minutes, officers handcuff the men and lead them outside as other customers say they weren't doing anything wrong. A white man identified as real estate developer Andrew Yaffe arrives and tells the officers the two men were waiting for him. An officer says the men were not complying and were being arrested for trespassing.

"Why would they be asked to leave?" Yaffe says. "Does anybody else think this is ridiculous? It's absolute discrimination." A woman can be heard in the video saying "they didn't do anything. I saw the entire thing."

Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney, who met with Johnson on Monday, said the city will review its guidelines on how to respond to future requests for police assistance.

Police haven't announced the names of the men, who were released after the district attorney's office said there was lack of evidence that a crime had been committed.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 17, 2018 | Page 6A

Trump's response misses mark around world

■ The president's Syria strike was meant to project strength; instead, it damaged US' credibility

In 2013, after Syrian dictator Bashar Assad crossed President Obama's red line and used chemical weapons on innocent civilians, a U.S. official told the Los Angeles Times that Obama's retaliatory strike would likely be "just muscular enough not to get mocked" but not so devastating that it would elicit a response from Iran and Russia. In the end, Obama backed away from even such a small, feckless strike.

On Friday, Trump carried one out. Trump deserves credit for acting (now twice) when Obama wouldn't. He also deserves credit for getting U.S. allies to join us when Obama couldn't. But let's be clear: Friday night's strikes were "just muscular enough not to get mocked." As a result, they did more damage to the United States' credibility on the world stage than they did to the Assad regime.

The U.S.-led strike did not hit a single airplane, airfield or delivery system, and it left Syria with chemical weapons capabilities. Even at the sites we did hit, the Syrians had plenty of time to move equipment and chemical stockpiles. There were no reported casualties on the ground,

MARC THIESSEN

Washington Post Writers Group



suggesting that the regime had evacuated the targets.

The Syrians know that they won. The Washington Post reports that "on the streets of Damascus, there was jubilation as government supporters realized that a more expansive assault would not materialize." Retired Gen. Jack Keane, former vice chief of staff of the Army, said the Syrians had good reason to celebrate. "The response is very weak in my judgment," he said. "It should have been decisive, it should have been consequential," he continued.

Keane said Assad made a bet with his chemical attack and won. As Keane explained, Assad wanted to take out one of the last remaining rebel strongholds in the Damascus suburb of eastern Ghouta, which was holding out despite a brutal, nonstop bombing campaign by the Russians. Assad calculated that he could use chemical weapons to crush the resistance,

achieve a military victory and then absorb what he expected to be a limited U.S. strike. So, he launched his chemical strike. Hours later, the rebels capitulated. And just as Assad predicted, the U.S. response was limited — leaving his air power, his command-and-control and his chemical weapons capability largely intact. Assad was not punished. Quite the opposite — his attack played out just as he had hoped and predicted. Mission accomplished.

Far from being chastened, the U.S. response will embolden Assad, Russia and Iran. And it will embolden other U.S. adversaries as well.

What lesson did North Korea likely take from Trump's weak actions in Syria? That the Trump administration is easily intimidated and risk-averse. The reason we didn't take out all of Assad's chemical weapons capability is that we were intimidated by Russia. Instead of warning the Russians to evacuate, and telling them we would not be responsible for what happened to their personnel if they failed to do so, we specifically designed our strikes to avoid even the remote possibility of provoking Moscow.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un understands this. And the lesson he takes is that if Trump won't take out Syrian airfields, because we're afraid of Russia's response, then he's definitely not going to

strike Kim's nuclear and ballistic missile program and risk a North Korean artillery barrage on Seoul.

This is a major setback to the Trump administration's efforts to stop North Korea from developing the capability to threaten U.S. cities with nuclear missiles. The only way the United States can persuade North Korea to peacefully give up its pursuit of these weapons is if Kim believes Trump's threat of military force is credible. After Friday's U.S. actions in Syria, our credibility has been weakened, not enhanced.

News reports indicate that Trump wanted a more robust response but faced resistance from Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, the same man who has resisted giving Trump robust military options for North Korea. If accurate, Mattis did the president a great disservice by scaling down his desired Syrian response. The president's desire is to project strength on the world stage. Under Mattis' apparent guidance, he did the opposite.

As a result, Trump is weakened going into his summit with Kim. If Trump had taken no action, it would have been worse — but not by much. Because when you carry out strikes "just muscular enough not to get mocked," you are projecting weakness — and weakness is provocative.

OPINION EXTRA

Tax day is good time to clear up impact of local entities

The following analysis ran in November of last year. Considering today is tax day, we are running it again to provide perspective on the amount of local taxes paid in Midland.

One of the social media complaints during the most recent election was about how high tax bills have become. Some people who opposed the road bond often followed expressing their desire to see the bond fail with some version of "I can't afford to retire here." The thought was that Midland was the outlier, and the community's taxing entities have taken advantage of property valuations that are high — especially for West Texas — to increase the size of government.

Others, typically those supportive of the bond, argued that progress comes at a cost, and metropolitan growth comes at a cost. They pointed out that tax rates for some entities are at, or near, multi-decade lows.

The Reporter-Telegram wanted to know what the truth is. We looked at various cities around Texas: Midland, Lubbock, Odessa, Abilene, Plano, San Antonio, Austin, Waco, Tyler and College Station. We went to central appraisal district websites and found tax rates from fiscal year 2017. We then used median home sales prices from the Texas Association of Realtors (because not all appraisal district sites listed the average market value of a residential property).

Lubbock and Midland appraisal district officials told the Reporter-Telegram that the median sales price was typically a little higher than the average market value. Still, using TAR statistics provided comparable information.

In some cases, a community didn't have the same five taxing entities as Midland — the city, county, junior college district, hospital district and independent school district. For those, we figured the tax bill of comparable entities. For instance, Lubbock had four that were similar to Midland (ISD, county, city and hospital) and Abilene had three (ISD, city and county). So, we compared the tax bill based on those four and three entities, respectively.

The results were pretty simple. Midland's tax bill was considerably more than communities in the western part of the state. The tax bill for the typical home in Odessa was \$3,781.04, which is more than \$780 less than the tax bill in Midland. Lubbock's tax bill was \$3,362.60 (again there was just four entities). Midland's same four taxing entities produced a tax bill that was \$908 more.

In the case of both Odessa and Lubbock, the average median price for a home was \$166,000 and \$149,900, respectively. Midland's median price is listed as \$235,000.

Travel east and to a more metropolitan city, and things change. Abilene's tax bill was about \$53 more than Midland. The two communities have three of the same taxing entities, and the median price of a home in Abilene was listed as \$152,000.

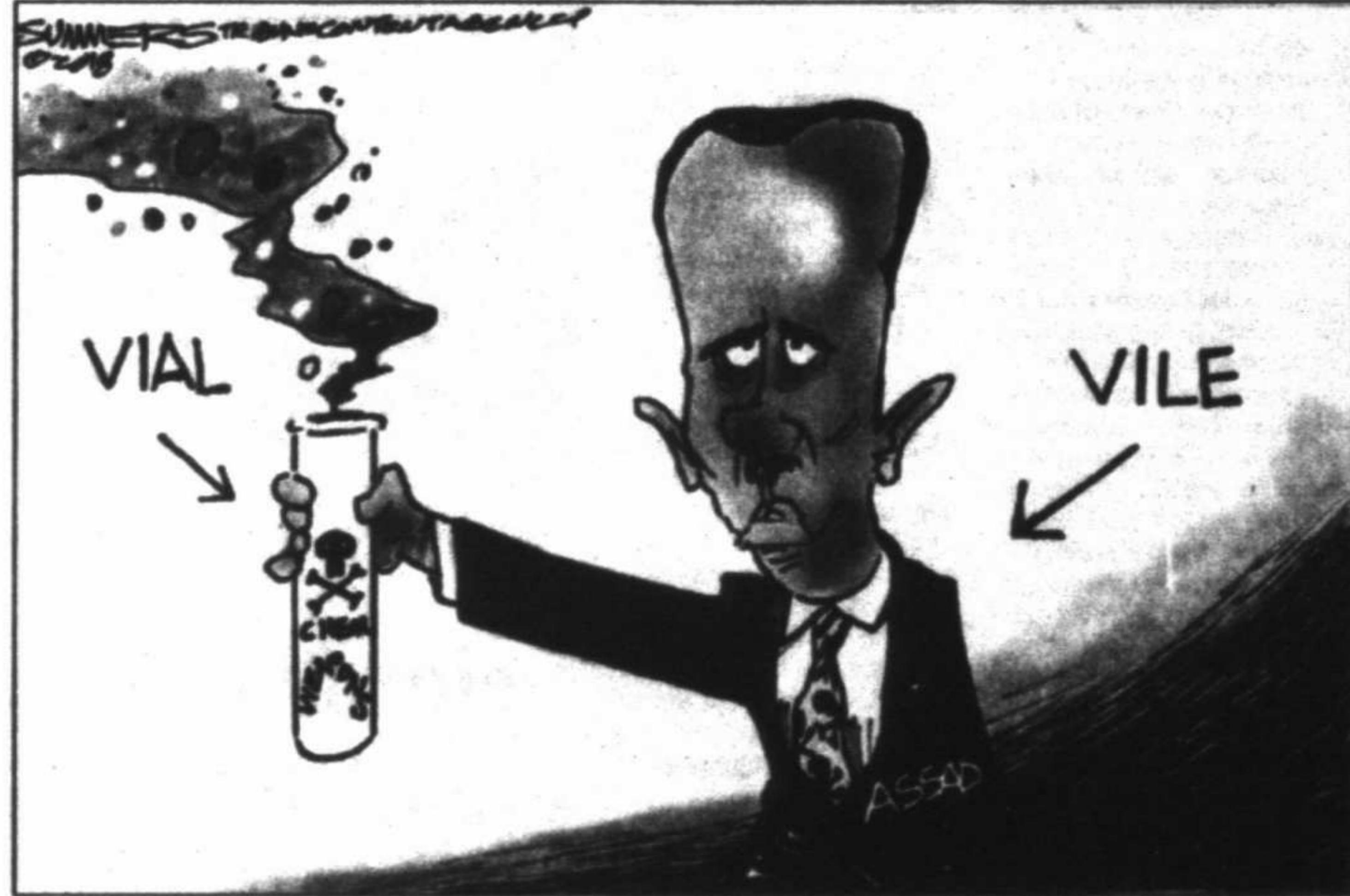
More major metropolitan areas had higher-priced residences, some similar to and one higher than Midland's. San Antonio's home price was \$203,000, Plano's was \$230,000, and Austin's was the highest of all communities in the group at \$280,000.

Plano and Midland have four taxing entities in common. The difference in the tax bill favored Midland by \$753.57. Midland's tax bill also was lower than San Antonio by \$1,073.27. A homeowner in Austin faced a tax bill of more than \$6,200, which is \$1,600 higher than in Midland.

The comparison with College Station showed there were three taxing entities in the Brazos County city but still the resident there faced a tax bill of \$4,877.64, which was greater than the tax bill from all five taxing entities in Midland.

In East Texas, Tyler residents pay a tax bill of \$4,110.61 — about \$149 less than Midland residents for four entities (ISD, the city, county and college district). Waco residents pay \$4,937.75; they also have the same four entities as Tyler. The Waco amount is about \$678 more than the bill from Midland's four (ISD, city, county and college district).

— Stewart Doreen
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'The Pale King' is the 'Moby-Dick' of taxes

This year, we get two extra days to file our taxes. Due to a combination of April 15 landing on a Sunday and Emancipation Day in the nation's capital on Monday, the deadline is today.

It's the end of a long slog for those whose tax season starts in the middle of January, when the tedium of receipt-sorting, document scanning and account reviewing begins — and then goes on and on for months. Taxes are, as they say, the only other life certainty besides death.

Boredom used to be a certainty as well, but having a tiny megacomputer in every hand seems to have mostly eliminated a lack of having something to do in the small cracks of downtime our busy lives afford us.

There's been a resurgence of interest in boredom as of late, with prominent researchers and sociologists positing that a surrender to boredom can bring about heightened creativity, deepened spirituality and more intrinsic motivation.

Maybe. But I mention these theories only as a set-up to discuss my all-time favorite book about taxes and boredom: "The Pale King," by David Foster Wallace.

This exquisite novel was released posthumously on Tax Day in 2011. It is, in the words of Lawrence Zeleak — an academic tax lawyer and former temporary employee of the Internal Revenue Service — "The Great American Tax Novel."

If you're wondering what exactly "The Pale King" is about, well, here's Zeleak's crystallizing description:

"The book devotes a significant percentage of its pages to detailed explanations and discussions of tax civics, tax policy and tax administration, and it is every bit as serious about those topics as 'Moby-Dick' is about whaling. 'The Pale King' is not merely set in a tax-administration facility; it is also, in very significant part, about taxes and tax administration. It is a 'Moby-Dick' of taxes, aiming to educate its readers about a highly specialized field of endeavor, and using that field of endeavor to explore some of the profoundest themes."

Those themes include, but are certainly not limited to, the boredom of white-collar office work, the crazy idiosyncrasies of weirdo co-workers, the infuriating bureaucracy of government agencies and the ways in which we trick our minds into tolerating all the things in life that we'd rather avoid.

If that sounds difficult to swallow, be assured: It's absolutely not. For a certain type of reader — the kind who savors deluges of ultra-specific

ESTHER CEPEDA

Washington Post Writers Group

details about offbeat topics — "The Pale King" is the most narratively fascinating book about the internal nature of boredom that has ever been written. (If I'm wrong about this, please email me, because you'll be introducing me to a book I desperately want to read.)

As with most of Foster Wallace's stories, there are numerous interconnected and vaguely related vignettes that come together into something far greater than the sum of the parts.

We meet a young couple navigating an accidental pregnancy and a man with "Random Fact Intuition," a type of psychic ability typified by "sudden flashes of insight or awareness that are structurally similar to but usually far more tedious and quotidian than the dramatically relevant foreknowledge we normally conceive as ESP or precognition."

There are creepy babies, a dude whose verbal tic inserts the phrase "type of thing" into almost every sentence, a woman who uses the ability to hold her eyes open for unbelievable lengths of time to evade an assault, a man who can focus so acutely he levitates, a hilarious office bromance and an unsettling company picnic where the entire crowd is accidentally drugged with acid.

The book's charms are endless. But with them come some profound questions about what life events cause us to really grow up and become adults, the moral and financial responsibilities of citizenship, and, ultimately, what we, as participants in a democracy, owe each other.

Yes, you must perform some feats of endurance — there are a lot of truly arcane references to sections and sub-sections of the tax code. But this is all part of contemplating what it means to work a job that elicits the kind of daily monotony in which "the strain of trying to remain alert and punctilious in the face of extreme boredom can reach levels at which certain types of hallucination routinely occur."

"The Pale King" itself is hallucinatory, making you feel, by turns, uncomfortably alive and then as torpid as can be expected in a world constantly assailing us with attention-grabbing distractions. Pick it up. (But only after you finish your taxes.)

From the Left | Deanebury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



How a Supreme Court case could affect your online purchases

By Jessica Gresko
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Do businesses have to collect sales tax on purchases made on the internet? The answer right now is: It depends. But a Supreme Court case being heard Tuesday could change that. Some questions and answers about the issue and the case:

Who charges sales tax online right now?

Large retailers such as Apple, Macy's, Target and Walmart, which have brick-and-mortar stores nationwide, generally collect sales tax from their customers who buy from them online. But other online sellers can often sidestep charging sales tax. If a business is shipping to a state where it doesn't have an office, warehouse or other so-called physical presence, it doesn't have to collect the state's sales tax.

Where does the physical presence

rule come from?

The rule is the result of two decades-old Supreme Court cases. The court first adopted its physical presence rule on sales tax collection in a 1967 case dealing with a catalog retailer. At the time, the court was concerned in part about the burden collecting sales tax would place on the catalog company. The court reaffirmed the rule in 1992.

Q: What are examples of online retailers that don't collect sales tax nationwide?

Jewelry website Blue Nile, pet products site Chewy.com, clothing retailer L.L. Bean, electronics retailer Newegg, internet retailer Overstock.com and home furnishings site Wayfair are among the sites that don't collect sales tax nationwide. Sellers on eBay and Etsy, which provide platforms for smaller sellers, also don't collect tax nationwide. Amazon.com has since 2017 collected sales tax in every state that imposes one, but third-party sellers who

sell goods on the site don't have to.

How does this affect states?

States say they're losing out on billions of dollars in tax revenue each year because of the Supreme Court's physical presence rule. States generally require residents who weren't charged sales tax on a purchase to pay it themselves, often through self-reporting on their income tax returns. But states have found that few people comply. States say their losses mean cuts to critical government programs and that those losses compound as online shopping grows. More than 40 states are asking the Supreme Court to get rid of the physical presence rule.

What is the case for businesses that don't currently collect sales taxes nationwide?

Sellers who defend the current rule say collecting sales tax nationwide would be costly and extraordinarily complex, especially for small sellers. Tax rates and rules

vary not only by state but also by city and county. Taxes can even vary within a zip code.

Sellers who want the court to keep the current rule say free or inexpensive software touted as a cure for the challenges of tax collection isn't accurate. They say more sophisticated software is expensive and collecting taxes nationwide would also subject them to potentially costly audits.

Why is the Supreme Court taking up this issue now?

South Dakota passed a law in 2016 designed to challenge the Supreme Court's physical presence rule. The law requires out-of-state sellers who do more than \$100,000 of business in the state or more than 200 transactions annually with state residents to collect and turn over sales tax to the state. It's South Dakota's law that's now at the center of the case at the Supreme Court.



AP file photo

Border Patrol agent Eduardo Olmos walks near the secondary fence separating Tijuana, Mexico, background, and San Diego in San Diego on June 22, 2016. California has rejected the federal government's initial plans for National Guard troops to the border because the work is considered too closely tied to immigration enforcement.

Trump administration says California rejects proposed border duties for troops

By Elliott Spagat
and Luis Alonso Lugo
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Trump administration said Monday that California Gov. Jerry Brown rejected terms of the National Guard's initial deployment to the Mexican border, but a state official said nothing was decided.

"The governor determined that what we asked for is unsupportable, but we will have other iterations," Ronald Vitiello, U.S. Customs and Border Protection's acting deputy commissioner, told reporters in Washington.

Brown elicited rare and effusive praise from President Donald Trump last week for pledging 400 troops to the Guard's third large-scale border mission since 2006.

But the Democratic governor conditioned his commitment on his state's troops having nothing to do with immigration enforcement, even in a supporting role.

Brown's announcement last week did not address what specific jobs the California Guard would and would not do, nor answer the thorny question of how state officials would distinguish work related to immigration from other duties.

Vitiello said the governor decided California will not accept terms of an initial troop rollout for the state that was similar to plans for the other three border states, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

According to two U.S. officials, the initial jobs for those troops include fixing and maintaining vehicles, using remote-control surveillance cameras to report suspicious activity to U.S. Border Patrol

agents, operating radios and providing "mission support," which can include clerical work, buying gas and handling payrolls. The officials spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter.

California National Guard spokesman Lt. Col. Thomas Keegan said "state officials have not rejected anything" since Brown proposed a formal agreement Wednesday with the Homeland Security and Defense Departments that prohibits any involvement in immigration.

"The federal government has not yet responded," Keegan said in an emailed statement.

Homeland Security Department spokesman Tyler Houston said the federal government was committed to working with Brown and that the California leader shares interest in a secure border with Mexico.

Trump lawyer forced to reveal another client: Sean Hannity

By Tom Hays and
Larry Neumeister
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A legal fight over what should happen to records the FBI seized from President Donald Trump's personal attorney took a surprise twist Monday when the lawyer, Michael Cohen, was forced to reveal a secret — that he had also done legal work for Fox News host Sean Hannity.

The disclosure came as a New York judge disappointed a lawyer for Trump by letting prosecutors proceed with the cataloging of evidence including multiple electronic devices that were seized in raids while a system is set up to ensure that records protected by attorney-client privilege aren't disclosed to investigators.

Lawyers for Cohen and prosecutors both had reason to claim success after three hours of arguments before U.S. District Judge Kimba Wood, who said she may appoint a special master, a neutral lawyer, to help decide which materials should stay confidential.

Wood denied a request by Trump's lawyer, Joanna Hendon, that the president and Cohen get the first crack at designating which documents should be off-limits to investigators.

Hannity's name emerged after the judge pressed Cohen to divulge the names of the clients he's worked with since the 2016 election, whose privileged communications might be contained within his files.

Cohen's legal team said he had just three clients in 2017 and 2018.

One was Trump. Another was Elliott Brody, a Trump fundraiser who resigned from the Republican National Committee on Friday after it was revealed that he paid \$1.6 million to a Playboy Playmate with whom he had an extramarital affair. The Playmate became pregnant and elected to have an abortion.

Cohen's lawyers resisted revealing the name of the third client, saying it would

be embarrassing and unnecessary. Plus, the client had specifically asked for privacy and requested that they appeal any demand to divulge his name.

But Wood pressed on. "I understand he doesn't want his name out there, but that's not enough under the law," she said, after hearing legal arguments from Robert Balin, a lawyer for five news organizations including The Associated Press.

When the name was announced, there were gasps and some laughter in a courtroom packed with journalists. A few of them raced from the courtroom.

