

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

MONDAY, JULY 16, 2018

mrt★com

320,000 readers in print and online

WORLD CUP FINAL

Underdog Croatia comes up short against France in final game.

Page 1B



BIG 12 MEDIA DAY

The Oklahoma Sooners, who have won the past three Big 12 titles with quarterback Baker Mayfield, will now be trying to do it again with Kyler Murray taking the snaps.

Page 1B

Trump's trade war starts to hit Texas consumers

By Tom Benning
Dallas Morning News

For a consumer's guide to President Donald Trump's trade war, just take a trip to the local appliance store.

Pocketbook pain that comes from ever-widening tariffs can already be measured there on the showroom floor, now that the president's earlier decisions to impose import levies on washing machines and two key metals have had time to ripple through the economy.

It begins with laundry equipment, which saw a 19 percent price spike in U.S. over the last three months. But it doesn't end there, with grills, refrigerators and oven ranges also running hot.

"There's no running or hiding," said Daniel Pidgeon, chairman of Starpower, a North Texas retailer that's received price increase notices from several

Inside

U.S. trade, immigration and biofuel politics hit farmers hard.

Page 5A

manufacturers in the levies' wake.

That cycle could be instructive as Trump has now put tariffs on tens of billions of dollars more in goods — and threatened to ultimately enact duties on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth.

Tariffs on products imported into the U.S. are taxes paid by American businesses and consumers. Each escalation puts household budgets in Texas and beyond in line to come under increasing strain, even before accounting for the retaliatory levies doled out by China and others.

But when will the wallet wallop be felt in full? And where? And by how much?

Those questions aren't easy to answer with precision, experts said, though economists at Princeton University and the London School of Economics last week gave rough estimates that the levies already in effect would cost the average American household an additional \$60 a year.

The reality is that tariffs, while imposing tangible costs, sometimes manifest themselves in ways that aren't obvious.

The strong U.S. economy has likely papered over some of the levies' drag. The White House has so far avoided duties on most consumer goods, though the lineup for pledged tariffs on \$206 billion in Chinese products would hit handbags, speakers and other household

items.

The consumer experience, in any case, is always relative.

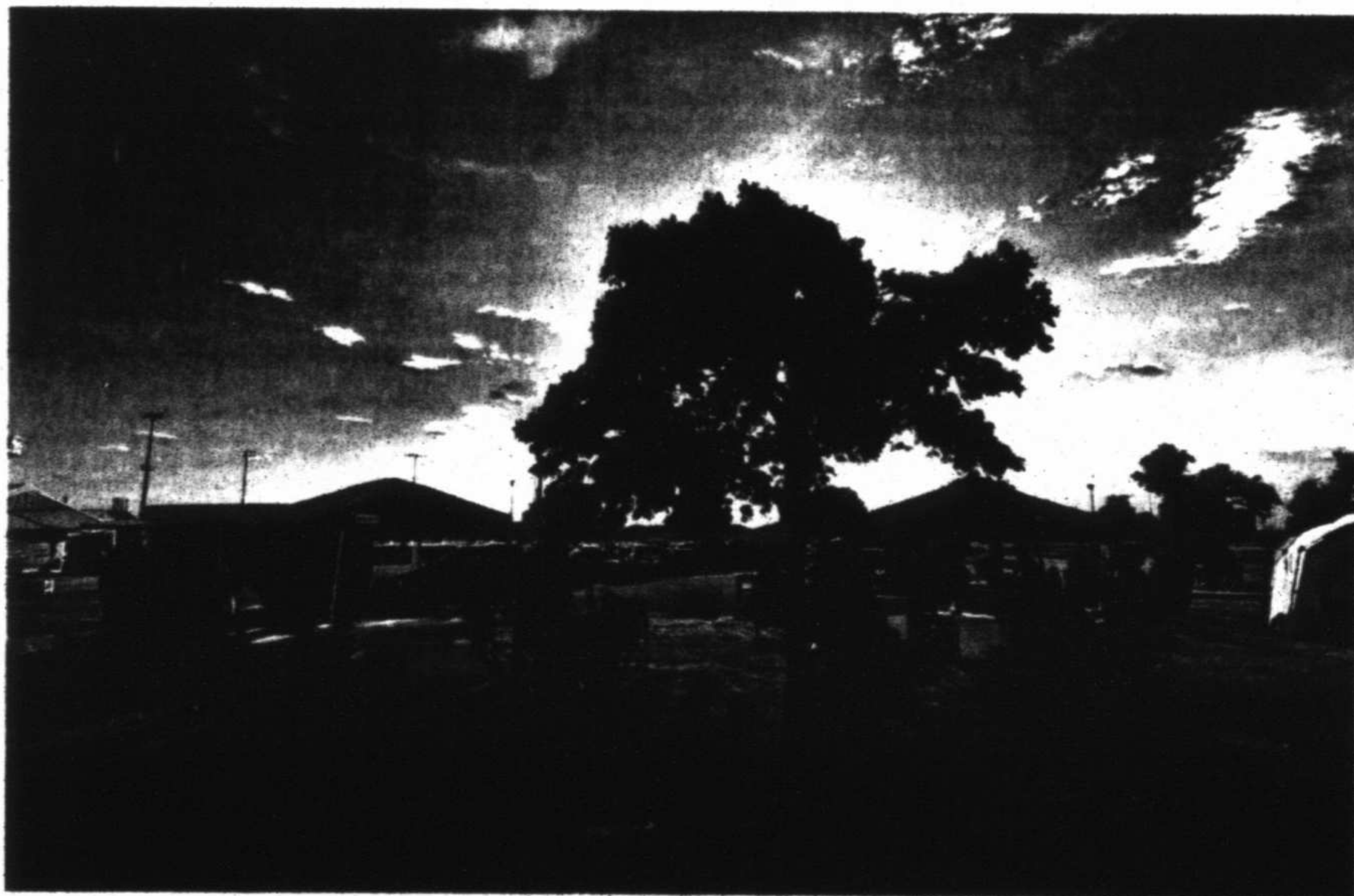
A few extra pennies on an aluminum beer can isn't likely to rattle someone at the bar. And while a couple hundred dollars more on a washing machine may produce sticker shock, shoppers may not purchase items like that often enough to be able to pinpoint the price spike.

"That's the thing about tariffs that makes them, politically, fairly tenable," said SMU Cox School of Business professor Michael Davis, who said even his own wife didn't believe him that their recent washing machine purchase was likely more expensive due to the levies.

Trump's trade tactics are creating a tizzy in Washington, in the heartland

Please see TRADE/2A

FAMILY CHRISTIAN FESTIVAL



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

The fifth annual West Texas Family Christian Festival was Saturday at Hogen Park.

Resignations, job notices create more openings at Midland ISD

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Midland ISD will accept resignations or retirements of two principals and the executive director of bilingual/ESL at its meeting today at Bowie Elementary.

Listed on the agenda for the 5:30 p.m. meeting is the resignation of Leticia Amalla, principal of South Elementary, and the retirement of Adelina Baiza, principal of Fasken Elementary, one of the district's top performers based on recent statewide testing scores.

Trustees in June had accepted the resignation of Scharbauer Elementary Principal Sharla Butler.

The Reporter-Telegram was told multiple times last week that requests for interviews about the departing school leaders would have to wait for today at the earliest. The Reporter-Telegram interviewed Amalla in May about the academic turnaround at South, and she spoke of her plans to take part in summer activities to help continue the rebound.

As of Sunday afternoon, there were job notices on Midland ISD's website for the principal position at Fasken and generic listings for principal positions at elementary and secondary schools. Assistant principal positions were listed for Lee Freshman High School, Scharbauer Elementary, South Elementary, Fasken Elementary, Carver Center and the listing for an assistant principal (district-wide).

There are no listings for South or Scharbauer, and MISD wouldn't comment last week if those positions had been filled.

Please see MISD/2A

Drillers to dim lights near McDonald Observatory

By Alex Nussbaum
Bloomberg

Texas oil drillers are dimming the lights on the shale explosion — for astronomy's sake.

Crude explorers in North America's busiest field have agreed to temper light pollution from the 150-foot-tall rigs they're using to strike oil in remote West Texas, home to the University of Texas-run McDonald Observatory.

The voluntary effort laid out ways for oil

companies to reduce the skyward glare and shine more of the light toward the ground, according to a joint statement last week from the observatory, the Texas Oil and Gas Association and the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Perched atop Mount Locke and Mount Fowlkes in the Davis Mountains, the observatory has been taking advantage of some of the darkest night skies in the continental U.S. since the 1930s, according to its website. That's been challenged by a shale revolution that's pushed drilling to record levels, prompting McDonald to

spend the past two years working with explorers to develop new lighting guidelines.

The goal is to protect nighttime darkness that's "vital to the research of the universe taking place at McDonald," said Taft Armandroff, the observatory's director. But it's good for the oil industry as well: Increasing the amount of light shining down on worksites and not cast off into the sky will improve safety and cut power costs, according to the statement.

The campaign was supported by a grant from Apache Corp., the groups said.

Visit us on social media



Did you know?
Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation was the No. 1 film in theaters. Page 4A

The big number

3

people were killed in a bus crash in New Mexico. 24 more were injured. Page 2A

Word of the Day:
notorious

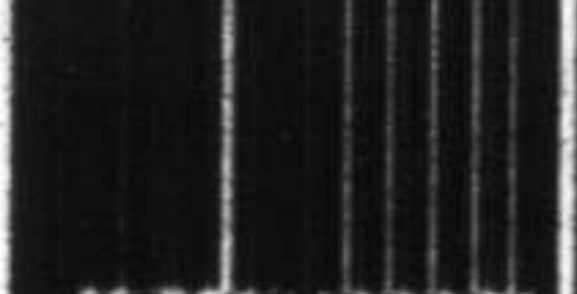
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 2A.

Brought to you daily by



Vol. 99, No. 127

Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



63647-00001 4

BIG CITY RESULTS.
HOMETOWN
CONVENIENCE.

Enhance your natural beauty with a refreshed look from Houston's former leading physician, Dr. Kevin Cook. NOW, home in the Permian Basin!



TRADE

From 1A

and across the globe. The president makes no apologies for turning the tables on countries — and not just China — he says have been “ripping us off for years.” He explains that he’s simply taking substantive action to obtain better trade deals. He promises there will be a big payoff for American workers.

But alarm increases with every tit-for-tat exchange, particularly in a trade-heavy state like Texas.

Both Republicans and Democrats in the Lone Star State have ramped up their criticism in recent days over the White House’s trade approach, with the concern focusing on the potential for lost jobs, decreased investment and diminished export markets.

Take the dueling tariffs that went into effect this month between the U.S. and China on a combined \$68 billion in goods. Retaliation from Beijing — which took aim at cotton, grain sorghum and other crops critical to Texas’ agriculture industry — means that the overall payoff to Trump’s trade actions from across the globe now covers billions of dollars in Texas exports.

“I understand that our trading partners have more to lose than we do because their economies are far more export-dependent,” Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Dallas, told Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin on Thursday. “But losing less is not the same as winning more.”

That trade equation also includes consumer prices.

But to see the dynamic in the real world means looking back to the first of the year, long before a global trade war seemed a likely possibility. That’s when the U.S., citing harm suffered by U.S. manufacturers, imposed tariffs of up to 50 percent on imported washing machines.

Data from the U.S. Labor Department tell the rest of the story. Laundry equipment prices have jumped in recent months, reaching levels not seen since 2015. It’s not just on machines from South Korean makers LG and Samsung, either. U.S.-based Whirlpool in April also increased prices.

Indeed, that’s sometimes the point.

“It’s basic economics,” said Scott Lincicome, an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank in Washington. “Domestic producers are going to raise their prices to whatever they can get away with in the market.”

Trump’s steel and aluminum tariffs, which started going live this spring, offer another angle on the potential consumer impact.

Prices in the U.S. for steel, a key input for so many businesses, has increased in recent months. Texas companies can already see effect on their balance sheets. Just ask Baytown-based Borusan Mannesmann Pipe, which makes products used in large oil and gas pipeline projects.