Cohen's lawyers did not detail the type of legal work he did for Hannity.

On his radio show, Hannity said Cohen was never involved in any matter between him and any third party.

"Michael never represented me in any matter," Hannity said. "I never retained him in any traditional sense. I never received an invoice. I never paid a legal fee. I had brief discussions with him about legal questions where I wanted his input and perspective."

Later he added on Twitter the legal advice he got from Cohen was "almost exclusively about real estate."

Hannity, an outspoken supporter of Trump, has been a fierce critic of special counsel Robert Mueller, who is looking into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

Monday's hearing began with an appearance by porn actress Stormy Daniels, who was swarmed by photographers and nearly fell as she was hustled into the courthouse, a scene that captured the sensational atmosphere around the case.

The last to enter court, she was among the first to leave. While in court, she smiled several times as she observed the proceedings from a folding chair near the back of the room. Outside afterward, she said Cohen has acted like he's above the law and that she and her lawyer are committed to making sure everyone learns the truth.

ABC makes unusual decision to release all of Comey talk

By David Bauer
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Before airing George Stephanopoulos' interview with former FBI Director James Comey, ABC News made the unusual decision of releasing a full transcript of its nearly five-hour talk, including all the material that was not included in the broadcast.

ABC News President James Goldston said in an interview Monday that it was an important example of transparency, and that it had paid off with the transcript becoming by far the most popular item on ABC News' website.

Comedy's interview, the first on the media tour to promote his book "A Higher Loyalty," was seen by 9.8 million viewers on Sunday night, the Nielsen company said. That's a good number for the network, which reached 3.6 million viewers in the same time slot the week before with the drama "Deception."

It was less than half of the 22 million people who watched adult film star Stormy Daniels talk on "60 Minutes" last month about her alleged affair with President Donald Trump, which he denies. Comedy probably would have drawn more viewers if he

gave his first interview to "60 Minutes"; the CBS show reached 10.4 million people on Sunday. But Comey reportedly sought more time on the air for his first interview, and ABC offered the full hour.

Trump was apparently one of his viewers — at least for awhile — as Comey described his contacts with the president and said Trump lacked the moral authority to be president. White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump had seen "bits and pieces of it."

"We didn't learn anything new," Sanders said. Comey is on a media tour to promote his book that will include interviews by Jake Tapper of CNN, Judy Woodruff of PBS, Rachel Maddow of MSNBC, Bret Baier of Fox News Channel and appearances on Stephen

Colbert's late-night show, "The View" and a CNN town hall.

But Stephanopoulos was first. The network released the full transcript of its interview with Comey when the show began airing.

Goldston said the decision to post the transcript was made after it was clear the network didn't have enough time to broadcast all of the material from the interview.

"We thought we had an obligation to put everything out there and let people look at it and decide," he said. "It's a part of modern journalism."

The decision could make ABC vulnerable to criticism from people who might not have liked the network's choices about what deserved to be on television and what didn't. But Goldston said it could have the opposite effect of

insulating the network. "We don't have anything to hide here," he said. It could prevent people from asking "why didn't you ask this, when we know we had asked the question?"

It was a lot of material to digest. CNN's Chris Cillizza jokingly tweeted that he had just gone through the entire transcript line-by-line, and accompanied it with a video of a man collapsing from exhaustion.

Al Tompkins, a broadcast news specialist at the Poynter Institute, said it was an unusual decision for a network, since journalism is largely about editing. In this case, seeing the full interview makes it easier to understand the content in which certain questions were asked and answered.

"I sure don't see a downside to it," Tompkins said.

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In New York, it is illegal to sell a haunted house without telling the buyer.
In 2008 someone tried to sell New Zealand as a city for \$1,000.

HENRY
Psalm 37:34
Wait for the LORD and keep His way,
And He will exalt you to inherit the land;
When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.



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EDUCATION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 17, 2018 | Section B

App helps local adults learn, practice English

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

As Lorena Castillo learns English, practice helps her to understand the language. Outside of classes at Midland Need to Read, she can now access material from her smartphone.

Castillo and other students have downloaded Learning Upgrade, a mobile application with English and math lessons for adults.

"I use them when I have a little bit of time, anywhere," she said. "Sometimes I'm in the laundry — waiting to do my laundry between washing and drying."

The ability to practice English at home and in public has attracted adults to Learning Upgrade, according to Kathryn Kiser, resource development director for Midland Need to Read. She said many students think the app is a fun way to make progress at their own convenience.

"There are a lot of challenges when people try working at their own pace, to be able to continue learning," Kiser said. "Because Learning Upgrade is kind of like a game, there's more incentive to keep playing."

Midland Need to Read is a nonprofit that helps adults reach their literacy goals. The organization started with a Learning Upgrade pilot and has experienced

success, according to Kiser. She said the top goal for the future is making subject matter accessible.

"We're hoping that we can continue to let our students who maybe can't come into class to be able to utilize the same resources that everyone else can," Kiser said.

Midland Need to Read has a subscription to Learning Upgrade and offers it at no cost to students who show interest. Staff can monitor the progress of app users.

"This allows access to learning to a lot more people," said Vinod Lobo, CEO of Learning Upgrade, in a phone interview. "They can track in (Midland) what

everyone's doing."

For adults who aren't students at Midland Need to Read, the app is available with some free lessons for Apple and Android devices. Lobo said Learning Upgrade's features make users turn to the courses again and again.

"It's basically the songs, the games and the rewards that keep them coming back," Lobo said. "A lot of the learning programs on computers and phones are really boring."

The app guides people through lessons that grow more challenging, and Kiser said the content is age-appropriate for

Please see APP/2B

DESTINATION IMAGINATION



Carver Center's Destination Imagination students recently competed at the state tournament and advanced to the Global Finals, which are May 23-26 in Knoxville, Tenn. Destination Imagination is a project-based learning program in which students solve academic challenges related to STEM, fine arts, service learning and early learning, according to Midland ISD. At the state tournament, Nautical Navigators team placed third and Disco Dilemma team placed fourth. LEFT: Disco Dilemma team members are Corinne Berry, from left, Blake Brandon, Grace Medley, Kynsiah Torres, Karlie Gist, Seroman Bridges and Lauren Blaylock. ABOVE: Nautical Navigators team members are Carson Gonzalez, back row from left, Davian Pena, Noelani Hernandez, Olivia Romanoson and A.J. Hernandez; and Ayla Rushon, front row left, and Aubrey Rushon.

Courtesy photos

Test scores shouldn't define students' success

We have survived the first round of STAAR testing. Our fourth- and seventh- through 10th-graders have successfully spent hours of their time answering questions and writing essays. While these students were testing, others in the school were quiet and interruptions were limited. Teachers actively monitored. Halls were walked. Schedules were changed. Lunches were late. Visitors were not allowed. The schools became sterile. All of this so that everyone had the opportunity to do the best they could. We will do it all over again in May and June and in October, December and March for high schoolers.

Despite the never-ending cycle of state testing, we cannot place all of our emphasis on the results. When we do receive the results, there will be "passers" and there will be "non-passers." We will speak to individual students about re-testing, and we will celebrate with those who have mastered the standards. It is an emotionally exhaustive process for our teachers and our students. But we cannot let the results define our children.

I get to watch more than 1,000 students every single day work through the testing process but I am also a mom. I



have a third-grader who will be testing for the first time. She has attended two sessions of Saturday Academy because she wants to practice and get better at the standards. She frequently speaks of testing and worries that she might not be the best. She knows the difference in approaches, notes and masters. She knows how to complete a gridtable, annotate a passage, and defend answer choices. She has amazing teachers who are working hard to "fit it all in" and get enough practice time on all of the standards before testing. And, it still might not be enough. It might not be enough for all of our children. And, that is why testing should not define our children.

As educators and parents, we must look our children in the eyes and tell them that testing does not, and will not, define their success. We must show them

that the accomplishments in the classroom on non-testing days are important. We must show them that their musical, artistic and athletic abilities are important. We must show them that the compassion they have for friends and others is important. Individual and unique talents define our children. Character defines our children. Passion for learning defines our children. Honesty defines our children. Participation defines our children. At the end of the day, a score on a test does not, and cannot, define our children.

When scores are in and results are final, we will disaggregate the data, look for growth and find ways to get better. But we must also look at the results as a whole and not let the results define individual successes or failures. We must work to make sure our instruction is sound, our standards are taught and our expectations are high. We must not let results of individual students define them or label them. At the end of the day, testing day is just one day in the life of a child. And, that day will not define our students.

Jennifer Seybert is principal at Abell Junior High School.

MIDLAND COLLEGE PROFILES

By Rebecca Bell

Customer service, education are keys to success

"I love customer service and helping people solve their problems," said Maribel McLelland.

Her first job was working for Dollar Western Wear in the late 1990s when she was in high school. Since that time, McLelland's career pursuits have been rather eclectic, but providing good customer service and obtaining an associate degree in business have been the building blocks for her career success.

McLelland graduated from Midland High School in 1999. The next four years brought about major life changes — marriage, the birth of her daughter, Anais, and then divorce. Suddenly, McLelland was a single mother with a small child.

"I realized that in order to take care of my daughter, I needed to get an education," she said. "I got a job working as a bank teller at West Texas National Bank and enrolled in courses at Midland College. Thankfully, my parents helped take care of Anais; however, with a full-time job and a preschool daughter, I was only able to take a few courses each semester."

"It took me five years to get an associate degree. I wasn't going to give up. I graduated from Midland College in 2008; Anais was 9 years old."

McLelland said she enjoyed college much better than high school, and her grades at Midland College proved that she was also excelling in her courses. She was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, the international community college honor society.

Not only had McLelland succeeded in her educational pursuits, she also had managed to work her way up the career ladder at Western National Bank to become a branch manager. Her efficiency and attention to customer service helped pave the way for her promotions.

"I loved helping the bank customers ... My classes at Midland College, especially the business courses taught by Sylvia Brown, helped me to excel in my career," said McLelland. "I tried to choose as many classes as possible that Sylvia taught. She inspired me to go above and beyond. I also learned from her that it's OK not to know it all — but, you do have to know how to figure it out."

McLelland also credits her career success to her willingness to learn on the job, which is how she obtained her current position as a regulatory consultant for the energy industry. Using the business skills she learned at Midland College, she landed a job working as an office manager for Joe C. Neal & Associates, an engineering firm. During her employment, she learned how to assist clients needing to complete state railroad commission compliance.

Today, McLelland works independently serving as a liaison between oilfield operators and the Texas Railroad Commission. She assists clients in a variety of state and federal regulatory filings throughout West Texas and Eastern New Mexico.

"It's all about customer service," she said.

McLelland and her husband, Keith, an independent landman, have been married for nine years. They formed their own business, Coral Reef Petroleum Inc.

"Keith is the landman, and I'm the regulatory consultant," she said. "It's a perfect partnership."

It's not all work, however, for the McLellands. Their blended family consists of Anais, who is now 18, and Keith's two sons, Keilan, 26, and Kade, 24. Keilan is a graduate of Midland College's Emergency Medical Services program and works at a clinic in Odessa. Kade recently was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps. The family are all certified

Please see PROFILE/2B

Lee High School senior Jalshae Neicol Polk has been honored by the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club of Midland. She is the daughter of Forrest Polk and LaTonya Polk. She is a member of the band, Spanish Honor



Polk

MAKING THE GRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Society and is secretary of Communities in School. Polk plans to attend Midland College and major in nursing.

Midland High School senior Molly Wright has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club. She is the daughter of Joe and Jill Wright. She is a member of the

swim team, Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and National Honor Society and is Interact Club treasurer.



Wright

She is a member of the COM swim team, is a Symphony Belle and is involved in Stonegate Fellowship youth group. Wright plans to attend Texas A&M University and study engineering.

Midlander Taneekwa Hurdle recently was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi at Angelo State University. Membership is for top 10 percent of seniors, top 7.5 percent of juniors and top 10 percent of graduate students.



Midland College students Ryan Keithley, from left, Chris Amaya and Rebecca McAdoo show off the second-place Best of Show award the newspaper staff received from the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

MC newspaper, magazine win awards

From staff reports

Midland College Student Publications contributors won 25 awards at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association's convention, which was March 24 in Dallas.

In the previously published or canned-entry contests, the Midland College Press won a second place for overall excellence and second place in best of show contest, according to a press release from the college.

The top individual winners in the previously published contests were Chris Amaya, who won a first place for sports column and Josh Frazier, who won a first place for general column. Amaya also won second place

in the sports feature story category and second place in sports column writing.

Other first-place awards went to the newspaper staff for a photo story — "then ... and now" on the MC campus and to the staff of Tablous literary magazine for story design package and best cover design.

Also winning second-place awards were Lacey Harper for feature story about feeding the impoverished; Valerie Walden for editorial cartoon; Nicholas Mastroianna for in-depth reporting about coral reef research; Mallory Matthew for general news about on-campus gun carry; and Laura Johnson for critical review of a fiction religious book; newspaper

headline writing, literary magazine overall design, newspaper op/ed page/spread design and newspaper inside news page design.

Third-place awards were presented to the newspaper staff for newspaper inside news page design and feature page/spread design and to the magazine staff for story package design. Receiving an honorable mention award was Devin Johnson for critical review, newspaper staff for overall design and Page 1 design and magazine staff for story package design.

Students who attended the convention were Amaya, Harper, Johnson, Frazier, Ryan Keithley, Beverly Andeso, Larissa Lopez, Rebecca McAdoo and Nathan Olivas.

Research: Teachers, parents divided over digital devices

By Amy Joyce
Washington Post

Teachers and parents are at odds when it comes to how much they think digital devices are affecting children's mental and physical health, according to new research by Gallup.

When asked, "Do you believe that students' use of digital devices such as smartphones, tablets and computers has helped or harmed effects" in the area of mental health, 69 percent of teachers said digital devices have been "mostly harmful." Fifty-five percent of teachers think the devices have a "mostly harmful" effect on students' physical health as well.

Parents, meanwhile, have a much rosier view. Asked: "All things considered, do you believe your child's use of digital devices including smartphones, tablets and computers is more helpful or harmful" to their mental health, 69 percent of the 1,000 parents of kids 2 to 18 said devices are "more helpful," while 59 percent said devices are "more harmful" when it comes to their kids' physical health.

Brandon Busteed, Gallup's executive director of education and workforce development, said he was "quite frankly, shocked about the big gap."

Considering how much time children spend with their teachers (and how many children teachers oversee), "if teachers are really negative about digital devices, it gives me pause," said Busteed, father of a 9-year-old and a 7-year-old.

"As a parent who happens to be a teacher, you have a different view than when you're strictly a parent and not seeing the whole picture and how your child might be behaving in a classroom. It's definitely impacted my parenting decisions."

Michelle Harmon

Montgomery County Public Schools and mother of 13-year-old and 5-year-old sons and a 9-year-old daughter, understands both perspectives.

"As a parent who happens to be a teacher, you have a different view than when you're strictly a parent and not seeing the whole picture and how your child might be behaving in a classroom," she said. "It's definitely impacted my parenting decisions."

Her older son recently got his own phone. He previously signed a contract with his parents about device usage, and he's not allowed to have social media yet.

"That was not only a decision made based on what I've seen at school, but also what I've seen as an adult," said Harmon, who has been teaching for 20 years. Social media "makes you feel bad about yourself sometimes. ... As an adult I find it happens to me, and I have a fully developed brain. I can't even imagine what this does to an adolescent."

In the classroom, she sees a lot more anxiety than she did before smartphones and tablets were so ubiquitous. The "constant bombardment of news from Twitter, Instagram, text, information, things — that's a lot for developing brains to process," she

said. But perhaps the biggest change she sees in her students is how much trouble they have thinking through problems.

"Everything is so instantaneous to kids, and they expect answers to questions right away," she said. "There's a downside in that it doesn't help our kids wrestle with the gray area or complexity."

That might be why the Gallup survey, answered by almost 500 teachers, also found just 41 percent of teachers found digital devices to be very helpful to education.

"It wasn't as big a percentage as I thought," Busteed said. "If teachers aren't seeing unbelievable benefits ... is this an issue of we're not using devices properly?"

Jennifer Goodstein, a sixth-grade science teacher with Montgomery County Public Schools and mother of an eighth-grader and a sixth-grader, said that — like anything — in moderation, devices can be beneficial and can add something to education. "However, that being said, I don't see them being used moderately."

Instead, she says she sees many students pulled into the devices as an escape, not getting outside, getting exercise, learning to think deeply.

"I think it's affected their ability to think, to reason, to have a higher order of thinking," she said.

When she considers when she started teaching 28 years ago compared to now, students' "ability to sit down and take the time they need to think out a problem has drastically changed. And I think a lot of that has to do with digital technology."

Devorah Heimer, founder of Raising Digital Natives and author of "Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) in their Digital World," said it's not all dire, but the research is a reminder that teachers "have a bigger data set" and parents should talk to them when it comes to devices. "All teachers I talk to wish parents would do more to monitor their kids on technology," she said. "Many teachers, even of young kids, are stunned by what kids are exposed to."

Sometimes Goodstein is asked by parents how to monitor their kids' device usage. She tells them to unplug the computer or take away the device for a time. Some say they can't do it or don't know how. Goodstein herself has rules at home, including no devices at dinner. Instead, her family takes turns talking about what they learned that day. Now her son reminds her if they don't make their discussion at dinner. And her daughter has actually asked to have her device shut down for a while to force her into a break. "I'm not perfect by any means, and sometimes I think I give better advice as a teacher," she said. "But I do think I can do it fast quickly."

Baylor Virtual Reality Club focuses on trending technology

By Phillip Ericksen
Waco Tribune-Herald

WACO — An elevator rises. The doors open. A few steps forward, a wooden plank positions the user teetering above skyscrapers and a bustling downtown.

And that's before spiders and clowns add to the pressure. Without the headset, the user is back in a small room in Baylor University's Moody Library.

The scene is out of a virtual reality game called "Richie's Plank Experience," an example the Baylor Virtual Reality Club uses to showcase VR to its members. Virtual reality, defined as a computer-generated simulation of an interactive three-dimensional environment, has wide potential, from entertainment to education. VR is already in use for general instruction in some college classrooms, and Baylor officials are exploring its potential.

Education by VR is far more relaxing than the nightmarish fantasies some games feature. One application at Baylor lets users take close looks at human anatomy — lungs before and after years of smoking, for instance, or immersive experiences inside of a stomach.

"I watched a heart procedure in here," said Tanner Osborn, a Baylor academic consultant who works with VR. "And after watching, I feel like I learned about it." About two dozen faculty and staff members recently attended a VR session with Osborn, and almost everyone had an idea for how it could be incorporated in a course, he said.

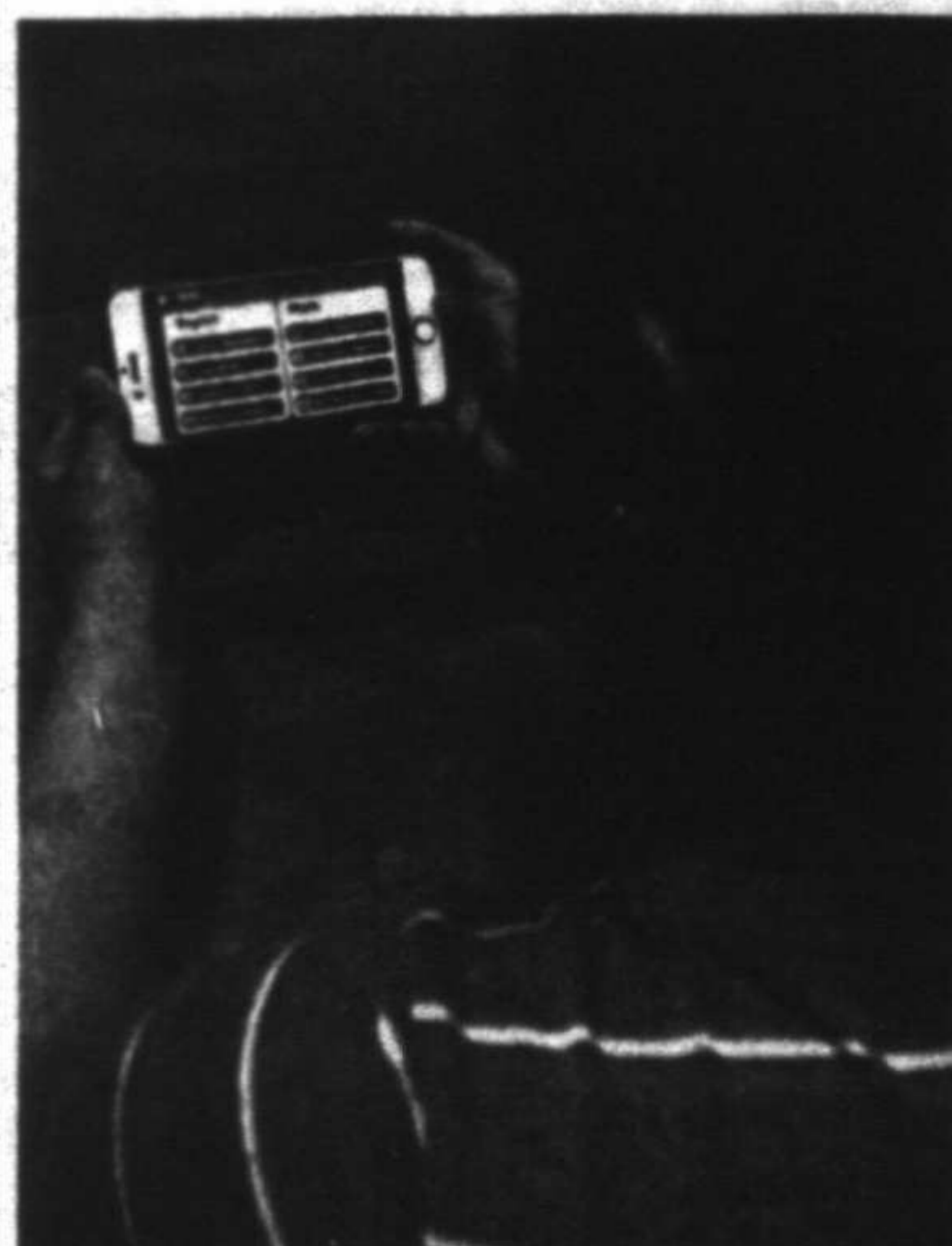
One art department professor mused about a virtual gallery — a blank museum room where students place works of art and design the room based on flow.