The manufacturer this month had the U.S. Commerce Department deny product exclusion requests on steel it imports from its Turkish parent company, despite a pledge to build an additional new plant in Texas — and hire more workers — if the exemptions went through.

Joel Johnson, the company’s U.S. CEO, said he’s hopeful the trade wars will be resolved. But in the meantime, the tariffs have cost the manufacturer \$4 million and counting.

“It will cause a chain reaction,” he said, explaining that the company could be forced to pass along the added costs or make other tough decisions about its operating levels.

That kind of hit could wind its way through supply chains and factor into gas prices being

higher than they otherwise would be, said Harvey Rosenblum, a former Dallas Fed research director.

Such an effect would be difficult to isolate, given all the economic variables involved. It would also take time for consumers to really feel the difference. But Rosenblum, who now teaches at SMU’s Cox School of Business, said the overall “trend is inescapable” when it comes to tariffs.

“Higher inflation,” he said. “Lower real wages.”

Trump administration officials have sought to play down that dynamic, with Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross showing off cans of Campbell Soup, Coca-Cola and Budweiser to make the point that any additional costs from the metal tariffs end up being a few cents per serving.

But at Starpower, which also owns Ed Kelum and Son, Pidgeon simply has to ring up his purchasing department.

The company has received of late the price increase notification from Whirlpool — which, notably, would also be affected by the metal tariffs. But also ones from other appliance companies such as Bosch, Viking Range, Perlick and Bertazzoni.

An email from California-based Lynx Grills left no doubt about the reason about why it was upping prices 3 to 12 percent on Aug. 1.

“The upcoming steel tariffs have created an opening for the U.S. steel companies to dramatically raise their prices as well, so even though we exclusively use U.S. mined and refined steel, we are being impacted significantly and cannot absorb the raw material increases,” the email said.

If Trump’s trade conflict proceeds as threatened, that sort of response could become the norm.

The administration is investigating whether it should put tariffs on imported cars. The move would not just provoke backlash from a host of trading partners. It would also cause a Toyota Camry to cost \$1,800 more, according to the company, whose U.S. headquarters are in Plano. Then there are levies that Trump has lined up on more than \$200 billion in Chinese products.

About half of the goods that the U.S. imports from China each year would be hit with duties. So while it’s not a global tariff — meaning imports from other countries, in some cases, could be substituted — the sweep would cover everything from cameras to hockey gloves to watches.

The prospect has already produced frantic pushback.

The National Retail Federation, which counts the likes of Plano-based J.C. Penney as members, said “such a broad scope of products makes it inconceivable that American consumers will dodge this tax increase as prices of everyday products will be forced to rise.”

Pidgeon, the Starpower chairman, said the bigger issue would be the “cascading effect of cumulative tariff costs being now a permanent part of the cost structure for these products.”

He said he remains “hopeful that the trade wars will be resolved,” particularly before the conflict really digs in on the consumer electronics that are Starpower’s bread and butter. But he said there’s no denying that the future has already started to arrive for price-conscious shoppers. “It’s a consumer tax,” he said, noting that the costs would eat into any savings that Americans received from the tax overhaul Trump signed into law last year. “That’s the shame of it all.”

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



Greg Sorber/The Albuquerque Journal via AP

Emergency personnel work at the scene of a deadly multi-vehicle crash involving a bus that occurred on Interstate 25 north of Bernalillo, N.M., on Sunday.

New Mexico passenger bus crash kills 3, injures 24 others

Associated Press

BERNALILLO, N.M. — A crash involving a commercial passenger bus and three other vehicles on a New Mexico highway early Sunday killed three people and injured 24 others, some critically, authorities said.

One of the people killed was in a car that struck a pickup truck from behind around 2 a.m. Sunday on Interstate 25 just north of Bernalillo, about 18 miles north of Albuquerque, Sandoval County Sheriff’s Office spokesman Lt. Keith Elder said.

The bus driver took evasive action to avoid hitting the disabled car and its driver, who was ejected. But the bus driver lost control and the bus rolled onto its right side. It was then sideswiped by a semitruck, according to Elder.

Rio Rancho Fire Rescue said emergency crews had to extricate several people who were trapped in the bus using a tool that pries open parts of a vehicle.

Photos show a mangled car that’s almost entirely flattened and the bus on its side.

At least two of the injured were airlifted from the scene by medical helicopters.

It wasn’t immediately known whether the other two persons who died were bus passengers or were in one of the other vehicles involved.

Elder said the names of the three dead were being withheld until relatives could

be notified.

Sheriff’s officials said 35 people were on the bus operated by El Paso-Los Angeles Limousine Express. Its vehicles service cities in the Southwest and Mexico.

Bus company president Jerry Rosenbaum said the bus had started from Denver and was en route to El Paso, Texas. According to Rosenbaum, two drivers were on the bus and they were among those hospitalized. Travelers who didn’t require hospital treatment were placed on another bus.

Rosenbaum said the company has cooperated with authorities and will help provide transportation for any passengers upon their release from the hospital.

“As difficult as it’s been for me, I keep in mind that what the passengers and their families have to go through is much worse,” Rosenbaum said.

Emergency responders reported treating 38 people at the accident scene with injuries ranging from broken bones and lacerations to head and internal injuries, authorities said.

Twelve of the injured were taken to University of New Mexico Hospital, where three were in critical condition, officials said.

Eight patients were taken to another hospital, and authorities said six were treated and released.

The accident closed Interstate 25 in both directions for more than 11 hours.

Trooper shot, suspect killed in NM traffic stop

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Officials say a New Mexico State Police trooper has been wounded and a suspect fatally shot in an exchange of gunfire during a traffic stop.

Deputy Chief Robert

Eshom said at a news briefing that the wounded officer was involved in a traffic stop at about 2 a.m. Sunday along Interstate 25. Eshom says a passenger in the vehicle shot at the officer, who returned fire. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene.

The officer, who has not been identified, was taken to a hospital in stable condition, treated and released.

Neither the officer nor the suspect has been identified.

Officials say an investigation is ongoing.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HOUSTON

Man with assault weapon shot by Harris County deputy

Harris County sheriff’s officials say a man has been shot and wounded by a deputy responding to a call about a disturbance between a boyfriend and girlfriend.

Authorities say Eric Briggs was armed with an assault weapon when he showed up at a northeast Harris County pool party demanding to see his girlfriend.

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez says when two deputies arrived, Briggs refused to drop his gun, brandished his weapon at one of them and was shot by the second deputy.

Briggs was taken to a hospital after the Saturday evening confrontation and is expected to survive. The shooting remains under investigation.

The sheriff says Briggs is being charged with aggravated assault against a peace officer. Records show he has a previous charge for a May incident involving his girlfriend.

DILEY

Man shooting shotgun in South Texas park killed by police

Texas Rangers are investigating the fatal shooting of a man by police at a South Texas park.

Authorities say the man was firing a shotgun at a public park in Diley when he was shot and killed by officers in the city about 70 miles southwest of San Antonio.

City administrator Rudy Alvarez says the officers followed procedures and fired in self-defense during a confrontation as the man pulled a modified shotgun from his pants. Alvarez believes the shooting Friday may be the first involving a Diley police officer. Both officers are on administrative leave pending the completion of the investigation.

Relatives have identified the victim as Juan Luna, who they say would have turned 26 Saturday.

MISD

From 1A

The district also is looking for a person to replace Joanna Rowley as executive director of bilingual/ESL. Rowley submitted her resignation from the position. The position “promotes the quality of bilingual education curriculum and instruction in the Midland.” The salary for the position is listed as between \$113,773 and \$153,926.

Other positions to be filled include executive director of athletics and communications specialist.

The executive director of athletics will “assist the superintendent in the administration of all

district athletic policies and programs,” according to the job listing. Randy Rowe, former executive director of athletics, has been reassigned to athletic director. The new executive director is scheduled to make between \$100,241 and \$135,619. This means the district will spend at least \$190,000 on the top two people in its athletics department administrative staff. Adding in the salaries of the two varsity football coaches and that total likely will top \$400,000 for four district employees.

The communications specialist, according to the district, will “assist the executive director of Communications

and Public Relations in preparing and providing information about activities, goals, accomplishments, and policies of the school district, employees, students, and community partners through a variety of platforms — newsletters, press releases, social media, district web site, smart phone apps, blogs, videos, etc.” The scheduled salary for this person will be between \$61,411 and \$75,817. MISD will spend at least \$170,000 on communications personnel once this person is hired.

Ector County ISD also has two similar positions on its communications staff.

Obituaries



Michael Aaron Doshier

Michael Aaron Doshier, 28, of Stanton, Texas passed away July 13, 2018 in Midland County. He was born January 19, 1990 in Big Spring, Texas. He was a long time Stanton resident and graduated from Stanton High School in 2008. He worked as a diesel mechanic.

“Mikey” had a love for dogs and had two (Hank and Bear) that were his world. He loved life and lived it to the fullest. He was the family’s little redneck rebel.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Harry and Hortense “Teen” Doshier.

He is survived by his parents, Randy and Tamy Doshier; his brother, Harry Doshier and his wife, Tiffany; his sister, Erica Casias and her husband, Ray; maternal grandparents, Jim and Bonnie Trimble; his fiancé, Sarah Garrett and her child, Phoenix; stepdaughter, Autumn Hedrick; nieces and nephews, Ethan, Nolan, Brayden, Hunter and Kimber.

Private services will be held at Evergreen Cemetery, Stanton, Texas. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Evergreen Cemetery Association, Stanton, Texas.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton, Texas. Online condolences may be sent at www.npwebch.com.

Gilbreath Funeral Home

Death Notices

Kenneth Earl McDowra

Memorial services for Kenneth Earl McDowra, 62, of Midland, Texas will be held Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Bobby Bell of Levelland, TX officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home. Visitation will follow at Branon Funeral Home Chapel. Kenneth passed away on July 13, 2018 in Big Spring, Texas.

Mexican drug cartel leader set for federal trial

Associated Press

WACO — A 38-year-old man authorities describe as a former leader of the Zetas drug cartel in Mexico is scheduled for a federal court trial starting today in Waco on charges of conspiracy to traffic drugs inland through South Texas, conspiracy to possess firearms and laundering millions of dollars in drug proceeds.

Juan Francisco Treviño Chavez Jr., also known as “Kiko” or “Comandante Kiko,” is charged with seven counts. Five carry penalties of up to life in prison. He was arrested nearly two years ago outside Houston.

At a bail hearing in February, a federal agent testified Treviño has denied being a cartel leader. Records show he’s turned down a plea deal that carried a 30-year prison sentence.

Del Rio-based U.S. District Judge Alia Moses asked the trial be moved to Waco.

Get ready for the weekend by reading WEEKENDER today in the Reporter-Telegram

Kushner tenants: We were pushed out for luxury condo buyers

By Bernard Condon
and Garance Burke
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The hammering and drilling began just months after Jared Kushner's family real estate firm bought a converted warehouse apartment building in the hip, Williamsburg section of Brooklyn.

Tenants say it started early in the morning and went on until nightfall, so loud that it drowned out normal conversation, so violent it rattled pictures off the walls. So much dust wafted through ducts and under doorways that it coated beds and clothes in closets. Rats crawled through holes in the walls. Workers with passkeys barged in unannounced. Residents who begged for relief got a standard reply: "We have permits."

More than a dozen current and former residents of the building told The Associated Press that they believe the Kushner Cos.' relentless construction, along with rent hikes of \$500 a month or more, was part of a campaign to push tenants out of rent-stabilized apartments and bring high-paying condo buyers in.

If so, it was a remarkably successful campaign. An AP investigation found that over the past three years, more than 250 rent-stabilized apartments — 75 percent of the building — were either emptied or sold as the Kushner Cos. was converting the building to luxury condos. Those sales so far have totaled more than \$155 million, an average of \$1.2 million per apartment.

"They won; they succeeded," says Barth Bazylik, who left apartment C606 with his wife and baby daughter in December. "You have to be ignorant or dumb to think this wasn't deliberate."

This up-close look at one of the Kushner Cos.' largest residential buildings in New York illustrates what critics describe as the firm's sharp-elbowed business practices while it was run by President Donald Trump's son-in-law and eventual White House adviser Jared Kushner.

The Kushner Cos. told the AP that it didn't harass any tenants to get them out. But the data suggest turnover at the building known as the Austin Nichols House was significantly higher than city averages for coveted rent-stabilized buildings, leaving behind a trail of anger, disrupted lives and a lawsuit to be filed Monday in which tenants say they were harassed and exposed to high levels of cancer-causing dust.

"We've looked into hundreds of rent-stabilized buildings, and this is one of the worst we've ever seen," says Aaron Carr, head of tenant watchdog Housing Rights Initiative, whose investigation led to the pending lawsuit. "The scale and speed of tenants leaving, the conditions to which they were exposed, provides a window into the Kushner Cos.' predatory business model."

In a statement, the Kushner Cos. acknowledged it received some complaints about construction during major renovations, which ended in December 2017, but said that it responded to them immediately and that "tremendous care was taken to prevent dust and inconvenience to tenants."

It said many tenants moved out when their rent was increased to the maximum allowed under rent-stabilization rules.

Those rules limit the amount that landlords can hike rent each year to protect tenants from getting pushed out, though in this building the rents weren't cheap, with one-bedroom going for more than \$3,000 a month.

Also, the city's building department says it sent inspectors to the building dozens of times since 2015

and uncovered no evidence that construction rules were being violated, a finding that some residents say doesn't square with their experiences.

The landmarked Austin Nichols House at 184 Kent Avenue, for decades a warehouse for groceries and Wild Turkey bourbon, was gutted by a previous owner in 2010 to create sleek apartments that took advantage of the building's high ceilings and waterfront views.

When Jared Kushner and two partners bought it for \$275 million in April 2015, they made it clear they wanted to convert the building's 338 apartments — all of them rent-stabilized — into condos. All but nine were occupied, and other than maxing out the rent, developers had few tools if they wanted to get tenants out.

Just months after the purchase, the Kushners began extensive renovations, ripping out appliances, floors and countertops that had been installed five years before.

"There were consistently people in the hallway early, 8 or so, banging on things, taking down walls. There was lots of dust. ... They had fans, and they were blowing dust under the doors," says tech salesman Marcus Carvalho, who left the building in December after six years, deciding the \$1,000 or so increase in rent to renew his lease wasn't worth it. "I didn't want to spend another minute in that construction zone."

His 679-square-foot, one-room apartment, B502, sold the next month for \$800,000.

A few weeks after Carvalho left, the woman in C405 couldn't take the noise anymore either.

"It's like having a root canal without the physical pain. ... It was drilling from every direction," says Jane Coxwell, a chef who works late nights and writes at home during the day. "It was impossible to take a call. You could never sit and read a book or get any work done."

Then came the rats, including one she accosted with a tennis racket as it teetered on a curtain rod in her bathroom. She also had to contend with a flood after workers hit a pipe in the unit above her and with the constant fear workers would burst into her apartment at any moment after two with passkeys tried to do just that, once while she was in her underwear.

Coxwell says she sent dozens of emails to Kushner managers for more than a year asking for help, but got little relief.

One particularly noisy day she finally broke down, walked up to a construction manager and worker standing near her door and found herself forcing the words out through tears.

"I understand you have to work, but I don't know how to ask anymore," she pleaded. "Please, please, can you keep it down?" She says the men just laughed.

Much of the work was done in 2016, and then the Kushners went on a selling spree. In 2017 alone, the company sold 99 apartments in the building, according to Jared Kushner's federal financial disclosure forms. Brokerage data show an additional 16 apartments sold by early March 2018. That same month Kushner Cos. had 151 vacant apartments in the building, according to a court document.

The Kushner Cos. refused to confirm the numbers.

At the height of the construction, tenants fought back with three dozen complaints to the city's 311 hotline about work after hours, banging and pounding, falling debris and rodents.

After people complained about dust, Kushner Cos. put plastic sheeting around doorways, though many say it didn't help much.



Sony Pictures Animation via AP

This image released by Sony Pictures Animation shows a scene from "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation."

'Hotel Transylvania 3' tops charts, 'Skyscraper' stumbles

By Lindsey Bahr
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation" has checked into the No. 1 spot at the box office in its opening weekend and left the Dwayne Johnson action thriller, "Skyscraper," in the dust.

Sony Pictures estimated Sunday that the animated family movie earned \$44.1 million from North American theaters. As the first in the franchise to open in the summer, it's just slightly under the previous installment's \$48.5 million debut in September 2015.

Worldwide, "Hotel Transylvania 3" has already earned more than \$100 million.

"It's really terrific," said Adrian Smith, Sony's head of domestic distribution. "We're positioned to take advantage of the valuable summer weekdays and there are six weeks of summer left."

The successful series has grossed over \$900 million worldwide to date.

Going into the weekend, experts expected a three-way race to the top between "Hotel Transylvania 3," "Skyscraper" and "Ant-Man and the Wasp," but the family film won by a large margin.

"There haven't been a lot of options for families this summer," said comScore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian. "They become instant hits."

Johnson's "Skyscraper," a rare original summer blockbuster, remained earthbound in its first weekend in North America. The Universal Pictures film brought in only \$25.5 million domestically. "Skyscraper" cost a reported \$125 million to produce, not accounting for marketing costs.

Johnson has been a consistent presence in movie theaters this year with both "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" and "Rampage" before "Skyscraper." Both previous films opened in the \$35 million range, and while "Jumanji" went on to be a worldwide box office juggernaut, "Rampage" petered out domestically just under \$100 million. As with "Rampage," however, the studio is expecting the majority of "Skyscraper" profits to

come from international audiences.

"Skyscraper" is really engineered for a global release and it got a terrific start," said Jim Orr, Universal's president of domestic distribution.

"We have great faith in a more than terrific run at the domestic box office going forward."

Internationally, "Skyscraper" grossed \$40.4 million from 57 territories for a global total of \$65.9 million.

Second place went to Disney and Marvel's "Ant-Man and the Wasp," which brought in an additional \$28.8 million in its second weekend, down 62 percent from last week. It's one of the steeper second week falls in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. The first "Ant-Man" fell 53 percent.

"Incredibles 2" took fourth place with \$16.2 million and "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" rounded out the top five with \$15.5 million.

A handful of smaller releases made notable splashes this weekend including Annapurna's buzzy dystopian satire "Sorry to Bother You," which opened in limited release last week and added 789 locations this weekend. It earned \$4.3 million in its expansion for spot No. 7 on the charts.

The coming of age film "Eighth Grade" also scored top marks, and the highest per theater average of the year, with \$252,284 from four theaters. The well-reviewed pic will expand nationwide in the coming weeks.

And documentaries continue to perform well too, including the Fred Rogers doc "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" which added \$1.9 million from 868 theaters, and "Three Identical Strangers" which expanded to 167 theaters and grossed \$1.2 million.

Estimated ticket sales are for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released today.

1. "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation," \$44.1 million (\$46.4 million international).

2. "Ant-Man and the Wasp," \$28.8

million (\$35.3 million international).

3. "Skyscraper," \$25.5 million (\$40.4 million international).

4. "Incredibles 2," \$16.2 million (\$33.3 million international).

5. "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom," \$15.5 million (\$26.7 million international).

6. "The First Purge," \$9.1 million (\$6.2 million international).

7. "Sorry to Bother You," \$4.3 million.

8. "Sicario: Day of the Soldado," \$3.9 million (\$1.7 million international).

9. "Uncle Drew," \$3.2 million (\$70,000 international).

10. "Ocean's 8," \$2.9 million (\$4.3 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Dying to Survive," \$66.6 million.

2. "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation," \$46.4 million.

3. "Hidden Man," \$44.8 million.

4. "Skyscraper," \$40.4 million.

5. "Ant-Man and the Wasp," \$35.3 million.

6. "Incredibles 2," \$33.3 million.

7. "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom," \$26.7 million.

8. "Asura," \$6.6 million.

9. "The First Purge," \$6.2 million.

10. "Ocean's 8," \$4.3 million.

Universal and Focus are owned by NBC Universal, a unit of Comcast Corp.; Sony, Columbia, Sony Screen Gems and Sony Pictures Classics are units of Sony Corp.; Paramount is owned by Viacom Inc.; Disney, Pixar and Marvel are owned by The Walt Disney Co.; Miramax is owned by Filmyard Holdings LLC; 20th Century Fox and Fox Searchlight are owned by 21st Century Fox; Warner Bros. and New Line are units of Time Warner Inc.; MGM is owned by a group of former creditors including Highland Capital, Anchorage Advisors and Carl Icahn; Lionsgate is owned by Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.; IFC is owned by AMC Networks Inc.; Rogue is owned by Relativity Media LLC.

Deadly fire shuts down key route to Yosemite National Park

Associated Press

MARIPOSA, Calif.

A wildfire that killed a California firefighter grew quickly and forced the closure of a key route into Yosemite National Park as crews contended with sweltering conditions Sunday, authorities said.

The blaze that broke out Friday scorched more than 6 square miles of dry brush along steep, remote hillsides on the park's western edge. It was burning largely out of control, and officials shut off electricity to many areas, including Yosemite Valley, as a safety precaution.

Guests were ordered to leave Yosemite Cedar Lodge on Saturday as flames crept up slopes and the air became thick with smoke.

"You can't see anything, it's so smoky outside. It's crazy," said front desk clerk Spencer Arebalo, one of a handful of employees who stayed

behind at the popular hotel inside the park.

He said it was surreal to see the property empty at the height of tourist season.

"We're counting on being closed at least one more day," Arebalo said.

Evacuations also were ordered in rural communities just outside the park, and people in nearby lodges and motels were told to be ready to leave if flames approach.

A stretch of State Route 140 into Yosemite was closed, and motorists were urged to find alternate routes.

Spiking temperatures and inaccessible terrain was making it difficult for crews to slow the flames, U.S. Forest Service fire Capt. Mike Seymour said.

Heavy fire equipment operator Braden Varney, 36, died early Saturday on the fire line, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said. Varney was driving a bulldozer to

create a gap in vegetation to keep the flames from extending into a nearby community, according to Cal Fire Fire Chief Nancy Koerperich.

Varney's body likely won't be retrieved until Monday at the earliest because it's in a "precarious location" and conditions were too dangerous over the weekend, Cal Fire Deputy Chief Scott McLean said.

The wildfire is one of several burning across the state and among 56 large blazes that are active in the U.S., most in the American West, a region that is struggling with drought and heat.

A blaze near the California-Oregon border that killed a 72-year-old resident and injured three firefighters was almost entirely contained after burning more than 60 square miles of dry brush.

Crews got full control over a stubborn fire that scorched 142 square miles of brush

and destroyed 20 structures in Yolo and Napa counties. Investigators said an electric livestock fence that was improperly installed sparked the flames.

In the fire near Yosemite, investigators were trying to find out more details about Varney's death Saturday, but they believe he was working his way out of the fire area when he was killed, Koerperich said.

"This certainly is going to be devastating to his family and those of us who call him family here with Cal Fire," she said.

Varney had worked for Cal Fire for 10 years. His father also worked as a Cal Fire heavy equipment operator. He is survived by his wife, Jessica; daughter Malhea, 5; and son Nolan, 3.

Gov. Jerry Brown ordered flags at the California Capitol to be flown at half-staff to honor "a man who dedicated his life to protecting his fellow Californians."



David Adams/Corpus Christi Caller-Times via AP

In this July 29, 1996, photo, Ray Candia, a member of the GI Forum near Seattle Washington, salutes the coffin of Dr. Hector P. Garcia during a public viewing at the Selena Bayfront Auditorium in Corpus Christi. Mexican Americans and Mexican immigrants sought to enlist in the U.S. Army at the outbreak of World War II to show their loyalty and to demand civil rights upon their return. Among the immigrants to join were Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi and cotton farmer Macario Garcia of Sugar Land. Both would become key figures in the Mexican American civil rights movement.