"It's just a different way to learn, especially for a visual learner," Osborn said. "I find students learn best when they're engaged, and there's not a more engaging experience than this."

Almost every university has VR technology in some form because of the gaming industry, and education is catching up with the technology's potential, Osborn said.

Oculus Rift, a popular VR system, is listed on Amazon for \$399, about \$200 less than its opening price.

Please see BAYLOR/5B



Hana Martinez looks over the new Learning Upgrade app to help learn English on Thursday at Midland Need to Read.

APP

From 1B

adults. She thinks it's a useful resource for those who are becoming learners again.

"A lot of times when adults are out of the habit of learning, it can be a little bit intimidating to come back and sit in a classroom environment," she said.

Castillo downloaded Learning Upgrade in September. She wants to improve her speech and said using the app has made a difference in classes at Midland Need to Read.

"Sometimes I find words that I have never used," Castillo said. "So I go through and see what the meaning is, and it helps me."

Another student, Hana Martinez, also downloaded Learning Upgrade. She uses it two or three times a week and said it introduces her to vocabulary she can practice with others.

"When it's a new word, I don't know the pronunciation," Martinez said. "So (I) go to my app, and the word (teacher) me the pronunciation."

PROFILE

From 1B

scuba divers, and recent dive trips include Grand Cayman; the Bahamas; Kauai, Hawaii; and Aruba.

The McLellands also are pastors of The Bridge ministry. They host a congregation consisting of 20 to 30 people each Friday evening in their home. McLelland said The Bridge includes a great deal of deliverance ministry involving counseling people with addictions. The couple also help ministries internationally in Africa, Honduras, Cuba and Thailand.

"I've been involved with ministry in some way or another since I was 19," said McLelland. "Throughout my ministry,

I've learned to embrace confrontation — that's what makes us grow."

"My parents are from Mexico and came here to make a better life for their family. It wasn't always easy for them. Being immigrants, they had to face many instances of confrontation. However, they worked hard and succeeded. They taught my three sisters and me to do the same."

"Confront life's challenges, turn them into opportunities and help others along the way — that's my motto for being happy and successful."

Rebecca C. Bell is executive director, Institutional Advancement, at Midland College.



TENNIS AWARDS

Midland Classical Academy tennis team played in the TAPPS District 1-3A competition April 3 in Dallas. **LEFT:** Makenna Beattie, left, and Laura Kate Sparks were the doubles champions. **RIGHT:** Josiah McDougall won third place in men's singles. He is seen with his dad and coach, Lance McDougall.

Courtesy photos



Ross D. Franklin/AP

Stefanie Lowe, a teacher at Tuscano Elementary School, stands next to her car Wednesday in the parking lot after joining other teachers, parents and students as they stage a "walk-in" for higher pay and school funding in Phoenix. To help make ends meet Lowe is a Lyft driver in order to supplement her teaching salary in Arizona, where teachers are paid some of the lowest wages in the country.



Mike Mello/AP

John Andros, a special education teacher, poses for a photo April 8 outside his home in Burlington, Conn. Andros has been a teacher for nearly 20 years, but also works at Dick's Sporting Goods and tutors on the side to make ends meet.



Mike Mello/AP

Photographer Christi Phillips photographs Addison Owens on Nov. 22 at Phillips' studio in Beverly, W.Va. Despite more than three decades of teaching experience, Phillips keeps up her longtime second career as a children's photographer.

Struggling teachers make ends meet with second jobs

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY—Hundreds of thousands of American teachers work second jobs to boost their income. They speak of missing time with family, struggles to complete lesson plans and nagging doubts over whether it's worth the sacrifices to stay in their profession.

Nationwide, 18 percent of teachers work jobs outside school, supplementing the average full-time teacher salary of \$55,100 by an average of \$5,100, according to the latest survey from the U.S. Education Department, from the 2015-2016 school year. That is up slightly from 16 percent in 2011-2012.

Teaching is hardly the only profession where people pick up second jobs to pay their bills, and many have the flexibility to do other work in the summer when school is out. But their numbers help explain the outrage behind the teacher revolts in states including West Virginia, Oklahoma and Kentucky.

The Associated Press asked moonlighting teachers in four states to describe how they balance the extra hours with their day jobs and family responsibilities.

JANITOR

After a day of instructing first-graders at Ootah-Talala Public Schools in Oklahoma, Melinda Dale puts on a janitor's uniform and begins cleaning the very same school building.

"I usually do it right after school," Dale said, "because working with first grade all day, I tend to lose my energy pretty fast."

Dale, who has taught for six years, earns \$32,000 a year as a teacher. She spends about 15 hours a week on the janitorial work, which at \$10 an hour allows her to earn nearly a quarter of what she makes teaching.

She is trying to save money for college for the oldest of her three children, a high school senior. Her youngest, a first-grader, has to wait for Dale to finish cleaning before she can go home, but sometimes other family members help with the cleaning so she can leave sooner and spend time with her kids.

Her second job forces her to do lesson plans on the weekend, usually on Sundays after church and lunch with her family.

One day, her seventh-grade daughter was waiting in the car for her mother and said: "I'm sorry it's come to this, mom."

"It was a very heartwarming but sad moment to hear her say those words," Dale said. "I'll do whatever it takes to be in the career that I'm in, but also provide for them."

LYFT DRIVER

As Lyft driver Stefanie Lowe crisscrosses the metro Phoenix area in her Jeep, many of her passengers are surprised to learn that she is also a full-time teacher.

"It's super busy to drive during the week, but sometimes I just have to do it," said Lowe, 28.

She earns just under \$37,000 as a first-grade teacher at Tuscano Elementary School. She rents a room, instead of having her own apartment, to keep her housing costs down, but to make ends meet she drives for Lyft on nights and weekends and also picks up tutoring jobs. She drives more during the week when she has upcoming expenses such as a car registration payment, medical bills or supplies for her classroom.

By 7 a.m. the next school day, she's back at her classroom. With 32 students, the class demands her full attention. But Lowe is committed to improving her students' lives.

"These kids are going to be taking care of you when you're older," she said. "Let's educate them; let's make them the best people that they can be."

Lowe left a job in health care in Pennsylvania to teach in Arizona, where the signing bonus from her first job at a low-income Tucson-area school went entirely toward materials for her classroom. At times, she has considered pursuing a different career, but for now she is dedicated to teaching.

"I went to school for this to be my career," Lowe said, "not so I could work three jobs just to be able to afford to go to the doctor."

RETAIL WORKER

John Andros knows the drill well after more than a decade of double duty teaching high school and then working at Dick's Sporting Goods. He packs lunch and dinner, puts an extra set of clothes in the car for his retail job, and sets off knowing he won't be home before his daughters go to bed.

There was a time earlier in his career, when he was making less than \$40,000 teaching, when he considered giving it up to pursue a management job at Dick's that would pay more than \$50,000.

Now in his 19th year of teaching, with two master's degrees, he has reached top scale — \$88,000 annually — as a special education teacher at Plainville High School in Connecticut. But he still works 15 hours a week at Dick's and tutors because he feels like he's still catching up financially after years of much lower earnings in an area with high property taxes and a high cost of living.

He paid off his college loans three years ago, and he and his wife only recently got out from a requirement to pay mortgage insurance because they didn't have enough for a full down payment when they bought their house.

"I became a teacher because I figured I'd get home and get my kids off the bus and do all these things. I never thought in a million years I would still be working so much. This was supposed to be a two-, maybe three-year thing. Financially it never worked out," said Andros, whose wife works part-time as a health aide.

He makes a point to stay home with his daughters at least two weeknights, but as he looks to build up college savings for them, he frets over the volleyball and field hockey events he misses.

"I love what I do. The kids haven't changed. That part of it hasn't changed. But my daughters ask me all the time, 'What do you think of me becoming a teacher?'" he said. "It's a tough question to answer."

PHOTOGRAPHER

Despite more than three decades of teaching experience, Christi Phillips keeps up her longtime second career as a children's photographer. She enjoys working both jobs, but she feels like she doesn't really have a choice.

"Thirty-two years, I have to have a second job," said Phillips, who teaches first grade at George Ward Elementary School in Mill Creek, West Virginia. "Isn't that sad? That's very sad. Everybody I know has two or three."

Phillips makes \$52,000 teaching. That's enough, she says, for her utilities and a car payment. The money from the second job is needed if she and her husband want to eat out at a nice restaurant, buy a second vehicle or take a vacation.

"I can scrape by. I can make due on my salary if I just want to pay bills. That's it," Phillips said. "If I want to live, if I want to do any real living, I can't do it on my salary."

West Virginia teachers, who rank among the nation's lowest paid, received a 5 percent raise after a statewide strike in February. It set the stage for teacher protests in other states.

"A lot of people think, 'Wow, you make tons of money,'" Phillips said. "If you compare my salary to maybe somebody who works in fast food, I do. But if you compare my salary to somebody who works, say, at our local hardwood plant here, not so great. These people there probably making as much as I am without the education, without the years of service."

BAYLOR

From 2B

in 2016. Users wear a goggles-like headset and hold a small controller in each hand.

James Cotter, an electrical and computer engineering sophomore, leads the Baylor Virtual Reality Club, which was chartered in January. Every other Monday, about 35 Baylor students flock to the library for meetings.

Cotter describes the technology as "stepping into a new world, where you can see, you can walk around and you experience the presence of someone you're not, somewhere created by other people for you."

While recovering from knee surgery a year ago, Cotter used Google Earth in VR to "walk" around campus from his bedroom. He also once used it while preparing for a New Orleans vacation with his mother, mapping out a route to the Superdome.

"When we were driving into New Orleans, I recognized buildings," he said. "I knew exactly where we were and we've never been here before."

Jake Rutkowski, also a sophomore officer of the club, said he saw Baylor for the first time in VR from Dallas. He then decided to visit in person. Cotter, Rutkowski and fellow member Sean

Bionien communicate with several gaming companies, which allow them to play and share with the club. They recently mingled with developers and players at South by Southwest, an annual conference in Austin focused on technology and arts.

"My friends play it and say, 'Wow, this is like the future,'" Bionien said. "And it's interesting because it's now. You can use this right now and develop it right now. We can grow this industry now to make it even better, which is what I really like."

Rutkowski said he experienced the artwork of Vincent Van Gogh in VR. "If you've ever stepped

inside a painting, it's really interesting," he said.

The New York Times has reported on athletes using VR to train and study game film.

Osborn's goal is to expose as many people as possible to VR and let them decide how best to use it.

"I was an astronaut last week," he said. "I went to the bottom of the sea a couple weeks ago. I can't do those things. I'm never going to go to space, but I floated. I looked around and saw Earth as a little speck. I can't do that in real life. That's so cool."

Distributed by Associated Press

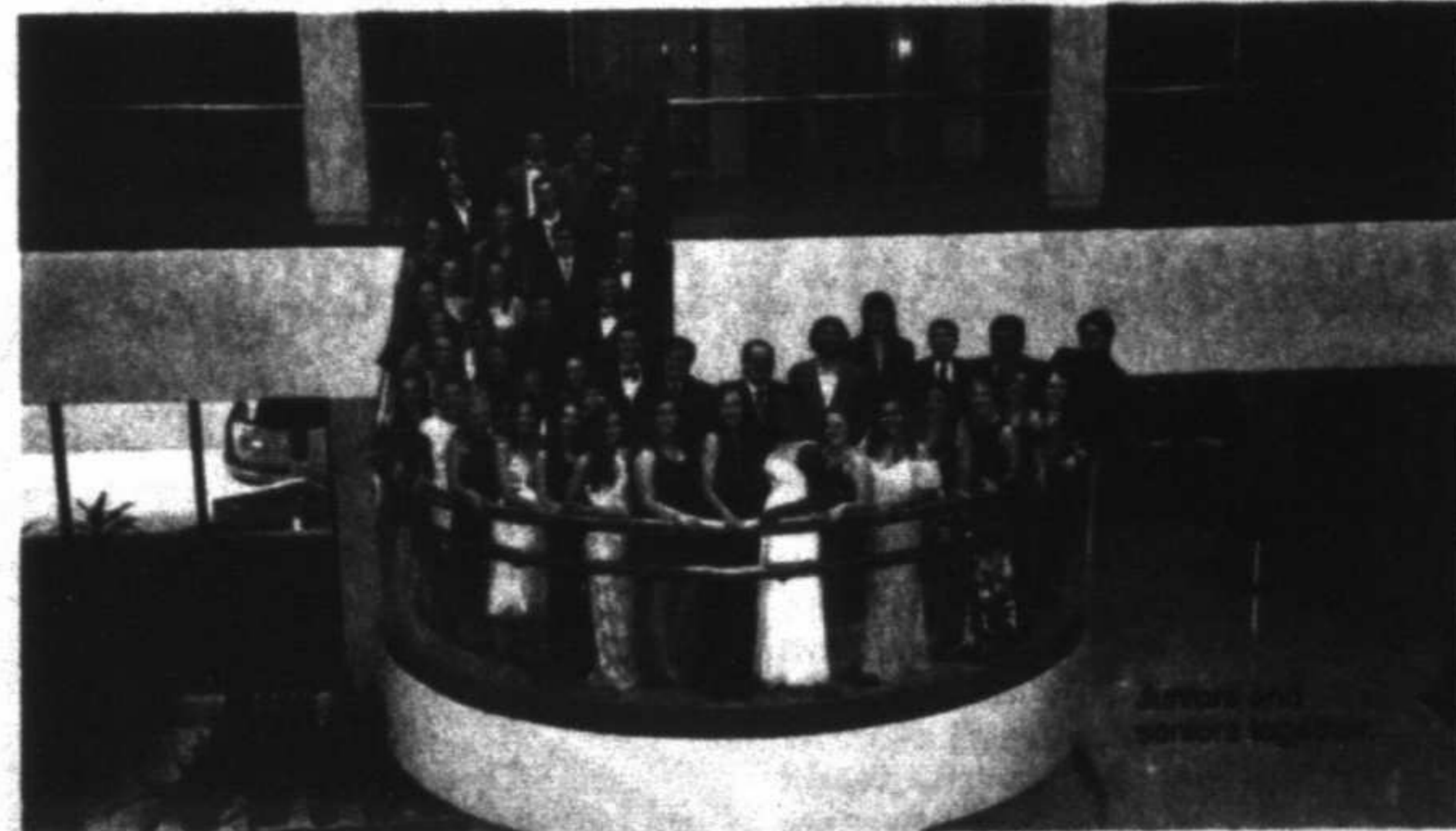


Jerry Lawson/Photo Williams-Steinard via AP

Baylor Virtual Reality club members, James Cotter, left, Sean Bionien, and Jake Rutkowski, right, hold their VR headsets that immerse users in 3-D environments March 21 at the school's study library in Waco. VR is already in use for general instruction in many college classrooms, and Baylor officials are exploring its potential.

EXTRA CREDIT

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 17, 2018 | Page 6B



KNIGHT NIGHT



Knight Night is a celebration for Midland Classical Academy students who have completed the ACTS class, a leadership and etiquette training. Junior and senior students are invited for to a semi-formal dinner and dance at the Petroleum Club.

Photos courtesy Karen Sparkes



SPORTS

To submit information to the sports department, email sports@mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 17, 2018 | Section C

MCS grad Little named Big 12 Player of the Week

From staff reports

LUBBOCK—Midland Christian grad and Texas Tech baseball player Grant Little has been named Big 12 Player of the Week, the league announced Monday.

It's the first award of the season for the sophomore outfielder, and second in his career, claiming the honor in the final week of the 2017 regular season (May 22). He joins Josh Jung (Feb. 19) and Michael Davis (March 5) as winners of the accolade during the 2018 season.

Little, a Tall City native, racked up nine hits in 18 at-bats over the four-game week, which included two doubles and two homers.

He had a career day Friday night against Kansas State, going 4-for-5 with



Little

two home runs, featuring his first career grand slam, along with a walk. The grand slam was just part of a nine-RBI night for Little, scoring twice.

It was the first nine-RBI performance by a Big 12 player this season, and matched a school record at Texas Tech. Little joined John Grimes (March 23, 1984) and Mike Bewley (March 21, 1975) as the only Red Raiders to ever record nine RBI in a single game.

Little carried it over into the next day, spilling out a 3-for-5 day at the plate, with two doubles, four RBI and three runs scored. As a whole, Little had at least one hit and one run in every game of the week.

As a whole, Tech tallied 56 runs against Kansas State, the most ever in a conference series, passing the previous school record of 37 in 2014.

Little and the Red Raiders return to action today against New Mexico at 2 p.m. CDT at Santa Ana Star Field in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Aranda named MVP, Ferguson top 2-6A defender

From staff reports

Lee senior forward Luis Aranda was selected as MVP on the 2018 All-District 2-6A Boys Soccer Team just released.

It was the second straight year Aranda garnered MVP honors after he shared the award with Odessa High's Chris Ramos in 2017. Midland High senior center back Donte Ferguson was named the District 2-6A Defensive MVP for the second straight season.

Lee, which was the No. 2 playoff seed in District 2-6A, landed junior forward Esau Soto, senior forward Jose Gutierrez, junior forward Johnny Thang and sophomore midfielder Dillon Crabtree on the first team.

Midland High, the No. 4 playoff seed

out of District 2-6A, was represented by senior center midfielder Alan Rodriguez, senior outside midfielder Roy Jaramillo and sophomore forward Anthony Marroquin on the first team.

District 2-6A champion Wolfforth Frenship had four superlatives, as Magnus McSween captured Offensive MVP, Braxton Thorne was named Goalie MVP, Adam Aboo-Hamidi garnered Co-Newcomer of the Year honors, and Scott Smith was decorated as Coach of the Year. Frenship finished the season with a 25-3 record and reached the regional tournament this past weekend in the Tall City. Ramos was recognized as the Midfield MVP.



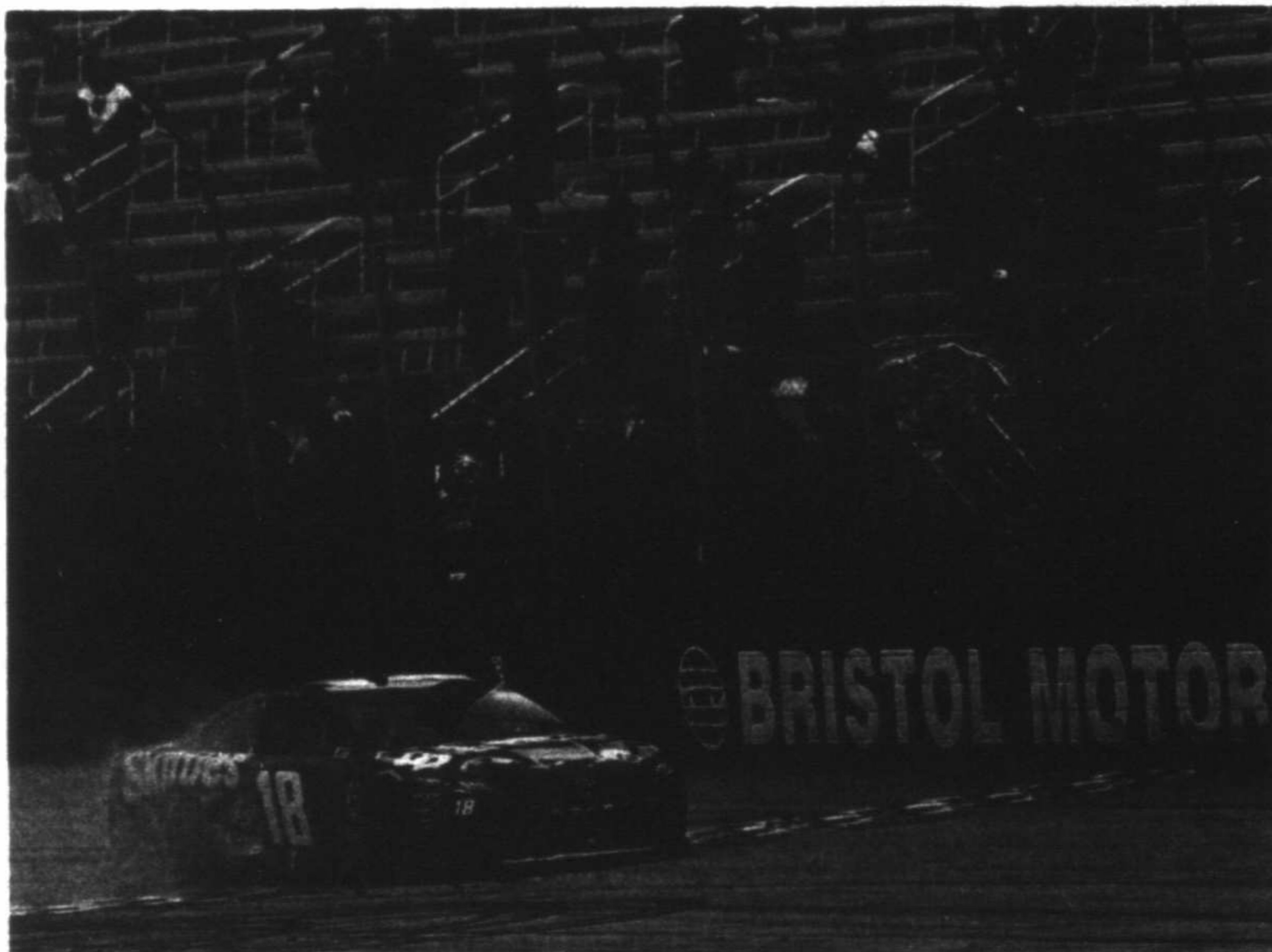
Aranda



Ferguson

Please see **SOCER/2C**

RAIN-DELAYED VICTORY



Wade Payne/Associated Press

Kyle Busch celebrates after winning during a NASCAR Cup Series race Monday in Bristol, Tenn.