AP explains: Immigrants in US military throughout history

By Russell Contreras
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Some immigrant U.S. Army reservists and recruits who enlisted in the military with a promised path to citizenship are being abruptly discharged.

A few said the Army informed them they had been labeled as security risks because they have relatives abroad or because the Defense Department had not completed background checks on them.

Throughout history, immigrants have served and earned praise for their actions in battle despite reservations about their immigration status and loyalties. Here are some examples:

American Revolution

French aristocrat Marquis de Lafayette sailed to the newly formed United States in 1777 to join the fight against the British. The colonists' struggle inspired him, and he eventually became a major-general in Gen. George Washington's Continental Army. News of Lafayette's actions against the British spread across the colonies and he would forever be seen as an early American hero.

In addition to Lafayette, Prussian military officer Friedrich von Steuben volunteered for the Continental Army, as did a West Indies-born immigrant named Alexander Hamilton. The young Hamilton caught the eye of Washington and became a trusted adviser, helping defeat the British in the Battle of Yorktown.

Mexican-American War

Newly arrived immigrants represented a large portion of recruits to

the U.S. Army during the Mexican-American War from 1846 to 1848. They joined the military out of economic circumstances and came from places like Germany and Ireland.

Many Irish Catholics faced discrimination in an army with a leadership that consisted of Protestants and nationalists. A few deserted the U.S. Army in Mexico and formed the St. Patrick's Battalion because they related more to the Mexican Catholics they initially were fighting.

Civil War

During the Civil War from 1861 to 1865, non-citizens made up as much as 20 percent of the 1.5 million soldiers in the Union Army. Emilio T. Gonzalez, then-U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services director, told a U.S. Senate committee in 2006. Most of them, including Union Maj. Gen. Franz Siegel, were born in Germany or Ireland.

Gonzalez testified that 369 immigrants were awarded the Medal of Honor for their heroism in the Union cause, including Capt. William Joyce Sewell of Ireland. Sewell would later become a U.S. senator from New Jersey.

In the New Mexico territory, Hispanic Union soldiers born in land that was once part of Mexico helped defeat an advancing Confederate surge at the Battle of Glorieta Pass in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The "Gettysburg of the West" forced the Confederates to retreat out of the American West and back to Texas.

World War II

Mexican-Americans and Mexican immigrants sought to enlist in the U.S. Army at the outbreak of World

War II to show their loyalty and to demand civil rights upon their return.

Among the immigrants to join were Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi, Texas, and cotton farmer Macario Garcia of Sugar Land. Both would become key figures in the Mexican-American civil rights movement.

Macario Garcia gained national attention in 1944 after he destroyed two Nazi enemy emplacements and captured four prisoners. He was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Harry Truman and was treated to a hero's welcome in Houston.

The day after a party in his honor, a diner outside Houston denied Garcia service because he was Hispanic. Garcia fought with diner staff and destroyed part of the restaurant in anger. After a national outcry, charges against Garcia were dropped.

The fight was later portrayed in the 1956 movie "Giant," starring Rock Hudson and James Dean.

War on terror

At the beginning of the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, around 38,000 of those in uniform were not American citizens. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services would naturalize more than 26,000 service members from Sept. 11, 2001, to 2006, following an executive order by President George W. Bush.

One of the first combat casualties of the Iraq War was Marine Lance Cpl. Jose Gutierrez, 22. The Guatemalan-born Gutierrez, who entered the U.S. illegally as an orphan teen, was killed in battle around the port city of Umm Qasr. Hundreds attended his memorial service outside of Los Angeles. He was granted American citizenship posthumously.

US trade, immigration and biofuel policies hit farmers hard

By David Pitt
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Even before the specter of a trade war with China and other countries threatened to cost them billions of dollars, American farmers were feeling the squeeze from fluctuating crop prices and other factors that have halved their overall income in recent years.

The threat of counter-tariffs on U.S. farm goods and the impact of President Donald Trump's other policies on immigration and biofuels, though, have some farmers more worried than ever about their ability to continue eking out an existence in agriculture.

"No matter where you look in ag right now, you see storm clouds on the horizon and some of those are a lot closer overhead than we'd care for," said Chad Hart, an agricultural economist with Iowa State University.

Trump's tariff threats earlier this year against China, Mexico, Canada and European Union elicited quick retaliatory measures that depressed the prices of certain U.S. agricultural products, including corn, soybeans, pork. When \$34 billion worth of tariffs against China took effect July 6 and China responded with tariffs of its own, U.S. farmers were already feeling the squeeze from lower crop prices, higher land prices and other factors.

The Department of Agriculture predicted before the threat of tariffs and counter-tariffs that U.S. farm income would drop this year to \$60 billion, or half the \$120 billion of five years ago. That projection is likely high, given what's transpired since.

Don Bloss, who grows corn, soybeans, sorghum and wheat on his farm in the southeastern Nebraska community of Pawnee City, said he's already seen a few neighbors quit farming as they struggled to make a profit even before the tariff battle began this year.

"They aren't making money. One has said the banker is giving up on them," said Bloss.

John Weber, who raises pigs and grows corn and soybeans with his son about 100 miles northeast of Des Moines, near Dysart, said many farmers' budgets were already tight going into this growing season and the impact of tariffs has made it worse.

"Some were given the go-ahead for another year, but boy, you start looking at these lower prices and the extra costs that are out there now it gets tough. It just doesn't work," he said.

Per-bushel soybean prices have fallen 19 percent since early May to a 10-year low and corn is down more than 15 percent. At current prices, most farmers lose money

on corn, soybeans and pigs.

U.S. pork producers stand to lose more than \$2 billion per year because of plunging hog futures prices, the result of the Chinese retaliatory tariffs, according to Iowa State University economists' projections.

"That means less income for pork producers and, ultimately, some of them going out of business," said Jim Heimerl, a pig farmer from Johnstown, Ohio, and president of the National Pork Producers Council, an industry trade group.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue has promised that Trump will restore farmer profitability but he hasn't specified how and some economists are skeptical that the administration can come up with the billions of dollars necessary to cover losses.

"If this continues and the USDA does not discover a way to helicopter in and drop buckets of cash into the corn belt this fall, then I would not be surprised if there are tractor parades going to DC at some point in the next year," said Scott Irwin, University of Illinois agricultural economist.

There's no sign of a quick resolution to the trade dispute. The U.S. and China have threatened to impose 25 percent tariffs next week on \$16 billion of each other's goods. And on Tuesday, Trump announced plans to impose 10 percent tariffs on an additional \$200 billion in Chinese imports by the end of August. China said it would retaliate, leaving even more U.S. farm products at risk.

Meanwhile, Trump's headline immigration policies have been making it even harder to recruit workers for pork producers, who have historically relied on immigrants for a third of their workforce. The industry had been planning a rapid expansion due to growing export demand from China and Mexico, but the trade dispute and raids springing immigration raids on a Tennessee meatpacking plant and an Iowa concrete plant have worried pork producers.

"Skilled and unskilled foreign workers have been crucial to maintaining and growing the workforce and revitalizing rural communities across the United States. We need more of them, not less," Heimerl said.

The Trump administration's willingness to issue waivers exempting petroleum refineries from having to blend ethanol into their fuels has led to an estimated 250 million bushels of corn going unused, which contributed to lower corn prices.

"There's potential here for this to turn into the worst farm financial crisis since the 1980s," Irwin said.

NATIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

BOSTON Police officer, bystander die from gunshot wounds

A Massachusetts police officer and bystander died Sunday from gunshot wounds sustained when a suspect allegedly took the officer's gun and fired following a vehicle crash and a foot chase.

Weymouth officer Michael Chesna was shot multiple times by his own firearm around 7:30 a.m. Sunday, and died from the injuries at South Shore Hospital, officials said.

An unidentified elderly woman also died after being hit by stray bullets in a nearby home, authorities said.

Weymouth Police Chief Richard Grimes said the shooting suspect, 20-year-old Emanuel Lopes, was in custody.

Weymouth is located approximately 16 miles south of Boston on what is known as the South Shore.

Police say the suspect crashed a car, fled the scene, and was later discovered by Chesna allegedly vandalizing a home. Prosecutors say that's when he attacked Chesna with a rock to the head. Chesna fell to the ground, and officials say, Lopes took the officer's gun and shot Chesna multiple times in the head and chest.

Lopes then fled and fired more shots during a chase. Police say one of those shots fatally struck the woman in her home. Lopes suffered a leg

wound while being arrested and is hospitalized at South Shore Hospital. He will be arraigned on two counts of homicide today, at either his bedside or in court.

Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker said on Twitter that his thoughts were with the families of the officer and bystander.

"I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Officer Chesna and an innocent bystander today and my thoughts and prayers are with their families, loved ones and the @WeymouthPD after this tragic loss," Baker tweeted.

Grimes described Chesna as a 42-year-old Iraq and Afghanistan war veteran who leaves behind a wife and two children, ages 4 and 9. Chesna was from Weymouth and graduated in 1994 from Weymouth High School. "I hired Mike Chesna six years ago tomorrow," Grimes said.

Grimes said he had spoken to Chesna's mother and she said her son joined the military "to open the doors to get in this job."

"He always had a kind word and a good attitude ... we very much appreciated his service to the Weymouth Police Department," said Grimes, describing the overnight shifts and traffic division duties Chesna held.

Chesna's body was removed from the hospital and transported via procession of multiple law en-

forcement agencies to the state's medical examiner office in Boston, where he will be evaluated. Dozens of police, some tight-lipped and others crying, somberly saluted the vehicle carrying the officer's body, and mourners placed bouquets by the Weymouth Police Headquarters, now draped in black bunting.

MISSOURI

Suspect in shooting of 3 Kansas City cops dies in standoff

KANSAS CITY — Police shot and killed a man Sunday suspected of shooting and wounding three Kansas City police officers, authorities said. The suspect died Sunday afternoon after barricading himself in a house in the southeast part of the city. He emerged from the home and was killed in an

exchange of gunfire, police Chief Rick Smith told reporters.

All three officers are expected to live.

Police spokesman Sgt. Jacob Becchina said the first two officers were shot during an undercover operation at a motel less than 2 miles from Kauffman Stadium, where the Kansas City Royals baseball team plays. The suspect then fled in a vehicle with another person, who was arrested when officers found the vehicle.

The suspect barricaded himself inside of a home about a mile (1.6 kilometers) from the motel. He shot the third officer in the arm during the standoff, Smith said.

The suspect was a person of interest in the fatal shooting of a University of Missouri-Kansas City student during a robbery earlier this month.

"We've been looking for him all week," Smith said. "This is the first time we laid eyes on him."

FOUL-TEMPLOYMENT

Trainees & Mudloggers/Field Geologists

Advance Consultants Corp.

is hiring both Trainees and Experienced

Mudloggers/Field Geologists for West Texas.

Email resumes to

advance@advanceclogging.com

healthy living

PAID CONTENT

Midland Family Care

Accepting New Patients

Most Insurance Accepted
3305 Andrews Highway
620-9525

Lydia O'Brien M.D., F.A.C.P.

GET QUALIFIED

Nursing Home Medicaid

VA Pension Aid & Attendance

Please call today for your free consultation.

I have been very successful in helping families qualify for these benefits, even those who have been denied.

432-683-6796

Over 1000 Medicaid Appeals and VA Pension Appeals won under the direction of The Law Office of Mrs. H. Brown, P.C.

AUDIO ACOUSTICS HEARING CENTERS, INC.

"Your Professionals for Better Hearing"

Specializing in Digital Hearing Aids

and Industrial Hearing Conservation

689-4327

2101 N. Midland Dr. Ste. 4

Office Hours Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30

Orland Purcell, Au. D.

Ginger L. Pugh, Au. D.

OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Monday, July 16, 2018 | Page 6A

Kavanaugh has most important quality: character

Judging Supreme Court nominees is tricky. Whether the assessment is taking place formally by lawmakers in the Senate Judiciary Committee, or informally by everyday Americans at water coolers across the country, there are many unknowns.

Nominees are usually careful not to give any hints during their confirmation hearings about how they might decide issues that could come before the high court. They would likely never make a promise about how they might rule on a case; but, even if they did, they could always break that promise once on the court. Any views they have expressed in the past could be changed — at the hearing or in years to come. And if confirmed and seated on the Supreme Court, they could change — from liberal to conservative or vice versa — quicker than you can say “lifetime appointment.”

Whenever there is a Supreme Court vacancy, Americans waste a lot of emotion speculating about whether a nominee would be a good fit. Then Washington-based special-interest groups tap into that emotion to raise money from the true believers. A cause becomes a racket.

But, in reality, we don't know what's going to happen if a person is confirmed. It's a gamble either way.

RUBEN NAVARRETTE

Washington Post Writers Group



So, when assessing Supreme Court nominees, I have my own test. And it is based on just one thing: character. That's what I look for, and — in this process, as in life — it's the only thing that matters. Judging from his remarks at the White House last week when his nomination was announced, federal appeals court Judge Brett Kavanaugh has buckets of character. He radiates it.

Where did the 53-year-old get all this character?

Maybe it was from his religion and his Catholic upbringing; the former altar boy was schooled by Jesuits and now volunteers serving meals to the homeless through Catholic Charities.

Maybe it was from the hard work and dedication that Kavanaugh obviously poured into a top-flight education at Georgetown Preparatory School, Yale University and Yale Law School.

Maybe it was from teaching young law students at Harvard, Yale and Georgetown. He is generally regarded, according to news reports, as one of the more popular members of the faculty, someone who is accessible and helpful to students.

Maybe it came from a career of public service — as an attorney working with independent counsel Kenneth Starr in the 1990s, as a lawyer advocating for George W. Bush in the Florida recount in 2000, later as staff secretary in the Bush White House, and most recently as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

My guess is that Kavanaugh got most of his character from his parents, who appear to have worked hard in their own lives to accomplish their dreams and seem to have taught him well. An only child, Kavanaugh obviously loves, respects, even idolizes his parents — especially his mother, who herself went from high school teacher to prosecutor to judge. The son is clearly just as proud of his mother as she is of him.

But aside from the question of where Kavanaugh's character comes from, how do we even know he has it?

That's easy. Look at how he talked about his family — not just his parents but also the people who know him best

because they live with him, his wife and daughters. Given all his accomplishments and accolades, he obviously considers it the great privilege of his life to be husband to Ashley and father to Elizabeth and Margaret. In his remarks, he said, “I thank God every day for my family.”

So what should Americans look for in a Supreme Court nominee?

That's also easy. We're conditioned to worship “the big” — those who went to big-name schools, have done big things, have big credentials, have racked up big accomplishments.

Yet we have that upside down. We need to look for “the small” — individuals who have the perspective to consider their family, their country and their God and see themselves as small by comparison.

With Supreme Court justices, we also want people who have the additional quality of seeing themselves as small next to the U.S. Constitution.

We'll learn more about this particular nominee in the coming days. Liberals and Democrats are on the attack and looking for flaws. It's just politics. They were going to oppose anyone nominated by President Trump.

But for now, the evidence suggests that Brett Kavanaugh has tons of character. And that is a great place to start.

GUEST VIEW

Abortion becomes a sacrament for modern-day feminists

Last week, amid widespread Democratic tumult regarding the selection of a replacement for Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, alleged comedian Michelle Wolf paid tribute to the most important facet of American life: abortion. On her Netflix show on Sunday, Wolf dressed up in red, white and blue, and shrieked into the camera, “God bless abortions, and God bless America!” She explained: “Women, if you need an abortion, get one! If you want an abortion, get one! ... And women, don't forget: You have the power to give life and men will try to control that. Don't let them!”

Along with that inane outburst, she justified abortion itself. “Look,” she stated, “access to abortion is good and important. Some people say abortion is killing a baby. It's not. It's stopping a baby from happening.”

Well, some people say Michelle Wolf is killing comedy. She's not. She's stopping comedy from happening.

But more importantly, a ground shift has taken place in how Democrats think about abortion. Back in 2005, I wrote that the Democratic “safe, legal and rare” formulation regarding abortion was logically and morally untenable: If Democrats wanted abortion to be rare thanks to its inherent immorality, there was no reason for it to be legal. Democrats have finally come around: They're now “shouting” their abortions, proclaiming them from the rooftops, suggesting that there is a moral good achieved by abortion.

Thus, Lena Dunham said just two years ago, “I still haven't had an abortion, but I wish I had.” Thus, Chelsea Handler, who has had two abortions, explained in the pages of *Playboy*, “I don't ever look back and think, ‘God, I wish I'd had that baby.’” Her article was accompanied by a picture of a woman's hand with a raised middle finger with a pink bow around it; attached to the bow is a small card that reads, “It's an abortion!”

Yes, abortion is now a signifier that you refuse to be ruled by the patriarchy. Avoidance of pregnancy may be a wise life choice, according to third-wave feminists, preventing women from being sucked into the grinding maw of maternal life. But abortion is something even better: a signal that you just don't care about the system. The system demands that if you're pregnant with a child, you make your own concerns secondary; the system must be fought.

Gloria Steinem once remarked, “If men could get pregnant, abortion would be a sacrament.” But modern-day feminists have determined that abortion is a sacrament specifically because women can get pregnant: Showing that control over your body even extends to the killing of your unborn child is a way of standing up against patriarchal concerns with women as the source of future generations.

For Michelle Wolf, abortion isn't just another decision. It's a giant middle finger to the moral establishment. And those who would fight abortion are desecrating the mysterious holiness of a ritual that reinforces women's control. No wonder Wolf thinks God blesses abortion; abortion is her god.

— Ben Shapiro
Creators Syndicate

Midland Reporter-Telegram

A Midland newspaper

EDITORIAL BOARD

Jeff Shabram, Publisher
Stewart Doreen, Editor
Mary Deaton, Managing Editor
Trevor Hewes, Asst. Managing Editor

TO OUR READERS

Opinions, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the author's or artist's views and not necessarily the view of the Reporter-Telegram.



Administration shoots itself in foot

Let's say you're the president of the United States and want to keep the country safe. But data from the Department of Defense shows that a stunning 71 percent of Americans between 17 and 24 are unable to join the military because they are too overweight, are poorly educated or have a record of crime or drug abuse.

But despite your need for strong fighting forces, you decide to start eliminating highly qualified immigrants from the ranks, even though they've been fully vetted to be part of the military.

This is exactly what's going on with the Trump administration's recent move to discharge immigrants who enlisted with the promise of a path to citizenship, as The Associated Press recently reported. In all, an estimated 15,000 foreign-born people in the military could either be kicked out or have their applications for citizenship delayed or denied.

Since at least World War I, the exchange of military service and potential loss of life for expedited naturalization has been in place for immigrants with special linguistic, medical and other skills. Yet the administration's recent actions have taken many immigrant recruits and reservists by surprise.

These military personnel already knew that life might get more difficult for them under the Trump administration — immigrant advocacy groups have been warning them for months about the potential for such tightened requirements as additional background checks and longer periods of active duty.

The surprising part has been the lack of information given to the affected parties and the total absence of due process.

“People are just getting pieces of paper saying they're getting discharged, in many cases, without a stated reason, without recourse or opportunity to appeal, with no transparency whatsoever,” said Margaret Stock, a retired Army Reserve lieutenant colonel and immigration attorney with expert knowledge of military immigrant-recruitment programs.

“In one case, a soldier found out about her discharge only after searching on the Army's human resources website,” Stock said during a press briefing. “And the crazy thing is that they told her that she won't be able to get her citizenship until she's discharged, which is such a waste — she's had no disciplinary problems, she's a good soldier, and as soon as she is discharged she will get her citizenship but won't be able to serve in the military.”

According to Stock, any concerns about foreign nationals serving in the military generally stem from a total ignorance of the incredible hoops they

ESTHER CEPEDA

Washington Post Writers Group



have to jump through to qualify.

“There are background checks on top of background checks,” she said. “All of the people affected have already passed fingerprint checks, FBI, criminal and name checks, single scope, Tier 5, one-on-one interviews, counterintelligence screenings, plus others with so many acronyms I can't even list them all. Post-9/11, these people are vetted so thoroughly through the Department of Homeland Security to the point that the chances of any of them being a security risk are extraordinarily infinitesimal.”

Stock continued: “Keep in mind that these people are much more vetted than any U.S. citizen — they go through background checks that are never required of U.S. citizens, yet the Pentagon is claiming that some of these people need more — or applying inappropriate criteria by which to measure risk.”

In one example Stock cited, a young medic from Ukraine enlisted more than two years ago in the U.S. Army but was recently discharged. A review of her file yielded the detail that her family back in Ukraine was helping her pay for college in the United States — but the rules for a U.S. student visa require a student to prove how they'll fund all educational, living and travel costs.

Immigrants who want to serve their adopted country have not taken these discharges sitting down. Individual recruits have filed lawsuits to fight being discharged, and there are also larger court challenges to the October 2017 Pentagon memos that first established the more-stringent guidelines for the right to join the military and gain expedited citizenship.

According to Stock, the Pentagon itself admitted that severe labor shortages are making it so that its limited staff can hardly keep up with the usual background checks they have now, and it would take more than 10 years to clear all the people in the pipeline, rendering their military service untenable.

Some people would say this whole situation is crazy. In fact, it's a classic case of our country shooting itself in the foot.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore





AP file photo
In this Nov. 11, 2017, file photo, President Donald Trump and Russia's President Vladimir Putin talk during the family photo session at the APEC Summit in Danang, Vietnam. The outcome of the first summit between the unpredictable first-term American president and Russia's steely-eyed longtime leader is anybody's guess. With no set agenda, the summit could veer between spectacle and substance as Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin head into their meeting today in Helsinki.

What Trump and Putin hope to achieve at Helsinki summit

By Jonathan Lemire and Vladimir Isachenkov
Associated Press

HELSINKI — The outcome of the first summit between the unpredictable first-term American president and Russia's steely-eyed longtime leader is anybody's guess. With no set agenda, the summit could veer between spectacle and substance. As Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin head into today's meeting in Helsinki, here's a look at what each president may be hoping to achieve:

What Trump wants

What Trump wants from Russia has long been one of the great mysteries of his presidency.

The president will go into the summit followed by whispers about his ties to Moscow, questions that have grown only more urgent since the Justice Department last week indicted 12 Russian military intelligence officers accused of interfering in the 2016 election in an effort to help Trump.

And while most summits featuring an American president are carefully scripted affairs designed to produce a tangible result, Trump will go face-to-face with Putin having done scant preparation, possessing no clear agenda and saddled with a track record that, despite his protests, suggests he may not sharply challenge his Russian counterpart over election meddling.

"I think we go into that meeting not looking for so much," Trump told reporters last week.

Trump has strenuously insisted that improved relations with Russia would benefit the United States. But much of the appeal of the Helsinki meeting is simply to have the summit itself and to bolster ties between Washington and Moscow and between Putin and Trump, who places his personal rapport with foreign leaders near the heart of his foreign policy.

"The fact that we're having a summit at this level, at this time in history, is a deliverable in itself," said Jon Huntsman, the U.S. ambassador to Russia. "What is important here is that we start a discussion."

Trump has been drawn to the spectacle of the summit and has expressed an eagerness to recreate in Helsinki the media show of last month's Singapore summit when he met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Even as many NATO leaders made supportive noises this week, the Helsinki summit has raised fears in many global capitals that Trump will pull back from traditional Western alliances, allowing Putin to expand his sphere of influence.

Back home, too, there is wariness on Capitol Hill, with a number of Democrats and a handful of Republicans urging Trump to cancel the summit in the wake of the explosive indictments.

But Trump has vowed that he can handle Putin, whom he has taken to referring to as a "competitor"

rather than an adversary.