Busch passes Larson to win race at Bristol

By Steve Reed
Associated Press

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Kyle Busch was all smiles and Kyle Larson was all scowls.

Busch passed Larson with five laps remaining at Bristol Motor Speedway on Monday to win his second straight Cup Series race, culminating a rain-delayed weekend when temperatures dipped into the high 30s.

Busch celebrated by thrusting his arms in the air and with a traditional bow to the crowd on top of his No. 18 Toyota while the snow began falling — a fitting end to a long weather-stalled weekend.

Busch said after the race that he didn't have the best car, but "we had the best car right at the end."

The loss left Larson, who led a race-high 200 laps, extremely frustrated.

"I feel like every time I race here I almost get a win," Larson said of his second-place finish. "I've been beat by Kyle (Busch) about every time I race here, too, so that gets frustrating after a while."

It was Busch's 45th career Cup Series win, moving him ahead of Bill Elliott into sole possession of 16th place.

It also was his seventh win at Bristol, while Larson has yet to win

at the half-mile track.

Coincidentally, Busch won with the aid of longtime nemesis Brad Keselowski, who wrecked with 30 laps left, bringing out the caution flag.

Larson appeared to have the car to beat Monday, running well ahead of the pack on long green flag runs. But after Busch took on tires during the yellow flag stop, he knew he was back in the race with 22 laps to go. He finally caught Larson with five laps left, bumped him out of the way and scooted by.

Larson made a late charge but couldn't catch him.

Please see **BRISTOL/5C**

Rays beat Rangers 8-4 to end 4-game losing streak

By Dick Scanlon
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Mallex Smith had four hits and Blake Snell struck out nine Monday night to help the Tampa Bay Rays stop a four-game losing streak with an 8-4 win over the Texas Rangers.

Smith bunted for a single against starter Martin Perez (1-2) in a four-run second inning that gave the Rays a 5-0 lead. He doubled and scored in the third on his way to a second four-hit game in eight days.

Wilson Ramos had three hits for the Rays and drove in two runs.

Snell (2-1) gave up one run and five hits in 6 1/3 innings, the third time this season a Tampa Bay starter has pitched at least six innings.

Joey Gallo hit his sixth home run to get Texas on the board in the fourth. It was the first home run by a left-handed hitter against Snell, who has made 47 career starts.

Nomer Mazara added a three-run shot in the eighth off reliever Chih-Wei Hu.

C.J. Cron hit his second homer and Daniel Robertson connected for his first off Perez, who gave up seven runs and 10 hits in four innings.

Rays third baseman Matt Duffy and Rangers shortstop Jurickson Profar left the game early with injuries.

Profar was in concussion protocol after being upended by Smith's slide in the second inning. Profar came down on the side of his head after making a throw toward first base.

Duffy left in the first inning with right hamstring tightness.

Moving day: INF-OF Renato Nunez, claimed by Texas on waivers Sunday from Oakland, was added to the 25-man roster and OF Ryan Rua was optioned to Triple-A Round Rock. ... The Rangers acquired C Tony Sanchez from Cincinnati for a player to be named or cash and assigned him to Round Rock.

Trainer's room: Rangers: OF Delino DeShields (broken left hamate bone) is hitting off a tee. Rays: CF Kevin Kiermaier, who tore a ligament in his right thumb sliding into second base Sunday, will have surgery Friday and be out two to three months. ... 1B Brad Miller (strained left groin) could start a minor league rehab assignment Tuesday with Class A Charlotte.

Linden wins Boston Marathon, 1st US woman since '85

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press

BOSTON — After slogging through just a few miles of icy rain and a near-gale headwind that made her feel like she was running in place, Desiree Linden decided she'd seen enough of the Boston Marathon for another year.

"My hands were freezing, and there are times where you were just stood up by the wind. It was comical how slow you were going, and how far you still had to go," Linden said.

"At six miles I was thinking, 'No way, this is not my day,'" she said. "Then you break the tape and you're like, 'This is not what I expected today.'"

A two-time Olympian and the 2011 Boston Marathon runner-up, Linden decided to stick around, outlasting the weather and the rest of the field to win the race's 122nd edition Monday in 2 hours, 39 minutes, 34 seconds. That was more than five minutes faster than second-place finisher Sarah Seiler but the slowest time for a women's winner in Boston since 1978.

Yuki Kawachi splashed through the

pelting rain, temperatures in the mid-30s and wind that gusted as high as 32 mph to win the men's race, passing defending champion Geoffrey Kirui in Kenmore Square to earn Japan's first Boston title since 1987 and the \$150,000 first prize.

Wearing a white windbreaker that was drenched and billowing in the wind, Kirui slumped and stumbled across the Copley Square finish line in second, 2:25 back, followed by Shadrack Biwott and three other U.S. men. The winning time of 2:15:58 and was the slowest since Jack Fultz overcame temperatures in the high 90s to win the "Run for the Roses" in 1976.

"For me, it's the best conditions possible," said Kawachi, who competed in 12 marathons last year — six times the usual number for an elite runner — and also works as a school administrator.

Runners donned hats and extra layers, and the lead packs tried to duck off the media track to avoid the rain that was hitting them horizontally at times. Whitehead winner Marcel Hug of Switzerland and American Trysen McPhaden.

Please see **BOSTON/5C**



Desiree Linden of Washington, Mich., wins the women's division of the 122nd Boston Marathon on Monday in Boston. She is the first American woman to win the race since 1978. (AP Photo/John Manchillo)

'HOUNDWATCH



MONDAY'S SCORE

Texas 9, Midland 4

TODAY'S GAME

Midland vs Texas 7 p.m.

INTERNET www.mrb.com

RECORDS

Midland 7-4 Texas 7-4

Table with 5 columns: Today, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Rows show game times and locations for Midland and Texas.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

- TV: College Baseball, NC State at North Carolina, 5:30 p.m., ESPN. SEC: Oral Roberts at Oklahoma State, 6:30 p.m., FSSW. FCS: UTRGV at Texas, 7 p.m., LHN. College Softball: Baylor at Texas, 4:30 p.m., LHN. Major League Baseball: Texas at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m., FSSW. Cleveland at Minnesota, 6 p.m., FS1, FXDP. Houston at Seattle, 9 p.m., ATTSW. Boston at LA Angels, 9 p.m., MLB. Men's Soccer: PL: Brighton & Hove Albion vs. Tottenham Hotspur, 1:30 p.m., NBCSN. National Basketball Association: East 1st Round, Game 2: Washington at Toronto, 6 p.m., NBA TV. East 1st Round, Game 2: Milwaukee at Boston, 7 p.m., TNT. West 1st Round, Game 2: New Orleans at Portland, 9:30 p.m., TNT. National Hockey League: East 1st Round, Game 3: Washington at Columbus, 6:30 p.m., NBCSN. East 1st Round, Game 4: Winnipeg at Minnesota, 7 p.m., CNBC. West 1st Round, Game 4: Vegas at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m., NBCSN. Tennis: ATP: Monte Carlo, 5 a.m., TENNIS. Major League Baseball: Texas at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring), KPET 105.1 FM/90 AM (Lamesa), KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring). Texas League Baseball: Midland at Tulsa, 7 p.m., KCRS 95.5 FM/97.5 FM/550 AM. Radio: Major League Baseball: Texas at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring), KPET 105.1 FM/90 AM (Lamesa), KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring). Texas League Baseball: Midland at Tulsa, 7 p.m., KCRS 95.5 FM/97.5 FM/550 AM.

WHAT'S ON DECK

- JC Golf: Midland College at NJCAA District 2 Championship, Rawls Course, Lubbock. HS Baseball: Lee at Midland High, 4:30 p.m. Andrews at Greenwood, 5 p.m. HS Tennis: Lee at Midland High, 4:30 p.m. Andrews at Greenwood, 5 p.m. TAPPS 5A, 4A state tournament, Waco.

TRANSACTIONS

- BASEBALL: American League: BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Signed RHP David Hale to 1-year contract. NEW YORK YANKEES - Signed RHP Jacob deGrom to 1-year contract. NATIONAL LEAGUE: ATLANTA BRAVES - Signed RHP Luke Jackson for assignment. CHICAGO CUBS - Signed 1B Ryan Howard to 1-year contract. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS - Signed RHP Mike Montgomery to 1-year contract. NEW JERSEY GIANTS - Signed RHP Carlos Rodon to 1-year contract. COLLEGE: SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS - Released LHP Harry Pickett. FOOTBALL: NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE: NFL - LB James Harrison announced his retirement. BUFFALO BILLS - Signed WR Jeremy Hill to a one-year contract. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS - Signed WR DeAndre Hopkins to a one-year contract. CHICAGO BEARS - Signed WR Steve Fuller to a one-year contract. CLEVELAND BROWNS - Signed WR Josh

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL POLL

Table with 4 columns: Rank, Team, Pts, Pct. Lists top 10 teams in the poll.

NHL PLAYOFF GLANCE

- WESTERN CONFERENCE: Thursday, April 19: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 20: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 22: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. EASTERN CONFERENCE: Thursday, April 19: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 20: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 22: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.

Lee falls to Frenship in rescheduled game

From staff reports

WOLFORTH — The Lee softball team couldn't capitalize on its opportunities during a 7-2 loss to Wolforth Frenship in District 2-6A play Monday. The Lady Rebels (12-16-2, 1-7 in District 2-6A) managed only two runs despite out-hitting the first-place Lady Tigers (21-7, 7-1) by a 12-7 margin. The game was rescheduled Monday after strong winds postponed Friday's original date.

Table with 3 columns: District 2-6A Softball Standings, Conference, Overall. Lists teams like Lee, Wolforth Frenship, etc.

Caroline Kerr went 2-for-3 with a home run, a double and four RBI to lead Frenship's offense. For Lee, Kirklynd Newsom was 2-for-4 with two doubles and a run; Zymra Carrasco was 3-for-4 with a double and an RBI; Abby Jordan went 2-for-4 with an RBI and Nayeli Laredo was 2-for-3. The Lady Rebels were also plagued by eight errors.

With two district games left, fifth-place Lee must win to keep its postseason hopes alive when it visits fourth-place Midland High (18-11-2, 3-5) at 4:30 p.m. today at Martin Field. MHS can clinch a playoff berth with a victory. WOLFORTH FRENSHIP 7, LEE 2. Lee: Newsom 2-4, 2-10, 2-10, 2-10, 2-10. Frenship: Carrasco 3-4, 2-10, 2-10, 2-10, 2-10. Zymra Carrasco and Nayeli Laredo were 2-for-3.

Chaps 2nd at NJCAA District 2 Championship

From staff reports

LUBBOCK — The Midland College men's golf team sits in second with a two-round total of 580 following Monday's play of the NJCAA District 2 Championship at the Rawls Course.



Salazar

The Chaps trail rival and team leader Odessa College, which posted a 574, by six strokes heading into today's final round. MC was led by sophomore Michael Salazar, who is in a three-way tie for third after shooting a 69-74-143. The Chaps also got noteworthy performances from Calum Bruce and Chris Ayers, who are currently in a two-way tie for eighth with a two-round total of 146.

Odessa College's Florian Moosener leads the medalist standings with a score of 67-71-138. Odessa College's Bryce Waters, a Midland Christian grad, is in a four-way tie for 11th after shooting a 74-73-147. NJCAA DISTRICT 2 CHAMPIONSHIP The Rawls Course, Lubbock. Par: 72; Yards: 7,368. Monday. Results through two rounds. Team standings - 1. Odessa College 289-291-674, 2. Midland College 289-294-683, 3.

MCS, Trinity boys doubles teams still alive at state

From staff reports

WACO — Midland Christian seniors Jonathan Cheatham and Joshua Ramos are still alive for a state title after winning two boys doubles matches during Monday's opening session of the TAPPS 5A State Tennis Tournament at Waco Regional Tennis Center. Cheatham and Ramos defeated Houston Emery Weiner's Miles Hood and Alex Lavine, 6-2, 6-2, in the first round, and the MCS tandem beat San Antonio TMI Episcopal's Jorge

Velasco and Huey Huang, 6-4, 6-2, in the quarterfinals. Ramos and Cheatham will face Houston Lutheran South's Alan Ngo and Tiger Cheung in today's semifinal. In the TAPPS 4A tournament, Trinity senior Dylan Hoffman and junior Ashwin Gurrus are still in the hunt for a state championship after they defeated Houston St. Thomas Episcopal's Ronald Yu and Conrad Li, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5, in Monday's quarterfinal. Hoffman and Gurrus also beat Sugar

Land Logos Prep's Reagan Hamblet and Daniel John, 6-0, 6-4, in the first round. Hoffman and Gurrus meet Waco Vanguard's Trey Cofer and James Merchant in today's semifinal. The MCS boys doubles team of Garrett Bushman and Sterling Armstrong lost in the 5A first round; Trinity's girls doubles team of Grace Davis and Lauren Friday fell in the 4A first round; Trinity's Curtis Wong lost in the first round of boys singles, and the Trinity boys doubles team of Porter Hankins and Blake Carney lost in the quarterfinals.

MCS boys win the TAPPS 1-5A title

From staff reports

AUSTIN — The Midland Christian boys won the district title by shooting a leading score of 310 during Monday's TAPPS 1-5A Golf Tournament at Grey Rock Golf Course. The MCS boys were

led by freshman Richman Houston, who fired a tournament-best 76 to tie two other golfers, but finished in second after a sudden-death playoff. MCS senior Zant Holloman carded a 77 to finish fourth, while junior Robby Massey shot a 78 to finish fifth. The Midland Christian girls finished fourth with a 415, qualifying for regionals by one stroke over fifth-place Austin St. Dominic Savio (416). Sophomore Jade Strasser shot a 99 to lead the MCS girls team, which

consists of freshmen and sophomores. The MCS boys and girls teams will compete at the regional tournament, April 23 at River Place Country Club in Austin. TAPPS 1-5A Golf Tournament Grey Rock Golf Course, Austin. Monday. Top 5 scores after 36 holes, April 23 at River Place Country Club, Austin. Boys. Team standings - 1. Midland Christian 310, 2. Fort Worth All Saints 324, 3. Austin Heights 325, 4. Midland College 326, 5. Austin St. Dominic Savio 327. Individual standings - 1. Richman Houston, Midland Christian, 76; 2. Robby Massey, Midland Christian, 78; 3. Zant Holloman, Midland Christian, 77; 4. Kyle Strasser, Midland Christian, 99.

SOCCER

From IC

Alan Rubio, of No. 3 seed Odessa High, was honored as the Co-Newcomer of the Year. Gary Stull was selected as the district's top referee.

Superlatives: MVP - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Co-Newcomer of the Year - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Top Referee - Gary Stull, Odessa High. Coach of the Year - Scott Smith, Odessa High. Goal of the Year - Scott Smith, Odessa High. Best Player - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Goalkeeper - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Defense - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Attack - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Team - Odessa High. Best Individual - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Overall - Alan Rubio, Odessa High.

Odessa High, Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Co-Newcomer of the Year - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Top Referee - Gary Stull, Odessa High. Coach of the Year - Scott Smith, Odessa High. Goal of the Year - Scott Smith, Odessa High. Best Player - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Goalkeeper - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Defense - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Attack - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Team - Odessa High. Best Individual - Alan Rubio, Odessa High. Best Overall - Alan Rubio, Odessa High.

NHL PLAYOFF ROUNDUP

MAPLE LEAFS 4, BROWNS 2. TORONTO — Auston Matthews scored the go-ahead goal in the second period, Patrick Marleau had two goals, and the Toronto Maple Leafs beat the Boston Bruins 4-2 on Monday night in Game 3 of their Eastern Conference first-round series. James van Riemsdyk also scored and Mitch Marner and Morgan Rielly added two assists each to help Toronto pull to 2-1 in the best-of-seven set. Frederik Andersen stopped 40

shots. Adam McQuaid and Zdeno Chára had the goals for Boston, Sean Kurty had two assists, and Tuukka Rask finished with 26 saves. The Maple Leafs will look to even the series at home in Game 4 on Thursday night. Matthews was held without a point through 120 minutes when Toronto was outscored, outmanned and outplayed in losing by a combined 12-4 margin at Boston. However he came through to snap a 2-2 tie with 5:13 left in the second

when he rilled a shot short-side right on Rask from a sharp angle after a great feed down low by William Nylander. DEVILS 5, LIGHTNING 2. NEWARK, N.J. — Taylor Hall had a goal and two assists, setting up Stefan Noesen's game-winning shot with 7:05 going, and the New Jersey Devils scored four times in the third to claw their way back into their first-round series with Tampa Bay on Monday night, beating the Lightning 5-2 in Game 3. Roope Virtti Butcher had a power-play goal earlier in the third to tie the score 2-all, and Blake Coleman and Ben Lovejoy added empty net goals late. Cory Schneider made 34 saves while starting in place of Henrik Lundqvist and giving the Devils a chance in their first playoff series since 2012. Schneider, who seemed to hurt his groin in a collision with Lightning defenseman Ryan McDonagh midway through the first period, survived a late power play to seal down the win.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION. 422 2-80-436 Chip Clinic & Adoptions at Rockwood's Bark in the Park. 595 8-30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Dear Garden's Yappy Hour. 618 Sat. am 4th Annual Hot Dog Run 5K and 1 Mile. TRAP NEUTER RETURN PROGRAM. Sign up to borrow traps, pick up trap, trap stray cats & have them vaccinated, ear-tipped & altered before returning them. \$100 of THR (\$70 Voucher + \$30 grant) at participating vets. Learn more & sign up at: midlandhumane.org/trr. 422.588.5255. ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER. Open for adoptions Mon-Sat 12-7, Sun 12-6. Adoption Fees (fully vetted & shipped): Cats \$110, Dogs \$150. 422.526.3134 ext. 0. Located within Midland's PetSmart Store. AD SPONSORED BY BROWN'S FERRARI ELECTRIC CO.

MLB ROUNDUP

Associated Press

Interleague

YANKEES 12, MARLINS 1
NEW YORK — Did Gregorius homered twice for the second time this season...

About the only Yankees bopper who didn't get in on the fun was Giancarlo Stanton...

Aaron Judge became the fastest major leaguer to hit 60 career homers...

Judge hit his fourth home run this season and reached 60 in 197 games...

Jeter did not attend the game, the first between the teams since the former Yankees captain became Marlins CEO...

Another former Yankees captain was in Miami's dugout: Don Mattingly...

Stanton went 0 for 3 with two strikeouts, a bases-loaded foulout, a walk and was hit by a pitch...

Stanton's 10th-inning strikeout triggered scattered boos, and loud ones followed when he fanned on three pitches...

Stanton is hitting .210 with three homers and 10 RBIs.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
ROCKIES 6, PIRATES 2
PITTSBURGH — Trevor Story drilled a three-run home run...

Story bounced back from a miserable series in Washington by going 2 for 3 and driving in three runs...

Charlie Blackmon added his team-leading seventh home run of the season for Colorado...

Marquez (1-1) held the Pirates without a hit until a one-out triple by Francisco Cervelli...

Brant (2-1) met his first serious bump since being thrust into the rotation as a stop-gap...

Enter Story, who came in hitting just .177, including 1 for 15 with 10 strikeouts...

They weren't the only ones. The temperature was 50 degrees at first pitch...

CONY DICKERSON extended his hitting streak to 11 games with a single in the seventh...

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8,958, the smallest to see a game at PNC Park since 2011.

PHILADELPHIA — Dwyane Wade turned in a vintage performance...