And Trump in recent days has outlined some of the items he'd like to discuss, including Ukraine. Though the president has said he was "not happy" about Russia's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine, he puts the blame on his predecessor and says he will continue relations with Putin even if Moscow refuses to return the peninsula.

Trump also said he and Putin would discuss the ongoing war in Syria and arms control, negotiations that White House officials have signaled could be fruitful.

"I will be talking about nuclear proliferation," the president said alongside British Prime Minister Theresa May on Friday. "We've been modernizing and fixing and buying. And it's just a devastating technology. And they, likewise, are doing a lot. And it's a very, very bad policy."

But it is the matter of election meddling, including fears Russia could try to interfere in the midterm elections this fall, that could play a central role in the summit talks or loom even larger if not addressed. In neither of Trump's previous meetings with Putin — informal talks on the sidelines of summits last year in Germany and Vietnam — did the president publicly upbraid the Russian leader, prompting questions about whether he believed the former KGB officer's denials over his own intelligence agencies' assessments of meddling.

Trump repeatedly has cast doubt on the conclusion that Russia was behind the hacking of his Democratic rivals and disparaged special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into possible links between Russia and his campaign as a "witch hunt." But he said in Britain that he would raise it with Putin even as he downplayed its impact.

"I don't think you'll have any 'Gee, I did it. I did it. You got me,'" Trump said, invoking a television detective. "There won't be a Perry Mason here. I don't think. But you never know what happens, right? But I will absolutely firmly ask the question."

What Putin wants

For Putin, sitting down with Trump offers a long-awaited chance to begin repairing relations with Washington after years of spiraling tensions.

Putin wants the U.S. and its allies to lift sanctions, pull back NATO forces deployed near Russia's borders and restore business as usual with Moscow. In the longer run, he

hopes to persuade the U.S. to acknowledge Moscow's influence over its former Soviet neighbors and, more broadly, recognize Russia as a global player whose interests must be taken into account.

These are long-term goals, and Putin realizes that no significant progress will come from just one meeting. More than anything else, he sees today's summit as an opportunity to develop good rapport with Trump and set the stage for regular high-level contacts.

"Russia-U.S. ties aren't just at their lowest point since the end of the Cold War, they never were as bad as they are now," said Fyodor Lukyanov, who chairs the Council for Foreign and Defense Policies, an influential Moscow-based association of policy experts. "It's unhealthy and abnormal when the leaders of the two nuclear powers capable of destroying each other and the rest of the world don't meet."

Moscow views Trump's criticism of NATO allies and his recent comments about wanting Russia back in the Group of Seven club of leading industrialized nations with guarded optimism but no euphoria. Initially excited about Trump's election, the Kremlin has long realized that his hands are bound by the ongoing investigations into whether his campaign colluded with Moscow.

Konstantin Kosachev, the Kremlin-connected head of the foreign affairs committee in parliament's upper house, wrote in his blog that Russia won't engage in vague talk about "illusory subjects," such as the prospect of lifting Western sanctions or Russia's return to the G-7.

Putin knows it would be unrealistic to expect U.S. recognition of Russia's annexation of Crimea or a quick rollback of sanctions approved by Congress. Instead, he's likely to focus on issues where compromise is possible to help melt the ice.

Syria is one area where Moscow and Washington could potentially reach common ground. One possible agreement could see Washington give a tacit go-ahead for a Syrian army deployment along the border with Israel in exchange for the withdrawal of Iranian forces and their Hezbollah proxies.

whose presence in the area represents a red line for Israel.

There is little hope for any quick progress on other major issues.

Kosachev said it would be "pointless" to discuss Russian meddling in the U.S. election, which Moscow firmly denies. He also warned that demands for Russia to return Crimea to Ukraine or revise its policy on eastern Ukraine would be equally fruitless. The Kremlin sees Crimea's status as non-negotiable and puts the blame squarely on the Ukrainian government for the lack of progress on a 2015 plan to resolve the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

Putin has held the door open for a possible deployment of U.N. peacekeepers to separate the warring sides, but firmly rejected Ukraine's push for their presence along the border with Russia.

On arms control, one area where the U.S. and Russia might reach agreement is the possible extension of the New START treaty, set to expire in 2021, which caps the number of deployed nuclear warheads at 1,550 for each country.

The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, signed in 1987 by President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, is supposed to last indefinitely but has increasingly run into trouble. The U.S. has accused Russia of violating the terms of the treaty by developing a new cruise missile, which Moscow has denied.

Russia has pledged adherence to both treaties, but it has become less focused on arms control agreements than in the past, when it was struggling to maintain nuclear parity with the U.S.

After complaining about U.S. missile defense plans as a major threat to Russia, Putin in March unveiled an array of new weapons he said would render the U.S. missile shield useless, including a hypersonic intercontinental strike vehicle and a long-range nuclear-powered underwater drone armed with an atomic weapon.

"Russia was much weaker, and the weak always try to appeal to international law," Lukyanov said. "But the atmosphere is different now, and Russia is much more self-confident."

Trump names EU a global foe, raps media before summit

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press

HELSINKI — President Donald Trump named the European Union as a top adversary of the United States and denounced the news media as the "enemy of the people" before arriving in Helsinki on Sunday on the eve of his high-stakes summit with Russia's Vladimir Putin.

Trump and his top aides were downplaying expectations for today's summit as Trump continued to rattle allies by lumping in the EU with Russia and China after barnstorming across Europe, causing chaos at the recent NATO summit and in a trip to the United Kingdom.

Trump spent the weekend in Scotland at his resort in Turnberry, golfing, tweeting and granting an interview to CBS News in which he named the EU, a bloc of nations that includes many of America's closest allies, at the top of his list of biggest global foes.

"I think the European Union is a foe, what they do to us in trade," Trump said, adding that "you wouldn't think of the European Union, but they're a foe."

He said that Russia is a foe "in certain respects" and that China is a foe "economically ... but that doesn't mean they are bad. It doesn't mean anything. It means that they are competitive."

Trump has been reluctant to criticize Putin over the years and has described him in recent days not as an enemy but as a competitor.

On Sunday, Trump flew to Finland, the final stop on a weeklong trip that began last Tuesday. Near Trump's hotel, police roped off a group of about 60 mostly male pro-Trump demonstrators waving American flags. Big banners said "Welcome Trump" and "God Bless D & M Trump" and a helicopter hovered overhead.

Chants of "We love Trump, we love Trump" broke out as the president's motorcade passed, and Trump waved.

Trump set expectations for the summit low, telling CBS News, "I don't expect anything. ... I go in with very low expectations." His national security adviser said they weren't looking for any "concrete deliverables."

He also said in the interview taped Saturday that he "hadn't thought" about asking Putin to extradite the dozen Russian military intelligence officers indicted this past week in Washington on charges related to the hacking of Democratic targets in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

But after being given the idea by his interviewer, Trump said, "Certainly I'll be asking about it."

The U.S. has no extradition treaty with Moscow and can't compel Russia to hand over citizens. Russia's constitution prohibits extraditing its citizens to foreign countries.

Contradicting Trump in an interview on ABC's "This Week," U.S. national security adviser John Bolton said the idea of asking Putin to turn over the 12 military intelligence officials was "pretty silly" and argued that doing so would put the U.S. president in a "weak position."

He also argued that Trump is entering the summit with a stronger hand because of the indictments.

"I think the president can put this on the table and say, 'This is a serious matter that we need to talk about,'" said Bolton, adding that asking for the indicted Russians to be turned over would have the opposite effect.

In the CBS News interview, Trump declined to discuss his goals for the summit — "I'll let you know after the meeting," he said — but said he believes such sessions are beneficial.

He cited his historic meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in June as a "good thing," along with meetings he's had with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"Nothing bad is going to come out of the Helsinki meeting," he said, "and maybe some good will come out."

From aboard Air Force One, Trump complained in tweets that he wasn't getting enough credit for his meeting with Kim and railed that "Much of our news media is indeed the enemy of the people" as he headed to sit down with Putin.

Putin is regarded as creating a culture of violence and impunity that has resulted in the killing of some Russian journalists. Trump regularly criticizes American news media outlets and has called out some journalists by name.

Trump complained: "No matter how well I do at the Summit, he'll face criticism that it wasn't good enough."

"If I was given the great city of Moscow as retribution for all of the sins and evils committed by Russia over the years, I would return to criticism that it wasn't good enough — that I should have gotten Saint Petersburg in addition!" he tweeted.

Trump also praised Putin for holding the World Cup, which finished up Sunday.

Trump and Putin have held talks several times before. Their first meeting came last July when both participated in an international summit and continued for more than two hours, well over the scheduled 30 minutes. The leaders also met last fall during a separate summit in Vietnam.

But Jon Huntsman, the U.S. ambassador to Russia, said today's meeting "is really the first time for both presidents to actually sit across the table and have a conversation, and I hope it's a detailed conversation about where we might be able to find some overlapping and shared interests."

Congressional Democrats and at least one Republican have called on Trump to pull out of Monday's meeting unless he is willing to make Russian election-meddling the top issue.

JULY 20% to 50% OFF
CLEARANCE SALE
Spring & Summer Merchandise
Suits • Sport Coats • Shirts
Shorts • Slacks • Socks/Wear
JIM'S
TALL & SHORTS STORE

Fun Facts Sponsored by
FRANKLIN FOLIAGE
LANDSCAPING

"Serving West Texas Since 1987"

685-3521

franklinfoliage.com

Call us today to create the garden of your dream!

About 85% of smokers want to quit completely.

94% of the people suffer from "nicotinic" the fear of having no mobile phone.

DAILY ROMANCE
BROUGHT TO YOU BY



Isaiah 6:5

For the LORD Most High is to be feared, A great King over all the earth.



WE CATER TO YOU!
432-362-2311

AUTÉNTICA

HOMEMADE MEXICAN FOOD!

MONDAY LUNCH

ALL PLATTERS
WITH PURCHASE OF BEVERAGE

\$5

Quesadilla (Beef or Chicken)
Served with guacamole, sour cream, & side of salsa.

Chile Relleno
Two chile rellenos (stuffed or battered) smothered with our red sauce or queso. Your choice of beef, chicken or cheese. Served with rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Asado
Rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Grande Nachos
Includes beans, cheese, beef or chicken, lettuce, tomato, guacamole, sour cream, & jalapeños.

Shredded Brisket
Rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Combo Tex Mex
Two cheese or beef enchiladas, one tamale, & one taco. Served with rice & beans.

Enchiladas
Choice of red or green sauce, beef, chicken or cheese. Served with rice & beans.

Flautas
Four chicken flautas, rice, beans, guacamole, & sour cream.

Chile Verde con Carne
Rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Fajitas (Beef or Chicken)
Rice, beans, pico de gallo, guacamole, sour cream, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Crispy Tacos
Your choice of beef or chicken. Served with rice & beans.

Grande HOTEL FNDome

6201 W Hwy 80 E | Odessa | (432)362-2311

Taste of Mexico

EVERY TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

11 am-2pm

Authentic homemade Enchiladas, Chile Rellenos, Asado, Tortillas, Refried Beans, fresh made Guacamole, Salsa, Sopapillas, and more

**TRY THE
BUFFET ON
WEDNESDAY**

\$13.99

Grande HOTEL FNDome

6201 E. Bus. 20 | Odessa, Texas | mcmgrande.com

**SUMMER'S
Calling**



WITH OVER 100 MERCHANTS

SPORTS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Monday, July 16, 2018 | Section B

Intermediate squad wins Texas West State title

By Brandon McAuliffe
MRT Correspondent

ABILENE — The Midland Mid City Little League Intermediate squad is packing its bags for Colorado and the Southwest Regional Championship tournament after a 2-1 win over Abilene Wylie on Wylie's home field in the Texas West State Tournament on Sunday morning.

Mid City's Jace Martinez needed just 77 pitches to throw a complete game as he struck out 10, while allowing six hits, no walks and a single run as Wylie hitters attacked early in their at-bats. Martinez faced 26

batters and started 20 off with a first-pitch strike.

Ryan Price was dominant on the mound for Wylie in six innings as he allowed both runs (one earned) and scattered four hits and a walk around nine strikeouts. Price threw 67 of his 97 pitches for strikes as he attacked hitters all game long.

Mid City struck quickly in the first inning when Andrew Prado doubled to left field on the first pitch of the game and then moved to third after a wild pitch on the next offering from Price. Prado then scored on a one-out single by Martinez.

Wylie answered in the bottom half of the inning with a two-out rally.

Harrison Heighten ripped a hard double into the left field corner that was just a couple of feet shy of being a solo home run before scoring on Price's single.

Mid City scored the winning run in the fifth as Josh Reed had a one-out double and stole third base. He then scored on a passed ball when Hays Sipe couldn't handle an offering from Price.

The Intermediate Southwest Regional Championship will be held July 20-25 in Grand Junction, Colorado. Mid City's first game is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Please see LEAGUE/2B



The Midland Intermediate All Stars pose after winning the Texas West State Championship with a 2-1 victory over Abilene Wylie.

Courtesy photo

Second World Cup win



Matthias Schrader/Associated Press

France goalkeeper Hugo Lloris holds the trophy aloft after the final match between France and Croatia at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Luzhniki Stadium on Sunday in Moscow. France won the final 4-2.

Young, joyful France beats Croatia 4-2

By Graham Dunbar
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Taking turns sliding across the rain-soaked turf holding the World Cup trophy tight, teenager Kylian Mbappe and the rest of France's players acted like the youthful bunch they are.

Nothing, not a Pussy Riot protest nor a postgame downpour that soaked Russian President Vladimir Putin, was going to stop the party.

It carried on long after a thrilling 4-2 win over Croatia on Sunday. In the locker room with French President Emmanuel Macron striking poses with players, then a champagne-spraying, water-splashing interruption of the coach Didier Deschamps' news conference.

"Sorry! They're young and they're happy," said Deschamps, like a proud father.

Deschamps had good reason to indulge them. His team is mostly aged 25 or under and can return almost intact to defend their title in 2022 in Qatar.

"Our children are going to be very proud," forward Antoine Griezmann said. "The World Cup, it's a lot."

The 19-year-old Mbappe became only the second teen after Pele to score in a World Cup final.

Mbappe had just shown his electrifying speed in the 52nd minute when play was held up by four protesters who ran onto the field. Russian punk band Pussy Riot later took credit for the incident — watched from the VIP seats by Putin, whose government once jailed members of the activist group. Charges were filed against the group Sunday, too.

Putin was later on the field to award medals to the players in a ceremony soon drenched in rain and joy. As thunder pealed and lightning cracked, FIFA president Gianni Infantino handed France captain Hugo Lloris the gold World Cup trophy.

Gold confetti stuck to the soaked Les Bleus as they paraded the trophy around the Luzhniki Stadium, a final act of an enthralling tournament in which Croatia reached its first final while powers Brazil,

Germany and Argentina went home early.

About 12 minutes after a protester gave Mbappe a double high-five on the field, Mbappe sent a right-footed shot from 25 yards (meters) past goalkeeper Danijel Subasic. The goal put France up 4-1, closing the door on Croatia who had been the better team until Mbappe took control.

The only other teen to score in a World Cup final was Pele, who was 17 when Brazil beat Sweden 5-2 in 1958.

Mbappe, who plays for Paris Saint-Germain in the French league, was born months after France won its only other World Cup title in 1998.

"I have a whole story to write," Mbappe said. "This is just the beginning."

Paul Pogba and Griezmann, France's two other key creative players, also scored. Pogba played a disciplined role in Russia, but his natural joy was evident celebrating his 18-yard (meter) shot, and leading the champagne shower for Deschamps.

Djokovic wins 4th Wimbledon, 1st Slam in 2 years

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LONDON — Novak Djokovic acknowledged that he was worried. His coach was, too.

Could Djokovic ever return to the top of tennis? To the heights he'd already reached? Could he put aside the time lost to a painful right elbow that required surgery and the disappointment of poor-for-him results? Could he end a Grand Slam drought that lasted more than two years?

All of that fretting seemed misplaced Sunday night. Back at his best, Djokovic became Wimbledon's champion for the fourth time, grabbing a lead right away against a weary Kevin Anderson in the final and holding off a late challenge to win 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (3).

"There were several moments where I was frustrated and questioning whether I can get back (to the) desired level or not. But that makes this whole journey even more special for me," Djokovic said.

"It's easy to talk now and look back at it and be kind of grateful, but I really am grateful to go through this kind of, so to say, mixed emotions, turbulences as well, mentally, moments of doubt and disappointment and frustration, anger."

It is Djokovic's 13th major trophy, the fourth-highest total in the history of men's tennis, trailing only Roger Federer's 20, Rafael Nadal's 17 and his childhood idol Pete Sampras' 14.

But it's also Djokovic's first since he completed a career Grand Slam at the 2016 French Open.

"It was a long journey," the 31-year-old from Serbia said. "I couldn't pick a better place, to be honest, in the tennis world to peak and to make a comeback."

A year ago at the All England Club, Djokovic quit during his quarterfinal because of the elbow, then took the rest of 2017 off.

After the operation in February, Djokovic's results were mediocre. He realized later he tried to come back too soon.

"I really was impatient," he says now.

In April, he reunited with Marian Vajda, the man who had coached Djokovic for years before Boris Becker and Andre Agassi did.

"I always had doubt," Vajda said. "I was thinking really negative."

They built "the new Novak," as Vajda explained it.

Retooled his serve. Made adjustments to other strokes.

Still, Djokovic was so dispirited by his upset loss at the French Open last month that he vowed, in the heat of the moment, to skip the grass-court circuit.



Kirsty Wigglesworth/Associated Press

Serbia's Novak Djokovic lifts the trophy after winning the men's singles final match against Kevin Anderson of South Africa, at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships on Sunday in London.

Oklahoma favored going into Big 12 football media days

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

FRISCO — Oklahoma won another Big 12 title and made it to the College Football Playoff again in its first season without coach Bob Stoops on the sideline.

The Sooners, who have won the past three Big 12 titles with quarterback Baker Mayfield, will now be trying to do it again without the Heisman Trophy winner under center.

Even with Mayfield preparing for his first NFL season, 11-time Big 12 champion Oklahoma goes into the league's football media days as the preseason pick to win another title ahead of West Virginia.

Lincoln Riley, Oklahoma's offensive coordinator for two years before succeeding Stoops last summer, will be the last of the five coaches who will take the main podium Monday for the first half of media days at the Dallas Cowboys' headquarters, which is in suburban Frisco north of downtown Dallas.

TCU coach Gary Patterson, who is going into his 18th season has the second-longest active streak among FBS head

coaches, will be the first coach to take questions. Kansas' David Beaty, Texas Tech's Kliff Kingsbury and Iowa State's Matt Campbell will then go before Riley.

West Virginia coach Dana Holgorsen will get things started Tuesday, before a pair of second-timers — Texas coach Tom Herman and Baylor coach Matt Rhule — precede Kansas State's Bill Snyder and Oklahoma State's Mike Gundy.

The 78-year-old Snyder — 44 years older than Riley — is going into the 10th season of his second stint with the Wildcats. Snyder went 17 seasons (1989-2005) in his first stint before a three-year "retirement."

Mayfield, now with the Cleveland Browns after being the first overall pick in the NFL draft, is the only player to be the first-team quarterback on the AP All-Big 12 team three straight seasons. He led the Sooners to Big 12 titles each time, the starter throughout Riley's time with the Sooners as offensive coordinator and head coach.

Mayfield's expected replacement, Kyler Murray, was picked ninth overall in the Major League Baseball draft last month. The speedy quarterback/outfielder got

a \$4.66 million signing bonus from the Oakland Athletics, but Murray will play football for the Sooners this fall.

Not a lot of QBs

Murray isn't among the five quarterbacks from four teams scheduled to appear at Big 12 media days. Kansas State is bringing two quarterbacks, Alex Delton and Skylar Thompson. West Virginia's Will Grier, the preseason Big 12 offensive player of the year, will also be there, along with Iowa State's Kyle Kempt and TCU's Shawn Robinson.

Four in a row?

Oklahoma this season will try to become the first team to win four consecutive Big 12 titles. The Sooners got 46 of 52 first-place votes from a panel of media in the preseason balloting. West Virginia was picked second, ahead of TCU, Texas and Oklahoma State. Kansas State, even with two first-place votes, was picked sixth, followed by Iowa State, Texas Tech, Baylor and Kansas.

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

**TRUSTED
VALUED
ESSENTIAL**
Lifelong. Learning.

basin
pbs

432-563-5728
www.BasinPBS.org

Centers
for children & families

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

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

CASA
CASA of Midland
CASA OF WEST TEXAS

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

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

BPW

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

MONDAY PRIME TIME

JULY 16, 2018

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMD ABC	3	3	4	3	2							
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7							
KWWT CW	5	14	5	14								
KPEJ FOX	8	5	8	3								
KQML HD	11	12	12	11	11							
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9								
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	8								
KUPB UNI	4	4	4	16								
KOSA MNT	16	16	16									
FLIX	340	345	165									
HBO	300	306	14	14								
HBO2	302	301	15	23								
HBO3	304	302	16	16								
MAX	300	307	17	24								
MAX2	302	308	18	22								
FLEX	300	306	19	25								
SHOW	336	339	22	25	26							
TMC												
AME	27	58	28	35	47							
AMC	48	74	23	42	51							
BET	58	-	-	-	-							
BRVO	65	76	41	41								
CHC	46	52	39	72								
CHN	43	50	51	50	56							
DISC	50	60	31	24	42							
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36							
ESPN	32	35	40	31	30							
ESPN2	34	36	40	32	37							
FNC	45	48	53	23	55							
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54							
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33							
FX	37	38	50	45	29							
HALLMARK	51	51	58	34	34							
HISTV	63	69	26	40	44							
HISTORY	71	58	29	50	43							
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48							
MTV	47	53	40	73	73							
MTV2	38	43	-	-	-							
MTV3	55	-	39	34	37							
SPRKE	30	-	55	53	58							
SYFY	66	62	41	57	47							
TBS	25	33	44	44	41							
TCM	41	75	24	63	68							
TELE	20	-	10	20								
TLC	51	61	32	30	52							
TNT	24	34	40	26	50							
TVLAND	40	-	35	54	35							
USA	26	35	42	27	49							
WGN	19	25	-	-	-							

THE SALVATION ARMY
DOING THE MOST GOOD
The Salvation Army
300 S Baird St.
Midland, TX 79701
432-683-3614

Casa de Amigos
HELPING
PEOPLE
HELP
THEMSELVES
1101 E. Garden Ln., Midland, TX 79701
432-682-9701
casadeamigosmidland.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Midland Texas
Mentoring children
for a better Midland
432-687-0195

**MIDLAND
NEED TO
READ**
ADULT LITERACY
PROGRAM
info@midlandneedtoread.org
432-682-9693
1709 W. Wall St.
Midland, Texas 79701

MARC
Empowering Lives
Offering
opportunities for
children and adults
with disabilities
2701 North A Street
Midland, TX
432.695.9901

SENIOR LINK
Older Adults &
Baby Boomers
Volunteer here
to meet
your needs
Call Today
432-689-6693
Seniorlinkmidland.org

**Habitat
for Humanity**
Call for donation
pick-up.
Come shop our store.
Open to the public.
Tues.-Sat.
8:30-4:30.
305 E. Texas
432-682-9606

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
"Change the Path of a Pet's Life"
4206 W. Loop 250
Midland, TX 79707
(Inside PetSmart)
432-520-3134 ext. 7
www.midlandhumane.org
LIKE us on Facebook

Girl's old friends turn away when she returns to school

DEAR ABBY: My daughter has graduated from high school. She had been in a residential treatment program for depression the year and a half prior to returning to school. Her old friends had promised to be there for her when she returned.