Wade buried two big buckets down the stretch that pushed back the Sixers and tied the series...

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Wade turns back the clock and 76ers in Game 2 Heat victory

By Dan Gelston
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Dwyane Wade turned in a vintage performance, scoring 28 points to end the 76ers' 17-game winning streak...

Playing wounded injured All-Star center Joel Embiid for the 10th straight game, the Sixers nearly pulled off an epic comeback...

Philly fans were going wild and suddenly the home-court edge that had made the Sixers unbeatable for a month seemed like it would perk the team back up...

Wade buried two big buckets down the stretch that pushed back the Sixers and tied the series as it shifts to Miami for Game 3 on Thursday.

The Sixers lost for the first time since March 13 to Indiana. They won 16 straight to end the regular season and the first game of the playoffs.

Wade's play resembled his glory days at times and he carried the Heat in a sensational second quarter that was the difference.

He pump-faked his way to 15 points in the quarter — impressive enough, even moreso that he outscored the potent Sixers by two points.

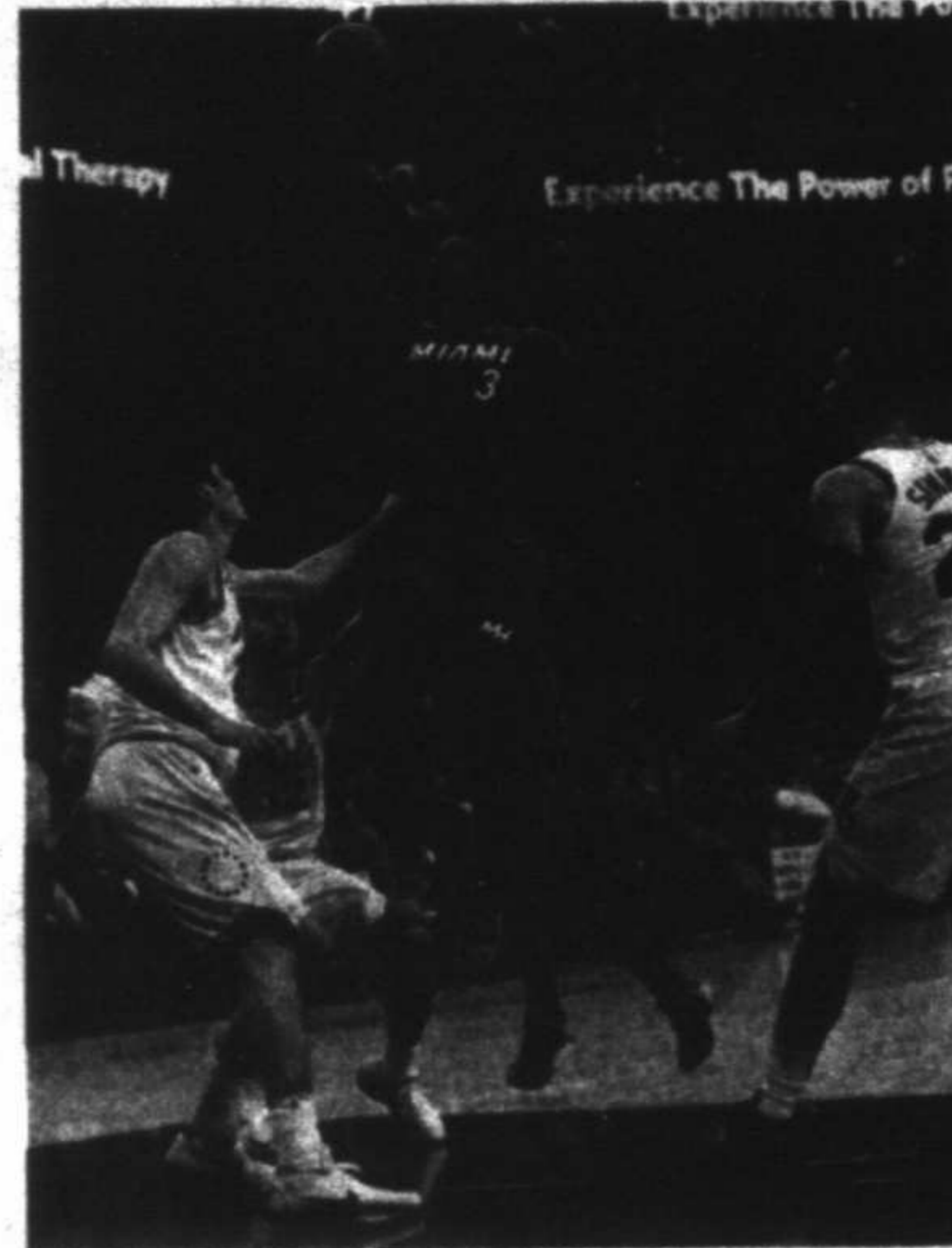
The 36-year-old Wade made his first seven shots of the game and passed Larry Bird for 10th on the NBA's career postseason scoring list.

After a Game 1 victory where they couldn't miss, the Sixers couldn't make a big bucket in the first half.

The Sixers made a team playoff-record 18 3s in Game 1 and missed a whopping 16 of 18 3s in the first half.

Robert Covington missed all five and Dario Saric was 0 for 4. The Sixers made four baskets and scored 13 points in the quarter.

The Heat slowed the game down — exactly the kind of style where the Sixers needed Embiid in the middle — and used a collective of defenders on Ben Simmons that rattled the rookie point guard.



Chris Szegala/Associated Press

Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade, right, shoots with Philadelphia 76ers T.J. McConnell, center, and Ersan Ilyasova, left, of Turkey, defend during the first half in Game 2 of a first-round NBA playoff series Monday in Philadelphia.

early. The passing-and-pushing offense that got the Sixers to the No. 3 seed in the East failed them for the first time since early March.

But there was life left in the fourth. Saric was fouled by Wade and sank both from the line to make it 91-82 and he followed with a 3 the next time down that sent the crowd into a frenzy.

Saric broke up a pass on defense that led to a Simmons dunk and suddenly 18 straight wins was within reach.

Ersan Ilyasova made a tip shot to close to 98-96. Wade contributed with baskets, assists and free throws over the final 4 minutes to close out the win.

Simmons led the Sixers with 24 points and Saric had 23.

Tip-ins
Heat: Goran Dragic scored 20 points and James Johnson had 18.

76ers: Philly native and Hollywood star Kevin Hart rang the ceremonial Liberty Bell and sat courtside a few seats down from Allen Iverson. ... Team consultant Jerry Colangelo

was at the game. Embiid update

Embiid wore his black mask and put on a 3-point shootout in pregame that had fans going wild with each shot. Again, there was no timetable on when Embiid would return this series, if at all.

"I can't wait to get him back," coach Brett Brown said. "He, to me, is the difference maker. Joel Embiid changes the dynamics in many ways of this team. There will be a reintroduction of him back into the team."

lineup change
Ilyasova got the start at center for the first time in Embiid's absence over Amir Johnson.

Remembering great
The 76ers held a moment of silence for Hall of Famer Hal Greer. Greer died Saturday after a brief illness. He was 81. He's the 76ers' career leader in points, field goals, field goals attempted, games and minutes played.

"He was a graceful man. He was clean. He was a gentleman," Brown said.

ROCKHOUNDS REPORT

DRILLERS 6, ROCKHOUNDS 4

At ONEOK Field, Tulsa
TOP HITTERS: Tulsa catcher Robert Ruiz went 2-for-5 with two home runs and four RBIs. ... Will Smith went 3-for-3 with a double, a walk and two runs scored for the Drillers. ... Tulsa's D.J. Peters went 3-for-5 with a home run. ... Midland's Sean Murphy went 2-for-4 with a home run, a double, two RBI and two runs.

TOP PITCHER: Drillers starter Derrin Santana spun 4 1/3 shutout innings of one-hit ball. Santana struck out 10 Rockhounds batters, while walking only one.

NOTES: Ruiz cracked a two-run homer to give Tulsa a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the second. ... Tulsa's fourth home run of the year gave the Drillers a 3-0 lead in the third. ... Tulsa took a 6-0 advantage on Ruiz's second two-run homer in the fifth. ... Midland made things interesting by scoring one run in the seventh on Murphy's solo homer and adding

Rockhounds 6, Drillers 4

Five runs in the ninth.
NOTES: Tulsa owned the series, 1-1. Today's rubber game is at 7:35 p.m. ... The Rockhounds are 2-3 on their current six-game road trip that ends today. ... Murphy led off White for the team lead with his third home run.

TODAY'S PROBABLES:
Midland — TBA; Tulsa — LHP Caleb Ferguson (0-0, 1.00 ERA).

Rockhounds 6, Drillers 4
Rockhounds 6, Drillers 4
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NBA PLAYOFF GLANCE

Associated Press

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7; 4-7 necessary)
Eastern Conference
Toronto 1, Washington 0
Saturday, April 14 Toronto 114, Washington 104

Tuesday, April 17: Washington at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 20: Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 21: Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.

Western Conference
Boston 1, Milwaukee 0
Sunday, April 15: Boston 113, Milwaukee 107, OT
Saturday, April 17: Milwaukee at Boston, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 20: Boston at Milwaukee, 10:30 p.m.

Philadelphia 1, Miami 1
Saturday, April 14: Philadelphia 120, Miami 109
Monday, April 16: Miami 113, Philadelphia 109
Thursday, April 19: Philadelphia at Miami, 6 p.m.

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Thursday, April 19: Philadelphia at Miami, 6 p.m.

MLB GLANCE

Associated Press

Strollings
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Tampa Bay 8 2 200 95
Detroit 7 4 200 95
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Pitch framing tactics under a bit more scrutiny

By Noah Triste
Associated Press

The concept of pitch framing is not exactly new, but it certainly seems to be under a bit more scrutiny now.

There was even a bench-clearing incident earlier this month when Arizona manager Torey Lovullo started arguing with the plate umpire about St. Louis catcher Yadier Molina's framing. Lovullo said he praised Molina while using a profanity. The two had a shouting match.

It's rare for something as mundane as pitch framing to cause such a dust-up, but it's clear that players, managers and umpires are becoming increasingly cognizant of the way catchers can try to influence calls on balls and strikes.

"I've had an umpire tell me this year that borderline pitches, I'm making them look better than what they are," Detroit catcher James McCann said. "They've known for years that we try and steal strikes. It's probably just more in the limelight now because we do have the framing numbers, and we do have umpires grades."

Lovullo's complaints aside, there doesn't seem to be too much of a backlash yet over the way catchers try to get a few extra strikes.

"People get pitches off the plate all the time. It happens. Umpires are human, they mess up, they just make a bad call every now and then," San Diego outfielder Wil Myers said.

"Yadier Molina is a great catcher who can get a little more strikes than most catchers.

"Good for him, right? That's why he's behind the plate and that's why he does what he does."

Washington catcher Matt Wieters says he thinks umpires have become less sensitive to the idea that catchers may be trying to deceive them.

"It used to be where, when I was first starting, the umpire would say, 'Hey, stop doing that,' type thing. And now that's not really the case anymore," Wieters said.

"You probably will get blowback for it as a catcher, but your No. 1 job is to get the pitcher as many pitches as you can get, so

do what you can."

Wieters also says there's a financial incentive for catchers to hone that part of the skill set.

"Throughout the league it's become such a big thing because guys are starting to get contracts because of how they're able to get strikes for their pitchers," Wieters said.

"I don't think it's ever the other manager's spot to say something about how the catcher's catching a ball."

More developments from around the majors:

Tempers

Within days of the Lovullo-Molina incident, the Red Sox and Yankees had a melee at Fenway Park after New York's Tyler Austin was hit by a pitch from Joe Kelly and charged the mound.

The benches had already cleared briefly earlier in that game Wednesday night after Austin's spikes clipped Brock Holt's leg on a slide into second base.

Also on Wednesday, Colorado star Nolan Arenado charged the mound after a pitch from San Diego's Luis Perdomo sailed behind him.

There's been plenty of testiness to go around — including the non-violent kind. Pirates manager Clint Hurdle criticized Javier Baez of the Cubs for a bat flip on a popup, and that dispute lingered for a couple days.

Highlight

The Pirates have been off to a good start, but Friday at Miami was not their finest hour. Starlin Castro of the Marlins lifted a sacrifice fly to right, bringing home a run, but after the throw to the plate, catcher Elias Diaz tried to throw a runner out at second and the ball sailed into a vacant spot in center field. By the time the play ended, all three runners had scored.

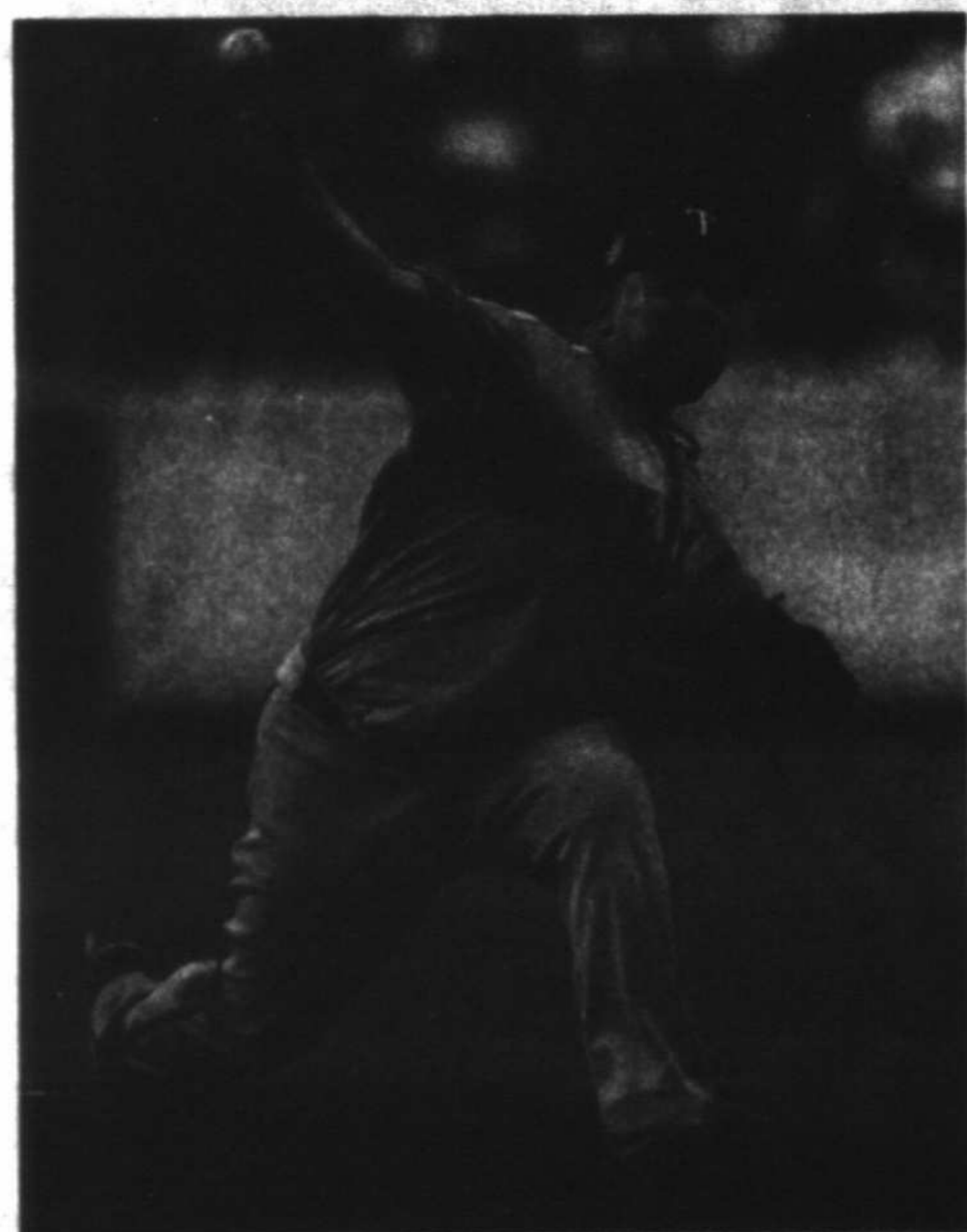
Line of the week

At age 44, Bartolo Colon is still a wonder. The Texas right-hander took a perfect game into the eighth inning against Houston on Sunday night before allowing a walk and a hit. He struck out seven in 7 2/3 innings, and the Rangers won 3-1 in 10.



ABOVE: St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina, right, throws off his mask as he argues with Arizona Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo during an altercation in the second inning of a game Sunday in St. Louis.

LEFT: Texas Rangers' starting pitcher Bartolo Colon throws against the Houston Astros during the first inning of a game Sunday in Houston. Michael Wyke/Houston Chronicle



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Denver Broncos release running back C.J. Anderson

By Arnie Stapleton
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — C.J. Anderson is leaving Denver with a million memories, a Super Bowl ring and no hard feelings.

"It's business, I understand it," Anderson told The Associated Press on Monday after he was released by the Denver Broncos. "I've been here five years and it came to an end. So, I'm excited for the next opportunity."

Where that is, "I don't know," Anderson said. "I have no clue at all."

Possible landing spots include Miami, where Dolphins coach Adam Gase offered him a four-year, \$18 million deal in 2016 that Denver matched, and New England, where Patriots coach Bill Belichick is also a big fan.

Anderson hits free agency at an opportune time.

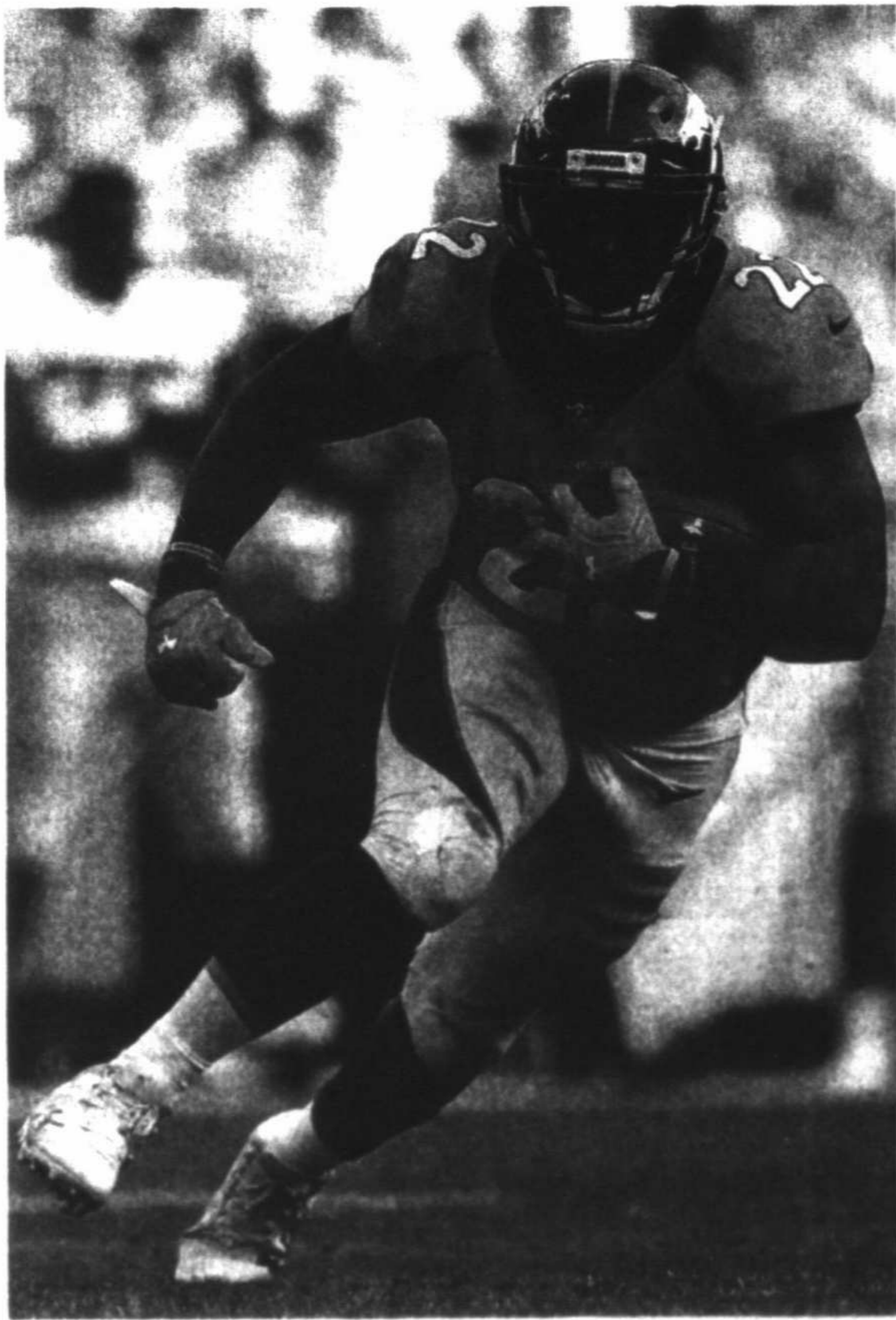
He's 27, has just 683 career carries and is coming off his best season, one in which he played in all 16 games for the first time and ran for a career-best 1,007 yards.

"I would never say it's a good time to be free," Anderson said. "All I ever tried to do was give my best effort to Denver in every way possible. I did that for five years. Now it's time to go and do that for another team."

Anderson wasn't one of the 23 running backs drafted in 2013 but the Cal alum has put up better career numbers than all of those running backs except for one: Steelers star Le'Veon Bell.

Anderson's resume includes a Pro Bowl, two dozen TDs, a pair of playoff touchdowns and numerous game-sealing runs, none bigger than his TD plunge that capped Denver's 24-10 win over Carolina in the Super Bowl three years ago.

Shortly afterward, Gase, who had been his offensive coordinator in Denver, offered him the big contract that Broncos GM John Elway ultimately matched.



Jack Dempsey/Associated Press

Denver Broncos running back C.J. Anderson runs against the Dallas Cowboys during the second half of an NFL game Sept. 17, 2017, in Denver. A person familiar with the situation tells The Associated Press that Anderson has been released by the Broncos. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team hasn't officially announced Anderson's departure, which was first reported by the NFL Network.

The deal included a \$5 million signing bonus and salaries of \$675,000 in 2016, \$2.9 million last year and \$4.5 million in each of the next two years.

Because there was no dead cap money in 2018 or '19, Anderson knew his release was, if not imminent, a very strong possibility this offseason as the Broncos rebuild an

anemic offense following a 5-11 season.

"I knew I could be released or traded at any time," Anderson said.

His release not only clears a combined \$9 million off the books for Denver but it opens the way for Devontae Booker, De'Angelo Henderson or maybe even a pick in the upcoming draft to take

over as the Broncos' featured back alongside new QB Case Keenum.

"I respect the decision whether it's a money issue or a play issue," Anderson said. "They feel like they can move on from me. I understand that. That's the beauty of our game. Now I get an opportunity to showcase my skills somewhere else."

NFL to prohibit use of certain helmets

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The NFL for the first time is prohibiting certain helmets from being worn by players.

In notifying the 32 teams Monday, the league has sought to have players stop using 10 helmet varieties. Some, particularly those manufactured by Rawlings, no longer are being made and don't have support from the company. Others were found to be inferior to many of the 34 helmets the NFL and the players' union examined.

Previously, NFL players could choose any helmet as long as it passed certification standards. Six of the substandard helmets are prohibited immediately, while the other four may be worn by players who used them in 2017 but not by new players.

The 10 helmets are Rawlings' Impulse and Impulse+, Quantum and Tachyon; SG Varsity and SG 2.0; Schutt Vengeance Z10 (model 204100), Air XP (model 789002) and Air XP Pro (model 789102); and Riddell VSR-4 (model R41133). About 200 players used those helmets last season.

"Over the last few years we've seen some dynamic changes in the helmet industry, both from new innovators as well as new helmets and models from incumbent companies," said Jeff Miller, the NFL's senior vice president of health and safety policy.

"There are a number of helmets for players to move to, from those that rank poorly in performing to the ones in the higher ranking."

"The purpose of the continuation to rank helmets and the joint decision with



Mark Lonnhan/Associated Press

A VICIS Zero1 helmet is displayed Sept. 11, 2017, in New York. The NFL for the first time is prohibiting certain helmets from being worn by players. In notifying the 32 teams Monday, the league has sought to have players stop using 10 helmet varieties. Laboratory testing showed that the VICIS Zero 1 models of 2017 and 2018 rate best for player safety.

the players' association to prohibit is to increase that movement into better performing helmets. We are encouraged this is an important step for better player safety."

A survey of players revealed at least 98 percent used one or more of the 34 helmet models tested. Data also showed that concussions were up in the NFL in 2017 to 291.

Laboratory testing showed that the VICIS Zero 1 models of 2017 and 2018 rate best for player safety. A chart specifying top-to-bottom rankings for the 34 helmets is posted at every team's training facility.

"We've begun to see that over the last couple of years players moving from helmets that rank in the poorly performing areas to those that are ranking closer to the top-performing helmets," Miller said. The 2018 Zero1 was the

only new helmet model tested this year.

"We're demonstrating our commitment by setting the pace for innovation and safety," said Dave Marver, CEO of VICIS, which has been making helmets for only four years. Marver estimated 70 players were using the Zero1 by the end of the 2017 season, and he expects "200 or more" to be in them before the upcoming season kicks off.

"What we have done is we now have three years of video review and looked at over 350 concussions," Crandall said. "We are starting to see trends in data. It's going to be a few more years" to gather enough information to pursue position-specific helmets.

Crandall noted that sensors will be used to evaluate helmets in college football this year. He's hopeful they will be used next year in the NFL.

"That gives us all types of information on each position," Crandall explained, "and then we can put together a test and share that data with manufacturers."

Marver believes a reduced helmet price from \$1,500 a year ago to \$950 by the end of last season — a drop enabled by higher volumes and lower manufacturing costs — and a reduction in weight by

a half-pound added to the Zero1's popularity. As for its high ranking, "players feel better when they are hit, they don't feel an impact so much. They say they don't get headaches, don't have those 'seeing stars moments.' Like how the helmet fits so when they move their heads it tracks really well. And there's the wider field of view our helmet provides."

He approves of the NFL banning certain helmets. "I was encouraged by it because the league and union have been telling manufacturers to be more assertive about encouraging players to wear the better testing helmets."

BOSTON

From 1C

both five-time champions, said they were unable to see through the spray that spun off their wheels.

"It was just tough, it was so freezing," Hug said through chattering teeth as a volunteer draped a second towel around his shoulders. "I'm just very glad that I made it."

McFadden said she wore two jackets, with plastic bags between layers to stay dry, and hand warmers against her chest. The wet roads made it treacherous to turn and impossible to stop.

"I could start to feel my arms getting heavy just from all the rain soaking in," she said. "You can't put your brakes on right away, so you had to be tedious on the turns. I couldn't even see because the wind was so strong."

On the fifth anniversary of the finish line explosions that killed three and wounded hundreds more, Linden became the first U.S. woman to win since Lisa Larsen Weidenbach in 1985 — before the race began offering prize money that lured the top international competitors to town.

Linden nearly ended the drought in 2011 when she was outkicked down Boylston Street and finished second by 2 seconds. This time she made the turn off of Hereford with a lead of more than half a mile.

"Probably 2011 is what put the fear in me," Linden said. "That sprint battle is not super fun. It was nice to get it right down Boylston this time, that's for sure."

A 34-year-old California native who lives in Michigan, Linden said she was so broken by the weather

that she wanted to drop out after a couple of miles but instead stuck around in case she could help one of her fellow Americans.

When four-time Olympian and reigning New York City Marathon champion Shalane Flanagan fell behind after needing a bathroom break, Linden let her draft so she could catch up to the pack. Later, she helped Molly Huddle reconnect with the group.

"And it turned out I was in third, and I thought, 'Well, I probably shouldn't drop out,'" said Linden, who also earned \$150,000.

Sellers, who finished 4:10 behind, is a full-time nurse who had to train before or after work — at 4 a.m. or 7 p.m. She said didn't believe it when she was told she had finished second, or that she earned \$75,000.

"Yeah, I'm in shock about that," she said. It was the second competitive marathon for Sellers, who was a distance runner at Weber State.

Canada's Krista Duchene was third, with a total of seven Americans in the women's top 10 and — for the second straight year — six in the men's.

The East Africans who have dominated the professional era of the race had their worst performance in decades: Kirui was the only Kenyan in the top ten for the men's race; defending champion Edna Kiplagat, who was ninth, helped prevent a shutout in the distaff division.

"Some of the women I was passing, I was in complete disbelief," Sellers said. "I have the utmost respect for who they are as athletes and as people."

BRISTOL

From 1C

"When it comes down to crunch time you gotta go," Busch said.

Asked if Keselowski had moved up on his list of favorites, Busch laughed and said, "That's pushing it too far."

"I kind felt bad for him, maybe that much," Busch said, pinching his thumb and index finger close together. "But it certainly helped our cause. So it was much appreciated, let's go with that."

Larson was leading when the race was postponed Sunday with 296 laps remaining after being delayed several times because of rain. The race also was delayed Monday for about 35 minutes, but the cars finally got back on the track after the rain and sleet subsided.

Larson said he wasn't sure why his car got loose late in the race, which allowed Busch to get by him.

"I just really didn't have any grip," Larson said. "I thought it would tighten up for me and I could get going, but it never really did and I was just really loose. I hate that I didn't win. It's another one at Bristol."

As for Busch, he has another Bristol sword to add to his collection, although he's not quite sure what he's going to do with all of those unusual trophies. "It's a cool problem to have," he said.

Johnson's top five

Jimmy Johnson was pleased with earning his first top-five finish of the season, and hoped to quiet some of his critics.

"We have it rolling in the right direction," Johnson said.

Ricky Stanhouse Jr. was fourth and Alex Bowman finished fifth.

Keselowski's day

Keselowski won the first two stages and initially appeared to be the car to beat. However, the No. 2 Ford struggled on a long green flag run late in the race and fell two laps behind after rolling in that something broke in his suspension. Keselowski hit the wall with 30 laps left, bringing out the final caution.

Wallace gets a head

Darrell "Bubba" Wallace now knows that it is like to run up front in a Cup Series race. Wallace passed Busch with 126 laps

remaining to lead a Cup race for the first time in his young career. It didn't last long, though, as Busch blew by him a short time later.

Who's hot

Daniel Suarez raced with a fractured thumb he suffered last week at Texas and finished in 11th place. Now that deserves a thumbs-up.

Who's not

Martin Truex Jr. continues to have a difficult time following up a tremendous championship season in 2017. He was in a wreck on Sunday and raced Monday without a hood, saying his goal was to "stay out of the way" of the other drivers. He finished 30th.

Up next

Busch will look to make it three straight wins next week at Richmond, a track where he has struggled in recent years. "We will try to get better and figure out we need to do to get around there well," Busch said. "It used to be easy, but the last few times we haven't been great as a company."

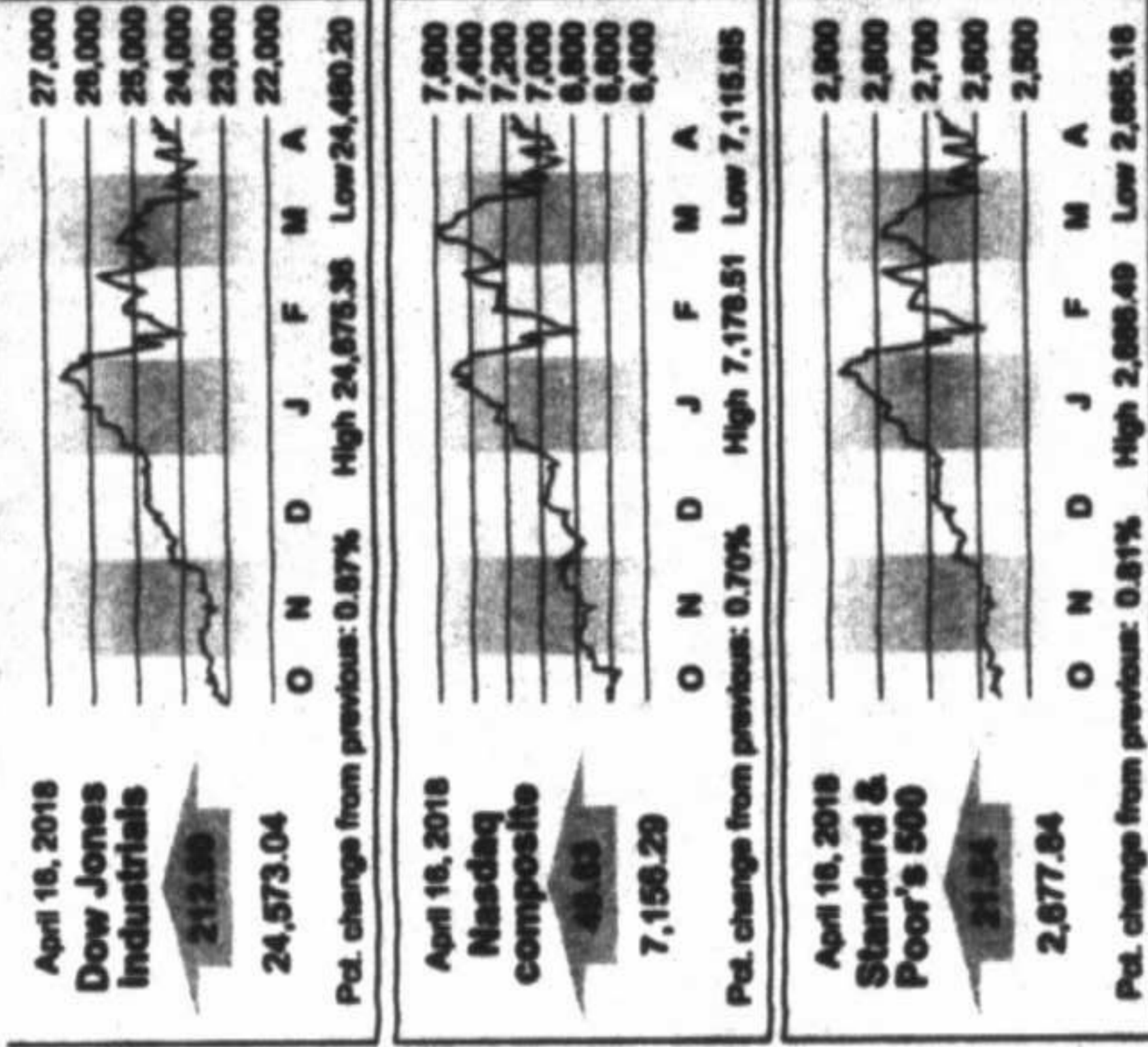
- BRISTOL** (NASCAR Sprint Cup Series) Ford City 200 Results
- Starting**
- At Bristol Raceway**
- Qualifying**
- Practice**
- Lap leaders in green/white**
1. (1) Jimmie Johnson, Toyota, 4:08.866
 2. (10) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 4:10.000
 3. (17) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 4:11.133
 4. (14) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 4:12.266
 5. (1) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 4:13.400
 6. (1) Joey Logano, Ford, 4:14.533
 7. (2) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 4:15.666
 8. (14) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:16.800
 9. (1) Joey Logano, Ford, 4:17.933
 10. (2) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 4:19.066
 11. (1) Chase Briscoe, Toyota, 4:20.200
 12. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:21.333
 13. (1) Paul Menard, Ford, 4:22.466
 14. (2) Casey Mears, Toyota, 4:23.600
 15. (2) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 4:24.733
 16. (2) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 4:25.866
 17. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 4:27.000
 18. (1) Matt Kenseth, Chevrolet, 4:28.133
 19. (2) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 4:29.266
 20. (2) Jordan Smith, Chevrolet, 4:30.400
 21. (2) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 4:31.533
 22. (2) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 4:32.666
 23. (2) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 4:33.800
 24. (2) Matt Kenseth, Chevrolet, 4:34.933
 25. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:36.066
 26. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:37.200
 27. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:38.333
 28. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:39.466
 29. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:40.600
 30. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:41.733
 31. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:42.866
 32. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:44.000
 33. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:45.133
 34. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:46.266
 35. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:47.400
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 45. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:58.733
 46. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 4:59.866
 47. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 5:01.000
 48. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 5:02.133
 49. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 5:03.266
 50. (2) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 5:04.400

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange data including various stock prices and market indicators.

ADAY ON WALL STREET



Summary tables for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, listing market activity and volume.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data with columns for stock symbols, prices, and changes.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds data listing various fund names and their performance metrics.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange data listing stock prices and market activity.

INDEXES

Table of various market indexes including Dow Jones, S&P 500, and others.

PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

Table of Permian Basin Stocks listing individual company names and their stock prices.

Permian Basin Stocks and the Oil Report every Monday to catch up with headlines never appears in the register.

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE



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- Develop, types and files correspondence.
- Enters data into the computer regarding police actions or projects.
- Processes and routes mail as needed.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

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Ability to read and understand manuals and reports in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as computers, copiers and printers. Skill in typing and word processing. Skill and experience in the operation of computerized systems in order to design or complete spreadsheets, forms or word processing assignments, brochures and programs. Experience in software with personal computers related to spreadsheets, databases and word processing.

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- Knowledge of air brake testing procedures and be able to instruct and evaluate
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- 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, office 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 more up to 75 pounds, capable of climbing stairs, balancing, stooping, and repetitive lifting
- Must successfully pass a DOT physical and DOT drug test

Line Walker & Meter Technician

Line Walker opening @ Natural Gas Processing Plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Must be physically able to walk long distances following natural gas lines.

Must pass pre-employment drug test, criminal history check and motor vehicle records check and have a valid Texas Driver's License. Excellent Salary, Paid Vacation, Medical Insurance, and 401k. Must be 21 to apply.

Meter Technician opening @ Natural Gas Processing Plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Looking for a dependable individual with knowledge of computer basics. Experience in oil and gas industry a must. Must pass pre-employment drug test, criminal history check and motor vehicle records check and have a valid Texas Driver's License. Excellent Salary, Paid Vacation, Medical Insurance, and 401k. Must be 21 to apply.

Please Send Resume To:
Plant Supervisor
11700 E. FM 848
Cuddles, TX 79611
Or Fax (432) 699-4299
Or Email carrho@nrg.com

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

Local company looking for a Local CDL Driver. Home at night! Clean driving record and pass drug/alcohol test. Paid Holidays, vacation benefits available. Salary, DOE to \$7, occasional Saturday mornings. Guaranteed 40hrs per week. Please contact Bill (937) 694-4926

CDL Drivers

Pro Oil and Gas Services now hiring CDL drivers class A with Hazmat, tanker endorsement. Start pay \$20 hour depending on experience, insurance and benefits. Must have clean driving record and pass DOT physical and drug test. Must also pass federal background check. 1607 wright schoolhouse. Send resume to: cdw@prooil.com

Mobile Crane Operators

Worlco Crane setting HOCDO certified hydraulic, all terrain operators. Pigeon, TX. Pay based on experience. Email: worlco@worlco.com



Associate Traffic Engineer

Job Duties:

- Support or substitute for the City Traffic Engineer as needed
- Oversee and/or participate in the development, configuration, and operation of the City's computerized control systems
- Manage and perform warrant studies for traffic signals, stop signs, crosswalks, school zones, speed limits and others
- Review commercial and residential development requests
- Review all phases of the planning process for commercial and retail development
- Prepare analysis and recommendations in support of geometric, roadway, intersection, and other infrastructure improvements
- Prepare analysis and recommendations for the installation and maintenance of traffic control devices within the city

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in civil engineering or related field with a minimum of three years' experience in traffic engineering or related field
- Master's degree in civil engineering or related field may be substituted for three years' experience.
- Valid Texas driver's license required.
- Certification as an Engineer in Training (EIT) preferred.

Benefits:

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

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

LVN

LVN -Full Time needed for Addition medical clinic. Early morning hours. Medication Management, TB tests, blood draws, medical orders. Paid vacations, holidays, personal days. Routine travel between Midland and Odessa. No health insurance available. Please fax resume to 800-671-8384.

LVN

LVN -Full Time needed for Addition medical clinic. Early morning hours. Medication Management, TB tests, blood draws, medical orders. Paid vacations, holidays, personal days. Routine travel between Midland and Odessa. No health insurance available. Please fax resume to 800-671-8384.

Full Time Maintenance

Currently looking for Full-Time Maintenance. Experience needed. Apply in person at Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 6285 W Loop 289 II, Midland, TX 79707.



GIS Manager

Reporting to the Engineering Services Director, this position oversees the development and management of the City of Midland Geographic Information System (GIS). This includes staff supervision, budgeting, testing, etc.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Manages the GIS Division budget and recommends budget request for new hardware and software as appropriate.

Job Duties:

- Supervises GIS Division staff.
- Provides planning and direction for GIS growth to serve the City and Public.
- Provides general customer service; responds to concerns and inquiries related to - Division services.
- Acquires and reviews contracts provided by consultants for GIS services, e.g. - LIDAR, ortho-rectified imagery, etc.
- Develops policies and standards for the GIS Division.
- Manages the setting of priorities for projects, software, hardware, and application development.
- Oversees development of GIS applications, web services, and tools to ensure they are current and within industry standards and practices.
- Oversees the GIS Division in managing ArcGIS Server installation, maintenance, upgrades and use.
- Provides user-training services, as requested.
- Independently prepares and delivers reports and presentations to City Commissioners, City Management, and outside agency officials. Serves as representative of GIS for the City to other departments and outside agencies.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies; and to respond to inquiries from Commissioners, City Management, consultants, vendors, business, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to solve complex problems. Ability to supervise and manage other staff with a variety of skills and abilities.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of ArcGIS desktop (ArcGIS Desktop, ArcGIS Online, ArcGIS Pro), solid understanding of database design/management and programming in desktop.

Knowledge of land surveying, municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures in desktop.

Bachelor's degree in GIS, Geography, Computer Science, Engineering, or a related technical or business field required. Minimum of five years' experience using ArcGIS software required. Master's degree in a related field preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:

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

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

CDL Hot Shot Drivers

Offroad Trucking Company now accepting applications for CDL Hot Shot Drivers. On call position - paid weekly per job commission. Job description: 1-2 ton WP trucks - pulling related trailers to and from oil field locations. Heavy machinery maintenance skills required. Must be 25 years of age with 1 year CDL, driving experience and live in the Midland or Ector County areas. Benefits include: Health Insurance, uniform and cell phone allowance. For applications call Leo (7's) Enterprise 432-570-0283 / leo@offroadtrucking.com

Free Sand CDL Drivers & Owner Operators

Local trucking company now hiring Free Sand Class A CDL Drivers & Owner Operators, clean driving record required. Must pass a criminal background check and DOT drug test. Apply in person at 2919 FM 715, Midland, Texas 79706

Service Driver

6000 Essential Vehicle Inc Service driver needed. Good driving record required. Apply in person job 4800 S. State Hwy 845, Midland, TX 79705.



Planning Division Manager

Manages Planning Division office including professional planners, technicians, and occasional staff. Reviews items for consideration by appointed boards and commissions and elected officials.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Prepares and administers the annual division budget. Monitors expenditures during the year and makes recommendations for budget modifications.

Job Duties:

- Reviews staff work including reports, maps and special studies for presentation to Planning Commission and City Council.
- Coordinates, supervises and manages staff time.
- Prepares, administers and monitors annual budget.
- Presents information at public meetings. Participates with other staff members concerning interrelated projects.
- Reviews various questions from general public and developers concerning city ordinances, development trends, and population.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Employee communicates with other employees in the work group. Communication with the general public, developers, outside agencies and other departments within the organization is required.

Knowledge of planning and zoning process. Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in writing and interpreting budgets. Ability to write and receive reports, memos and other correspondence. Ability to supervise and communicate with employees. Basic comprehension of computer use. Valid Texas Driver License.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in geography, planning or related field required. Graduate work or advanced degree in planning preferred. Three to five years experience in a related field required, preferably including supervisory experience.

Benefits:

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

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



Right-Of-Way Manager

This position manages the acquisition, sale, and financing of City rights-of-way and other real property, oversees the acquisition of transactions of real property, and administers the issuance of easements and licenses to outside parties for the use of City-owned rights-of-way and property.

Budgetary Responsibilities:

Assist management staff with recommendations and budget data for potential right-of-way and easement acquisitions for public improvements.

Job Duties:

- Develops policies and procedures for standardization of third-party use of City rights-of-way and property.
- Manages the distribution of surface damages for City rights-of-way and other real property owned by the City, including 47,000+ acres of City-owned parcels.
- Oversees and negotiates Surface Use Agreements, Right-of-Way License Agreements, Easement Agreements, for third-party users of City-owned parcels or rights-of-way, and coordinates with appropriate City Department or Management.
- Prepares and presents reports to City officials, Council members, and representatives of outside agencies.
- Manages Acquisitions, Title Work, and coordinates Closings on behalf of interest.
- Coordinates and processes public assessments for City projects.
- Coordinates departmental actions related to acquisition of real property to ensure compliance with City policies, and legal and regulatory guidelines.
- Coordinates preparation of offers to purchase, leases, deeds, exchange agreements, easements, releases, and related property transaction documents.
- Coordinates with others and utilizes engineering plans and data to determine scope of property legal descriptions and boundaries, site histories, etc.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and processes.

Knowledge of land surveying, all drilling and pipeline operations, and typical protocols in industry practices related to land use and acquisition in desktop. Knowledge of municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures in desktop.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies; and to respond to inquiries from Council members, consultants, vendors, business, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of Arc GIS desktop software is desirable.

Bachelor's degree required. Minimum of five years' experience in real estate, land acquisition, or a similar field. Valid Texas Driver's license required.

Benefits:

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

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

EARN UP TO \$500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone??
Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the in the Midland and Odessa areas.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001



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 mild to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

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

Position type and expected hours of work:
 This is a full-time position. The ability to work overtime is a requirement to performing this job.

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

Endeavor Energy Resources
Now hiring for a Field Technician.

The Field Technician will provide advanced retreating 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
- Consistently demonstrate safe unloading of fluids while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safety using pipe wrenches, crescent wrenches and other hand tools
- Immediate reporting and cleaning 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 mild to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:
 Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift/carry/push/pull/move/lift 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.

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
- Bully Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience. Valid Texas Class A CDL, endorsements 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 79701

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 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person.

\$ 13.00 PER HOUR

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk
 - Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

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

Requires Driver's permit or previous experience. Must have own tools, Valid Texas Driver's License. Pay will depend on work experience, 60 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 79701

Grounds Crew Maintenance
 Resistant Hills Golf Club now hiring full-time Grounds Crew.

Job: Operate equipment used for care and maintenance of golf course.

- Work in outdoors in all types of weather. Full travel duties as assigned.
- Full training provided. Education: High school diploma or GED, 6 months experience preferred. Lunch and culture provided. \$13.50 per hour. Call 432-683-2311, 1000 S. Wesley, Midland, TX.

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.

\$ 13.00 PER HOUR

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk
 - Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

MIDLAND NOW HIRING Planner

Performs field and office work related to planning and development programs for all-facility of land and physical facilities of the city.

Job Duties:

- Prepare special studies and reports related to code amendments and annexation studies. Assist with comprehensive plan and studies and updates as necessary.
- Prepare statistical reports such as census population estimates.
- Research, compile and analyze land use and related data.
- Work with the public and develop in answering questions and providing information.
- Perform related duties as required.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with developers and citizens in order to provide information and guidance on planning and zoning issues. Ability to work in conjunction with employees from different departments.
- Knowledge of recent planning programs and procedures. Ability to read and understand technical materials, reports and journals. SKI in developing related reports and ability to analyze and present data on land use applications and planning. Ability to effectively communicate, both orally and in writing, to citizens and other government officials.
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in architecture, planning, engineering or economics plus one to three years of experience. Valid Texas Driver's License.

Benefits:

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

Apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND NOW HIRING
Public Safety Dispatcher

Directs calls for service for emergency purposes and directs non-emergency inquiries.

Job Duties:

- Answers the phone and assists citizens with requests for emergency and non-emergency services for police, fire, sheriff and emergency medical services.
- Directs citizens inquiries and non-emergency calls to the appropriate agency or organization.
- Dispatches law enforcement and fire and rescue personnel and notifies support and crisis personnel as needed through the use of multi-channel radio system and computer aided dispatch system.
- Requests and disseminates vehicle registration, driver's license, criminal history information through the use of the Texas National Computer System (TNCS, NCIC).
- Obtains computer information and disseminates to law enforcement officials and investigators. Enters related information into the system.
- Sends and receives teletype information to and from related agencies.
- Maintains records of work performed.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Ability to work with dispatch equipment and communicate with citizens and emergency personnel in highly stressful, possibly emergency situations. Employee communicates with other employees in the work group, citizens and other law enforcement agencies in order to discuss requests for service and possible critical activities. Will also exchange information or request assistance from other agencies and make referrals when necessary.
- Ability to read and understand technical and professional manuals in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. SKI in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as specialized computers and related information systems and two-way radio dispatch equipment. Typing speed of 38 WPM.
- Will also be required to take and pass ALL tests.

1. Keyboarding
 2. Data Entry MT
 3. Data Entry RT (Audio)
 4. Call Summarization
 5. Memory Recall-Numeric (Audio)
 6. Map Reading
 7. Spelling
 8. Sentence Clarity
 9. Reading Comprehension

Employees work rotating shifts and gather, organize, translate and process information from various emergency callers.

DAYS & HOURS:
 Rotating Shifts; Rotating Days Off - Valid Texas Driver License.

Benefits:

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

Apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND NOW HIRING
Recycle Supervisor

Supervises and monitors Citizens Collection Station and recycle drivers in day to day operations and projects. Works as a service attendant at the Citizens Collection Station as needed. Acts as a Solid Waste Supervisor as needed.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Provides input as to needed equipment and employment positions. Monitors supplies and equipment at the Citizens Collection Station.

Job Duties:

- Schedules and monitors the work of subordinate employees.
- Inspects employees in the use, care, and preventive maintenance of equipment and machinery.
- Tracks attendance, manuals, and other specifications in order to determine and make necessary repairs and maintenance.
- Maintains equipment in good working order and keeps records of work performed.
- Ensures the cleanliness and maintenance of facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
- Acts as the customer service representative of the Recycle Division at the Citizens Collection Station and on recycle issues.
- Keeps records and reports readily available.
- Coordinates efforts with Solid Waste operations.
- Serves as service attendant when necessary.
- Serves as a Solid Waste Supervisor when necessary.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Ability to effectively communicate with employees and to receive work orders or to schedule for any project. Interacts frequently with the public, vendors, and government agency representatives.
- Ability to read, interpret, and understand local, state, and federal regulations related to disposal of refuse. Knowledge of processes used in the disposal of solid waste. SKI in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities. Ability to train others in safe operation of equipment. Ability to work with cash and adhere to cash-handling policies. Ability to properly evaluate activities and make recommendations for improvement. Good public relation skills as well as verbal and written communication skills.
- High school diploma or general education degree required and some college preferred. One to three years of experience in Solid Waste and/or operating and evaluating the work of others preferred. Must possess a valid Texas Driver's License and possess or receive a valid Texas Class 'B' Commercial Solid Waste Operator License within two years of hire date.

Benefits:

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

Apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

WAREHOUSE CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE
 Rip Griffin Oil Company, 3010 S. FM 1706, Midland, Texas 79708

Warehouse Customer Service Associate. Duties include: Answer phones, Take customer orders, Coordinate deliveries, Maintain inventory, Encourage safe work habits, Keep all files current, Handle computer aided telephone orders. Good pay, Good benefits, Let's Go Home. Resumes to apply@ripgriffin.com for an interview

BUFFALO WILD WINGS
 Now Hiring Full Time Managers. Send Resumes via Fax to 800-763-8891 or Email to buffalowildwings@buffalowildwings.com

Cashier & General Help
 KO'S Bar-B-Q is looking for cashier & general help. Have a good attitude, love working with others and work hard? Then we want you! Full or part time. Closed Sunday & Monday. Fun & friendly place to work, family-owned, insurance provided. Must speak English, have great customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & responsible. Apply in person: 3108 Garden City Hwy, or submit resume.

Server / Host / Bartender
 Are you fun, attractive, charming & have a great personality? Do you love making great money while having fun at your job? If so, we have made for each other!

Apply today in person or at Midland.com/careers.
 1100 Pub & Eatery, 1110 Tradeville Blvd., Midland, TX 79705, (432) 693-6488

MIDLAND NOW HIRING
Well Field Technician - Support Well Field

Has primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of well fields, Water Production Plant and associated public water storage.

Job Duties:

- Execute other Utility Department duties as required.
- Perform operation and maintenance duties as required at WPP.
- Controls water distribution processes to meet regulatory standards.
- Operates and maintains various water production and storage equipment.
- Obtains monthly reports and maintenance records.
- Obtains and controls booster pump and storage.
- Keeps current on professional developments in the field.
- Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
- Performs routine cleaning of assigned area.
- Maintains house and grounds at well field compounds.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.
- SKI in observing, reading and interpreting water materials. Knowledge of pump, valves and lower operations and maintenance. Knowledge of chemistry and standards. SKI in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. On call 50% of overtime and weekends.
- High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and obtain a valid "C" Commercial License from the state of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive National Instruments Level and SCADA certification within 1 year of on-call. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Valid Texas class "C" CDL required or must be obtained within 1 year of employment.

Benefits:

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

Apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

RETAIL JOBS

Full Time Cashier
Health Food Store is taking applications for energetic and friendly full-time cashiers. Pleasant work environment, friendly customers, caring management, generous employee discount and paid vacations. Apply in person Monday through Friday only 9am to 5pm at Natural Foods Market, 2311 W. Wadley, Midland, TX.

Full Time Receiving
Health food store is taking applications for a receiving person. Five day work week, 30-40 hrs per week. Positive work environment, caring management and pleasant customers. Apply in person Monday through Friday only, 9a.m. to 5p.m. at Natural Foods Market, 2311 W. Wadley, Midland, Texas 79707

Retail Professional
Julian Gold, Midland's premier women's fashion store, is seeking a full time retail professional to join our sales team. The ideal candidate will have fashion retail experience and be eager to grow in our fast paced environment.
Merchandising or management experience a plus! We offer great benefits, including paid vacation, insurance and 401K. Applications accepted in store or online - no phone calls, please. Email resumes to: ginger@juliangold.com 2101 W. Wadley, Ste. 16, Midland, TX 79705
Julian Gold

SALES JOBS

Digital Media Account Executive
We must be alarmingly enterprising and startlingly original. We must be honest and fearless. And we must speak a revolution.
William Randolph Hearst, 1887
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 a Digital Media Account Executive 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.

As a Digital Media Account Executive, you can expect the following:
• Drive digital product sales.
• Be the Digital Media Guru with a solid understanding of Digital Media, Marketing and Advertising.
• Ability to conduct sales calls with SMB owners.
• Be in the field and on sales calls, leading by example, to sell our various digital products using the current and evolving sales process.
• Consult and educate clients in Digital Advertising and Marketing.
• Assist sales and marketing in promoting the entire line of digital products.
• Develop coaching plans and track results through sales management team.
• Identify trends, quantify impact, and communicate improvement opportunities to the product team.
• Primary source of sales pitch and strategy development and implementation for digital products.

Requirements:
• Highly knowledgeable with digital media. SEO, SEM, Digital Advertising.
• Confidence in pitching and closing business.
• Strong focus on teamwork and ability to manage relationships across multiple departments.
• Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, and thrive in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment.
• Bachelor's Degree preferred.
• Valid US driver's license and reliable transportation.

The perks:
• A great work environment it's never boring here!
• Paid in-depth sales and product training.
• Competitive base salary, uncapped commissions for unlimited earning potential, and significant opportunity for advancement within the company.
• Collaboration ideas and input are always welcome.
• Health, dental, 401k, paid time off we have you covered.
Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearst.com No Phone Calls Please.

Employment Account 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 an Employment Account Executive just like you to join our team! We are looking for an experienced Human Resources executive that wants to help hiring managers in Midland and West Texas utilize our advanced hiring platform - TexasBackToWork.com. This platform allows hiring managers to access the largest pool of potential job candidates and track them through the recruitment process.

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 hiring needs. 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.

The ideal candidate will have experience in the Human Resources area and will maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships with hiring managers. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-development with local and regional businesses. We pride ourselves on simplifying the hiring process for our customers. You will be selling a digital hiring solution to your customers with a regional, statewide and national footprint.

Responsibilities include:
• Consistently meet/exceeds revenue goals.
• Develops relationships with HR departments throughout West Texas to sell and promote Texas Back to Work.
• Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demos.
• Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience.

The Ideal Candidate:
• Experience within Human Resources or Employment Agency is preferred.
• 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:
• Passion to succeed 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.robbins@hearst.com No Phone Calls Please.

CDL Mixer Drivers
AJ Concrete, LLC is hiring CDL drivers, form setters and concrete finishers. Excellent pay. Call (432) 694-1994.

CDL DRIVERS, TECHNICIANS, YARD PERSONNEL AND MORE NEEDED IN MIDLAND

IMPACT! Chemical Technologies is seeking MULTIPLE POSITIONS including:
Laboratory Technicians
Blend Plant Personnel
Yard Personnel
CDL Drivers
Service Technicians
Experience a Plus. Excellent pay and benefits. Please send resumes to: tohannon@impactchemtech.com or PO Box 10887, Midland, TX 79702.



MIDLAND NOW HIRING

Systems Administrator
Performs network and system support functions on segments of the computer environment, including planned and emergency maintenance; performance and security analysis; and monitoring, tuning, and implementing new products and procedures. Analyzes emerging technology and makes recommendations for constant improvements to network and infrastructure services and capabilities.

Job Duties:
• Designs and coordinates segments of the IT architecture.
• Manages server applications, including but not limited to social media, Active Directory, operating systems, and email.
• Produces and maintains IT design, architectural, and specifications documentation, as identified.
• Manages information storage systems, schedules, and tests, including backup and recovery tests, as identified.
• Provides research, development, and planning of the IT infrastructure.
• Is responsible for the validating, building, and testing IT solutions, analyzing IT infrastructure technical issues, and supporting the design, planning, building, and testing of new IT solutions, as assigned.
• Performs related duties as assigned.
• Subject to recall 24/7.

Qualifications:
• Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science plus two years of experience in a related field is required.
• Four years experience may be substituted for the Bachelor's degree requirement.
• Valid Texas Driver's License.

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
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MIDLAND NOW HIRING

Fleet Technician
Diagnoses, repairs and maintains city trucks and heavy equipment.

Job Duties:
• Diagnoses equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, suspension system, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimates costs and advises on specifications.
• Determines the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tire and mufflers.
• Inspects vehicles for state stickers.
• Determines readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Installs special equipment.
• Employees must provide own hand tools. City supplies master equipment including power tools, computerized analyzer, and other diagnostic equipment.
• Reads blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs.
• Performs emergency repairs for various departments.
• Maintains records of work performed such as work orders, logs, historical information, and special written requests.

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

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
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MIDLAND NOW HIRING

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

Job Duties:
• Visually inspects properties for code violations as initiated by a complaint or routine inspection.
• Enters data into the computer to generate notice of violations to property owners or to assess penalties.
• Responds to citizen calls regarding code violations, real information regarding zoning or city regulations.
• Researches planned districts, nonconforming uses, plats and legal uses appropriate for the department.
• Manages city contracts for the clearing of lots, to include bidding projects, preparing contracts, executing contracts and preparing payments to contractors.
• Conducts inspections to ensure proper environmental compliance in response to complaints.
• Provides information to the public and contractors regarding the requirements of zoning and related code and city requirements.
• Conducts field inspections of residential and commercial violations, abandoned structures and other properties for compliance with city codes.
• Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
• Ability to effectively communicate with developers, citizens and other employees in order to provide information regarding city codes and possible violations.
• Ability to read and understand materials including City Ordinances, professional blueprints, correspondence and manuals. Ability to write reports and correspondence. Skills in math. Skills to communicate both orally and in writing. Knowledge of office equipment including personal computer.

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

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
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MIDLAND NOW HIRING

Customer Service (Field Work)
Performs field work regarding current or past water service.

Job Duties:
• Always wear on for new customers, disconnects water for customers leaving or re-connects service that has been disconnected. Obtains new or current readings due to new service or broken flow.
• Checks meters for leaks or in-correctly metered.
• While meters should be turned on when customer fails to set up service.
• Collects and disposes of water bills so that water can be connected.
• Changes air breaks meter stop valves and meter box lids.
• Studies or watches meter installation when complete as that.
• Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
• Ability to effectively communicate with citizens, other departments and employees in order to provide information on current repairs or the reading of meters.
• Ability to read from meters and read and write in order to find street locations. Skill in math in determining amount of water allowed. Skill in the use of variety of hand tools such as shears, water wrenches and meter keys.

Valid Texas Driver's License required. Employees must be available.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
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MULTIPLE POSITIONS
SPS Solutions is looking to hire Heavy Machinery Operators such as excavators, bulldozers, skid steer, wheel loader and backhoes. Pay is based on an experience and hourly. Full time hours plus OT. If interested please email Tully at Tully@spssolutions.com or call (432) 355-0700.

MIDLAND NOW HIRING

Effluent Distribution Technician
Maintains photos in good working order and prevents holding ponds from overflowing.

Job Duties:
• Determines which pump units to operate and maintains center photo in good working order. Repairs and services when necessary.
• Operates gates and bypass systems in order to store water without allowing holding ponds to overflow. Determines when and when to store water.
• Monitors operations in order to apply the proper amount of water.
• Repairs water line leaks and breaks.
• Uses equipment such as loaders and backhoes in order to fill gullies caused by operations.
• Maintains and repairs electrical systems on central pivot units.
• Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
• Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.
• Ability to read operator's manuals, gauges and work orders in order to maintain or repair meters or parts. Skill in writing to record results.

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

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
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MIDLAND NOW HIRING

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

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

Qualifications:
• Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.
• Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in the operation of hand tools and equipment such as electrical measuring meters and devices.

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

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
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• Employee Wellness Program
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MIDLAND NOW HIRING

Electrical/Electronics Tech - WPP
Troubleshoots and maintains electrical, SCADA and control equipment for the well field, Purification Plant, Water Pollution Control Plant, water storage towers, booster station.

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

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

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

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

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
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MIDLAND NOW HIRING

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

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

Job Duties:
• Responsible for the daily operation of laboratories in support of the Utilities Department.
• Conduct bacteriological, chemical, physical and instrumental analysis of water and wastewater samples submitted to the laboratory.
• Calibrates equipment and supplies for the laboratory as well as for the City's facilities. This includes accurately measuring volumetric results testing of chemicals, equipment, and equipment used for daily operations.
• Collects, organizes, and interprets results of environmental, water and wastewater samples.
• Prepares requests for use of the laboratory and performs standardization of reagents to ensure quality.
• Maintains work books, registers, and equipment in an orderly, safe, and clean manner.
• Distributes accurate and extensive analytical data results of data for future use.
• Investigates and reports on complaints and all other problems delegated by the Director of Utilities.
• Makes monthly reports or as required to the Water Pollution Agency and Utilities.
• Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
• Keeps abreast of State/Federal regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
• Performs related duties as required. Available for on-call obligations and work on weekends as needed.

Qualifications:
• Employee has contact with general public, other employees, and other organizations.
• Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Must have skill in writing to record results of analysis. Employee generates reports and reports of work performed. Ability to perform chemical analysis. Must have thorough knowledge of chemistry and good knowledge of water and wastewater treatment. Must possess knowledge of computer software and applications. Working in a laboratory lab preferred.

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

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
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MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Engineering Tech - Construction Inspector

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

Job Duties:

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

Qualifications:

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

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

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

Must have obtained a High school diploma or equivalent GED plus 5 years of experience in civil construction trades. College degree or construction certifications preferred. Extensive knowledge of state, federal, and local laws and requirements regarding construction, surveying and safety standards.

Extensive skill in observing, reading and interpreting written technical materials and construction drawings. Extensive knowledge of city codes and ordinances and other state and federal requirements regarding utility construction and safety standards.

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

Benefits:

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

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MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Equipment Operator - Landfill

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

Job Duties:

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

Qualifications:

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

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

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

Benefits:

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

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MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Equipment Operator - Water and Wastewater

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

Qualifications:

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

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

High school diploma or equivalent required. Valid Texas CDL Class A driver's license required or must be obtained within 6 months of employment. Must possess or be able to obtain Wastewater Certification Class I and Water Distribution D Certificate with in a reasonable length of time.

Benefits:

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

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Field Service Techs, Shop Techs & Mechanics

JSW Services and Equipment Company is seeking Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians and Mechanics. 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 2510 E. Hwy 158 in Midland or go online to www.jsw.com for application and submit to info@jsw.com.

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Lead Water Purification Plant Operator

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

Benefits:

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

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Equal Opportunity Employer

Toppers & Painters

Now hiring experienced Toppers and Painters exp. Must come to office to see our specifications at 800 W. Ohio Street, Ste 201 A, Midland, Texas. Sun-Thurs 9am-5pm - Friday, 432-662-7999

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Maintenance Specialist - Animal Services

Maintain the animal shelter and grounds, provide quality care for the animals in our custody and assist the public and other animal control personnel.

Job Duties:

- Process animals that are brought to the animal shelter by providing health evaluations, parasite control, scarring for microchips and placing in the proper holding area.
- Maintain the sanitation and environment of kennel areas, cat facilities, quarantine areas, utility facilities and adjacent animal room.
- Assists in euthanasia and the disposal of animals as required.
- Maintains and operates the animal cremation system for mass disposal and private cremations.
- Picks up large quantities of dead animals from veterinarians for disposal by cremation.
- Micro-chips animals that leave animal control custody.
- Labels dead and live animals from the public, veterinarians and animal control offices.
- Performs preventative maintenance on equipment, building and grounds.
- Provides assistance to visitors.
- Operates a vehicle to pick up dead livestock and supplies and other machinery.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or animals that may be in the kennel. Employee may have direct contact with other animal control personnel such as the SPCA, various humane societies and animal rescue organizations.

Ability to deal with the public and provide humane care for the animals. Some knowledge in the recognition of animal diseases is needed. Ability to follow both written and oral instructions is also necessary.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must be able to obtain Department of State Health Services Basic Certification within one year of employment. Must be able to obtain euthanasia certification within six months of employment.

Benefits:

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

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Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Maintenance Specialist - Parks - Sports Complex

Performs all routine maintenance work for the parks division at the sports complex, including special events.

Job Duties:

- Performs routine building and grounds maintenance.
- Removes trash from containers.
- Repairs grounds and athletic areas and facilities for repairs.
- Operates and maintains equipment used in daily operations. Files out reports and submits to supervisor.
- Helps set up of special events and sports tournaments.
- Obtains work orders and reports as required.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

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

Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in troubleshooting air conditioning and plumbing. Ability to operate hand tools and equipment such as mowers, gas powered blowers, saws and other gardening and maintenance tools.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas Driver's License, CDL, preferred.

Benefits:

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

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PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control of well services equipment. Home nights.

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.

Compensation/Benefits/condition:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nights, local routes, unskilled skills. Sun-Spm (147 national) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- Valid operator's license.
- Clean driving record.
- DOT compliant

Compensation/Benefits/condition:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling materials to drill rigs, fracturing sites, etc. Hauls water/cracks from well locations to proper disposal facility.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to two years as a tractor/trailer driver required.
- Valid Class A CDL with Trailer endorsement.
- Clean driving record.
- Ability to communicate and demonstrate with qualifications and experience.

Compensation/Benefits/condition:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Plant Maintenance Mechanic - Water Purification Plant

Performs skilled & semi-skilled maintenance duties as they relate to equipment repair and upkeep. Perform manufacturer recommended preventative maintenance to equipment at the Water Purification Plant.

Job Duties:

- Repairs equipment including pumps, chemical feeders, valves and specialized equipment.
- Performs preventative maintenance on plant equipment according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- Performs annual maintenance on plants including but not limited to cleaning and painting of water treatment basins and painting of equipment.
- Performs electrical repairs including wiring of electric motors, switches, and panels.
- Troubleshoots electrical problems including checking and repairing control circuits.
- Carries as a shift relief as needed, assuming full authority, duties and responsibilities of position that is being filled.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

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

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of plant operations and maintenance. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. Skill in the use of hand tools, test equipment, and welding tools. May work rotating shifts.

High school diploma or equivalent required. One to three years experience in a related field preferred. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Water license within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Texas Class "C" CDL or have the ability to obtain license within a reasonable amount of time.

Benefits:

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

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MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Service Center Technician

Performs the installation and repair and general maintenance on vehicles and machinery.

Job Duties:

- Repair flat tires. Removes and installs wheels and tires from vehicles and equipment.
- Responds to requests for towing and service calls.
- Performs electrical jump starts on vehicles and equipment.
- Performs diagnostic checks on batteries and alternators. Charges out as necessary.
- Balance tires.
- Performs engine oil and filter changes. Changes transmission oils and filters.
- Clean and maintain shop facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
- Order and issues parts.
- Operate work orders, charges out parts and closes work orders as required.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with employees, management and vendors in order to diagnose repairs and order materials for repair.

Knowledge of proper tools used in general automotive repairs. Ability to safely use tools, vehicles and equipment such as wrenches, the hammers and breakers bars, file and wheel balancers, the machines, jacks, air impact wrenches, fork lifts and assorted hand tools. Skill in the reading and practical application of manuals, schematics and other similar specifications used by city departments. Ability to read, measure and calculate types and sizes of materials needed and ability to reason amount of time that will be used in the actual repair process. Ability to speak, understand and follow instructions in English.

High school diploma or equivalent plus one year of general service station experience is required. Experience in heavy vehicles, changing oil and all filters, and changing or repairing auto and large equipment tires is also required. Employee must have maintainable government and a minimum of their residence. A valid Texas license required, CDL preferred. Must have a State of Texas Inspection License or ability to obtain within 90 days.

DEYS & HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 2:30 pm to 11:00 pm

Benefits:

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

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MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Utility Plant Operator - Water Purification Plant

The primary function of a Water Plant employee is to perform semi-skilled and skilled operations and maintenance duties in our water facility, including monitoring, operating, maintaining and adjusting equipment. Additionally, an employee performs data collection and reporting functions to ensure compliance with Federal and State water quality requirements & standards.

Job Duties:

- Bathes and completes chemical analysis of water samples, interpret and log results.
- Controls water treatment processes to meet regulatory standards.
- Operates and maintains various water plant equipment and machinery.
- Maintains daily and hourly records of plant operations.
- Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage within the City.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
- Reports maintenance issues that affect plant operations.
- Includes maintenance performed on equipment and when needed.
- Performs routine cleaning of work areas.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

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

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. Must work rotating shifts.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Surface Water license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Class "C" Texas driver's license.

Benefits:

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

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MIDLAND
NOW HIRING

Well Field Technician - Pool Work

Has primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of well fields, Water Purification and associated potable water storage.

Job Duties:

- Administer other Utility Department Duties as required.
- Performs Operator II maintenance duties as required at WTP.
- Controls water distribution processes to meet regulatory standards.
- Operates and maintains various water production and storage equipment.
- Maintains required records of operations, generates weekly report and maintenance records.
- Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
- Performs routine cleaning of confined areas. Maintains grounds at well field compounds.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

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

RELOCATION INDICATORY

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of pumps, valves and water operations and maintenance. Knowledge of electrical and electronics. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. On call 24/7 coverage and weekends.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Operator license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Texas Class "C" CDL, or have the ability to obtain license within a reasonable amount of time.

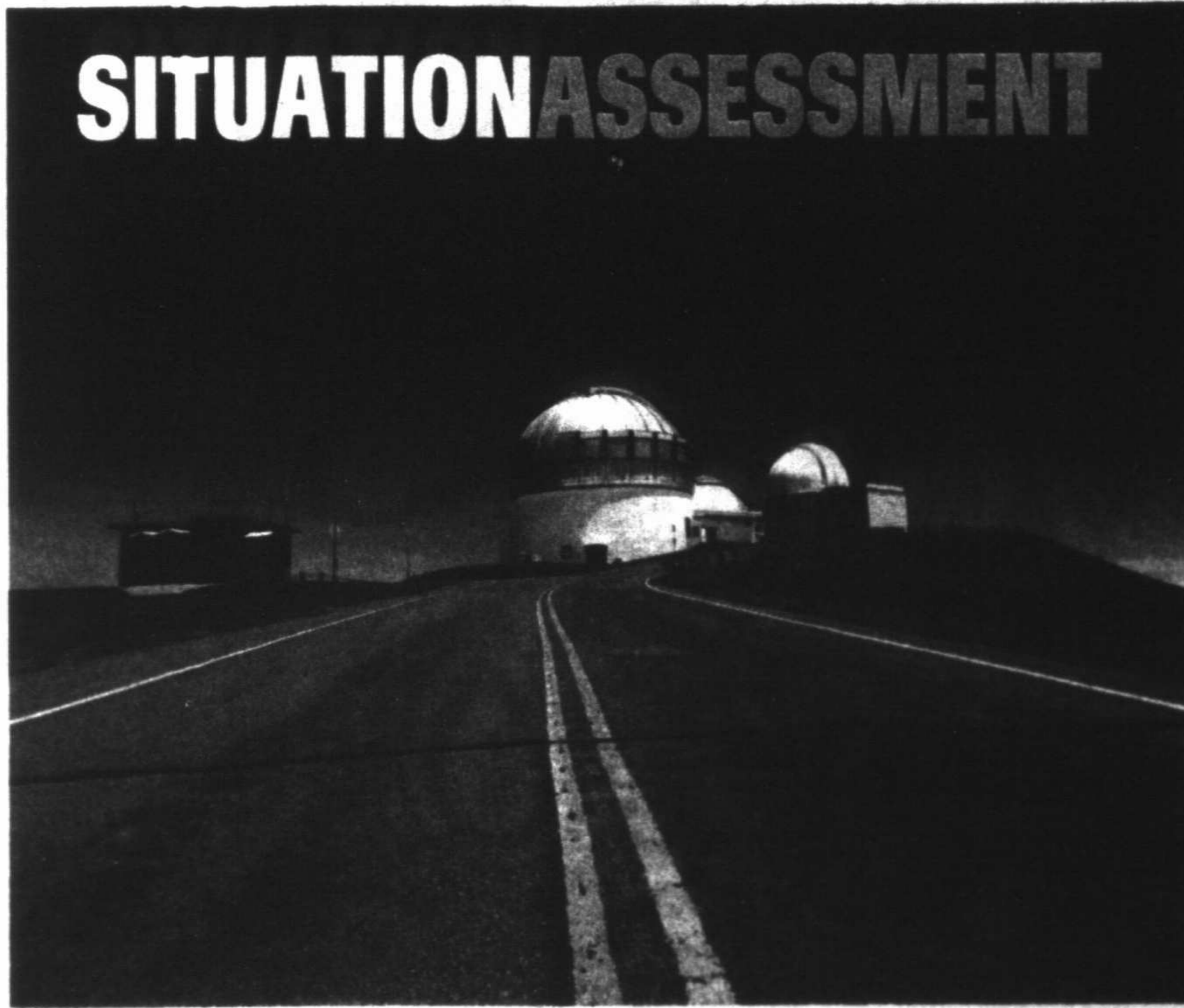
Benefits:

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

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 17, 2018 | Page 6D



AP file photo

Telescopes are shown Aug. 31, 2015, on Mauna Kea, Hawaii's tallest mountain and the proposed construction site for a new \$1.4 billion telescope, near Hilo, Hawaii. On Friday, officials with the Thirty Meter Telescope International Observatory have delayed a decision whether to continue efforts to construct it at its preferred site in Hawaii or at an alternate site in Spain's Canary Islands.

SITUATION ASSESSMENT

Hawaii board delays decision on telescope

■ 98-foot diameter telescope could be placed on Mauna Kea or Spain's Canary Islands

By Sophia Yan
Associated Press

HONOLULU — A key decision on whether to place a \$1.4 billion telescope in Hawaii to further astronomy research has been delayed, leaving open the possibility the project may be moved to Spain, a panel said Friday.

The board of governors for the project dubbed the Thirty Meter Telescope International Observatory still wants to build the telescope on its preferred site of Mauna Kea, a mountain in Hawaii.

But an alternative location in Spain's Canary Islands remains under consideration, the board said in a statement after meeting (last) week to discuss legal and regulatory challenges to the Hawaii telescope plan that could last years.

"We continue to assess the ongoing situation as we work toward a decision," said Ed Stone, the executive director of the observatory.

He said no decision can be made on where to put the telescope "until we have a place to go, and we don't decide when we have a place to go — that's decided by the courts and agencies."

The 98-foot-diameter telescope would be placed on one side of Mauna Kea and is far more advanced than the world's largest current telescopes that measure 32 feet in diameter. The new telescope

could potentially allow scientists to make groundbreaking discoveries about black holes, exoplanets, celestial bodies and even detect indications of life on other planets.

Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano and Hawaii's tallest mountain, was selected in July 2009 as the target location for the telescope after a five-year search.

Scientists called it the best site in the world for astronomy, given a stable, dry, and cold climate, which allows for sharp images. The atmosphere over the mountain also provides favorable conditions for astronomical measurements, according to the TMT website.

The island of La Palma in the Canary Islands, which already has an astronomical observatory, is considered a viable alternative. But scientists have said the telescope's design would have to be altered for more adaptive optics given the mountain site's lower altitude and different climate. That means it would take scientists more time to achieve the same discoveries they could make at Mauna Kea, Stone said.

The Hawaii site has been subject to years of public debate and legal challenges. Researchers say it will help usher in scientific and economic developments, while opponents maintain it will hurt the environment and desecrate land considered sacred by some Native Hawaiians. Mauna Kea already houses a number of high-powered telescopes at its summit.

Thirty years of astronomy development has resulted in adverse significant impact to the natural and cultural

resources of Mauna Kea," said Keoloha Pisciotto, president of Mauna Kea Anaina Hou, an indigenous, Native Hawaiian group that works on environmental issues. "Trying to build more would have added to the cumulative impact."

On Thursday, the Hawaii Senate approved a bill to ban new construction atop Mauna Kea, and included a series of audits and other requirements before the ban could be lifted. But House leaders said they don't have plans to advance the bill. Democratic House Speaker Scott Saiki told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser that the "bill is dead on arrival in the House."

There are also two appeals before the Hawaii Supreme Court. One challenges the subtitle and land use permit issued by the Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources. The other has been brought by a Native Hawaiian man who says use of the land interferes with his right to exercise cultural practices and is thus entitled to a case hearing.

The telescope project is a collaboration among universities in the U.S. — in California and the University of Hawaii — and national science and research institutes of Japan, China and India.

"It's a privilege to practice astronomy on Mauna Kea and we're not satisfied with where we're at right now," Dan Meisenzahl, a spokesperson for the University of Hawaii, said in a statement. "We will continue to push ourselves to improve our stewardship of the mountain."

Study: Global warming is mixing up nature's dinner time

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Global warming is screwing up nature's intricately timed dinner hour, often making hungry critters and those on the menu show up at much different times, a new study shows.

Timing is everything in nature. Bees have to be around and flowers have to bloom at the same time for pollination to work, and hawks need to migrate at the same time as their prey. In many cases, global warming is interfering with that timing, scientists said.

A first-of-its-kind global mega-analysis on the biological timing of 58 species that rely on another life form shows that on average species are moving out of sync by about six days a decade, although some pairs are actually moving closer together.

While other studies have looked at individual pairs of species and how warming temperatures have changed their migration, breeding and other timing, the study in Monday's Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences gives the first global look at a worsening timing problem.

These changes in species timing are considerably greater than they were before the 1980s, the study said.

"There isn't really any clear indication that it is going to slow down or stop in the near future," said study lead author Heather Kharouba, an ecologist at the University of Ottawa.

For example in the Netherlands, the Eurasian sparrow hawk has been late for dinner because its prey, the blue tit, has — over 16 years — arrived almost six days earlier than the hawk.

It's most noticeable and crucial in Washington state's Lake Washington, where over the past 25 years, plant plankton are now blooming 34 days earlier than the zooplankton that eat them. That's crucial because that's missing with the bottom of the food chain, Kharouba said.

In Greenland, the plants are showing up almost three days earlier than the caribou, so more of the baby caribou are dying "because there wasn't enough food," Kharouba said.

With warmer temperatures, most species moved their habits earlier, but interdependent species didn't always move at the same rate. It's the relative speed of changes in timing that's key, Kharouba said.

Because of the small number of species involved in small areas over different studies, Kharouba's team could not find a statistically significant link between temperature and changes in how species sync together. But what she saw, she said, "is consistent with climate change."

Scientists not involved in the study praised the work.

"It demonstrates that many species interactions from around the world are in a state of rapid flux," Boston University biology professor Richard Primack said in an email. "Prior to this study, studies of changing species interactions focused on one place or one group of species."

Console choices for today's gamers are quite diverse

Dear Propellerheads, it happened. My ColecoVision console finally bit the dust. Any recommendations on something new for this avid gamer?

As they just don't make them like they used to...35+ years ago, amirite? Well, assuming you have gotten some updated AV equipment (HDTV, Surround Sound, or based upon your last system, we'll start with hard wired electricity), there are several options to choose from.

For this article, we're going to stick to the big players for the most part. I would, however, like to briefly mention that Atari, Nintendo, Sega, etc. have been rolling out modern versions of their original consoles pre-loaded with tons of their greatest hits. If you are feeling nostalgic and don't want to drop a ton of money on one of the more recent consoles, these are some very fun options.

You can find some nice choices here (smm.to/2qouDTF). If you are ok playing on a computer, there are sites like playnetgames.com that offer a great variety of titles for old school gamers, including games that were only released in other countries.

As for the big boys, two of the major players have relatively dated, but high powered, consoles out. Microsoft's Xbox One X (bit.ly/2qrKDb) and Sony's PlayStation 4 Pro (bit.ly/2s1FFr5) were both



released within the past 2 years but are really just newer versions of the consoles each company released way back in November 2013. The newer iterations have faster processors, improved graphics, and expansion options for additional memory. Depending on the options you choose, you're looking at spending \$300-\$400 to get up and running with one controller and a game.

Over the past 5 years, some peripherals like the Xbox Kinect (bit.ly/2xplvWg) and the PlayStation VR (bit.ly/1OwJ0ne) have added some additional, fun options to the playing experience, but both still fall squarely in the traditional console design, focusing on realistic graphics, lightning fast game play, and now online competition, in very similar ways.

Here at Propellerhead HQ, we don't endorse specific products, but a more recent entry

into the console wars from one of the original players has certainly caught our eye. After trying (and failing) to compete with the Microsoft & Sony with the

release of the Wii U in 2012, Nintendo recaptured the wow and fun factor that accompanied their release of their groundbreaking original NES & Wii consoles with the Switch (nintendo.com/switch) in October 2017.

Nintendo learned from its past mistakes here, making sure they had plenty of titles ready to go at launch, making significant changes to the hardware, and returning to its roots by focusing on a unique & fun user experience.

For example, the console itself is a tablet that can slide into a small docking station for traditional play on a TV, or taken with you as a touchscreen tablet wherever you go. Rather than using discs like its competition, the Switch uses SD cards which are much smaller and sturdier. This means you can take more of your games with you and worry less about damaging the media.

It also has made its controllers a hybrid of sort, able to connect to the console itself, attached to a traditional controller accessory, or be stand-alone one-handed controllers. Now accessories are taking advantage of this in some interesting ways. For example, Nintendo has an April 2018 release date for its new Labo (bit.ly/2HndwYr) kit that is designed to integrate gaming with engineering and coding through STEAM based learning. I know

it's designed for kids, but honestly, I can't wait to try it out.

They still have the sports titles, first person shooters, and role playing games that hardcore gamers like, but they also have titles that focus on making the experience a social one for anyone in your household, rather than just one person playing online against others (the Switch allows for that too, though). When you throw in some flagship titles involving Mario, Link, and the rest of the gang, what you end up with is a gaming system unlike anything else you've played before that is fun whether you're 5 or 65.

So, I've provided several options to try and suit your needs. If you want to try something really unique and fun, I encourage you to check out the Switch. At least, maybe check it out after your back-up Commodore 64 goes the way of the dodo.

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. 8310 Bull Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at data-directions.com/askthepropellerheads.



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