After she was back for three months, her friends stopped inviting her to things and even talked behind her back in a group chat that was started by a different group. The girls' moms knew some of this was going on and did nothing about it. It has been a difficult journey for my daughter as well as for me.

Now that the girls have all graduated, I'm wondering if I should contact any of them or their moms and ask what happened. It was painful for me to watch my daughter go through weekends when her "friends" were out at parties she wasn't invited to. It was heartbreaking when no one came to her holiday or birthday parties. I am wondering if asking the girls' moms for an explanation can help my daughter learn from it. Please let me know what you think. — MAMA BEAR OUT WEST

DEAR MAMA BEAR: Your daughter has survived high school, and along with it the cruel treatment of the girls who promised to befriend her. For that, I congratulate her.

DEAR ABBY

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



Teenagers can be so completely centered on themselves that the feelings of others do not exist for them. Also, girls in high school tend to form cliques. Add to that the fact that there is so much misunderstanding about mental illness — not only among teens but also adults — and I have a pretty good idea of what happened and so should you.

DEAR ABBY: My husband's family is full of people who drink too much and then act like fools, shoving their words, stumbling and vomiting. It happens at many gatherings, and it stresses me out. They often pressure me to drink more and/or get drunk. Because I don't do it, I feel ostracized at these gatherings where I'm told I need to

"loosen up" or "cheer up" by drinking more. No one else in my life thinks I'm uptight. I'm normally very sociable.

These days, I avoid those family gatherings as often as possible, but I'm afraid I'm courting more problems by not participating in family activities. My relationship with my husband is fantastic, and he understands and supports me, but I don't feel like his family does. I've tried to be frank with them, but the conversations don't seem to stick. I can't avoid my husband's family forever. What to do? — IN THE MINORITY IN LOUISIANA

DEAR MINORITY: Because you have told your in-laws that being urged to drink makes you uncomfortable yet they persist, you are doing all you can short of cutting off all contact with them. Continue to limit the times you attend those family events, and when asked about your absence, continue to be frank about the reason. Then hope they are sober enough to get the message when you deliver it.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Bidding Quiz

Q1 — Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A6 ♠ A K 2 ♦ A K 10 9 8 2

♣ Q 6

As dealer, what call would you make?

A — Should you open 1D, you will have an impossible rebid over a

response of 1H or 1S. Better to open

2NT.

Q2 — North-South vulnerable, as

South, you hold:

♠ J 7 ♠ A Q 4 2 ♦ Q J 5 4 ♣ K J 10

With the opponents passing, you open

one diamond and partner raises to

three diamonds, invitational. What call

would you make?

A — Bid 3H. Partner has denied a

four-card major, so you're not look-

ing for a fit. You're just showing heart

strength. You can't barge into 3NT

with just the jack doubleton of spades.

Q3 — East-West vulnerable, as

South, you hold:

♠ Q 6 4 ♠ K Q 5 ♦ Q 10 5 2 ♣ J 5 3

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♠ 3♥ Pass ?

What call would you make?

A — The queen of spades is prob-

ably of no value, but we would bid

4H anyway. We like the three good

trumps and the potentially useful side

suit.

Q4 — Both vulnerable, as South, you

hold:

♠ A Q J 10 9 6 4 ♠ A K 7 6 3 ♦ Void

♣ 10

As dealer, what call would you make?

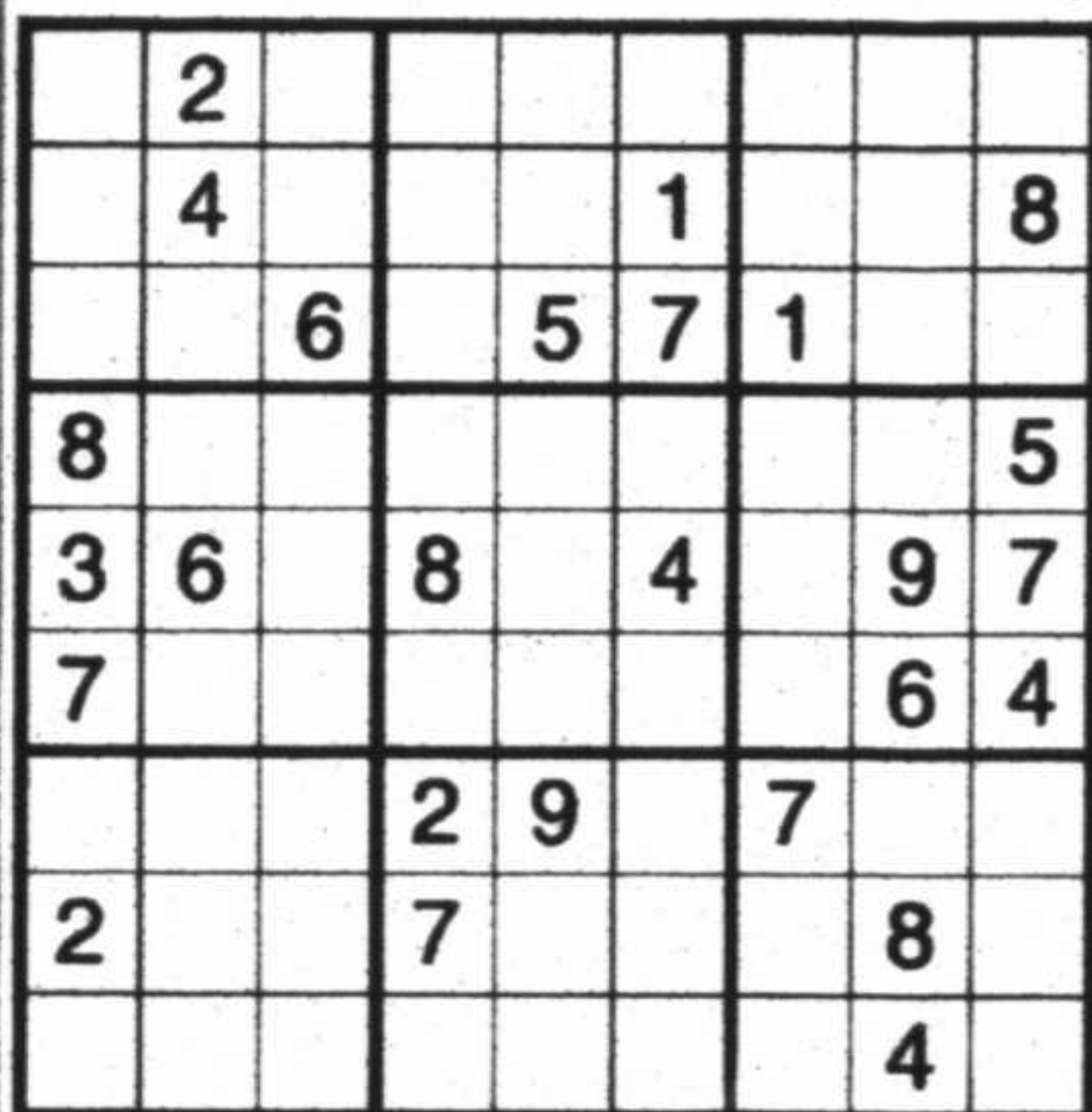
A — This hand would qualify as

"game in hand," but it is not worth an

opening bid of 2C. Bid 1S.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group



Level:



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

SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

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

7/16/18

© 2018 The Mephram Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.

JUMBLE

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

STYXI

©2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

THEBR

NOBORC

GIJENL

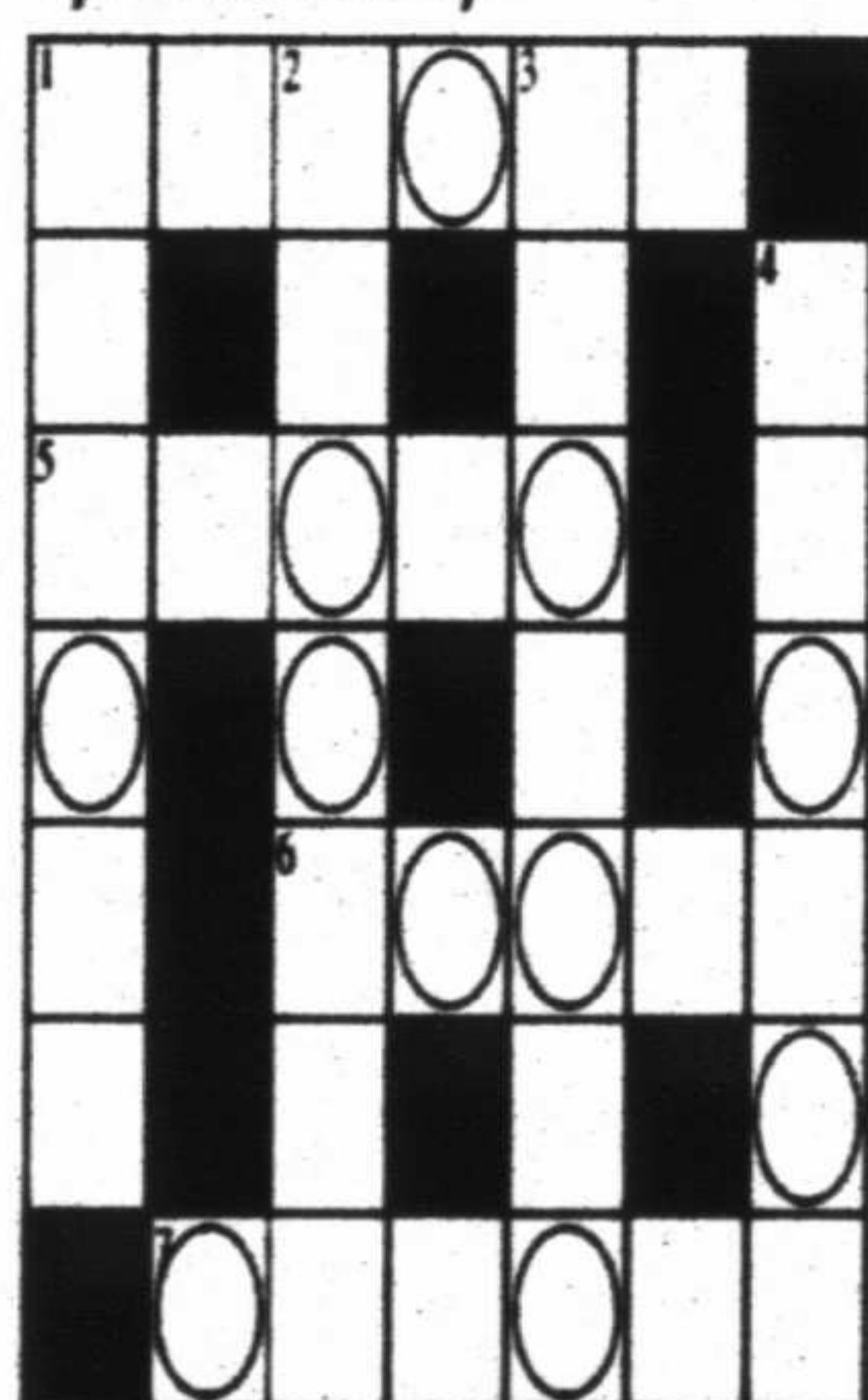
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CACHE MAIZE STENCH STEREO
Answer: After the outfielder ended the 15-inning game, he was ready to — CATCH SOME Z'S

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt



TODAY'S COMICS SPONSORED BY

**HARTMAN
ROOFING INC.**

432-522-1117

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, EXPERIENCE
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!!!The wiseman built his house on a rock
Then he hired Hartman to roof it!!!

All Types of Roof and Roof repair • Free Estimates

Commercial • Residential
www.HartmanRoofing.com**HARTMAN
ROOFING INC.**Mention this ad. and receive \$300.00
off a full roofing job or \$50.00 off any
repair of \$200.00 or more

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



LUANN



BLONDIE



MARY WORTH



BEETLE BAILEY



ZITS



CLASSIC PEANUTS



BABY BLUES



SHOE



MUTTS



GARFIELD



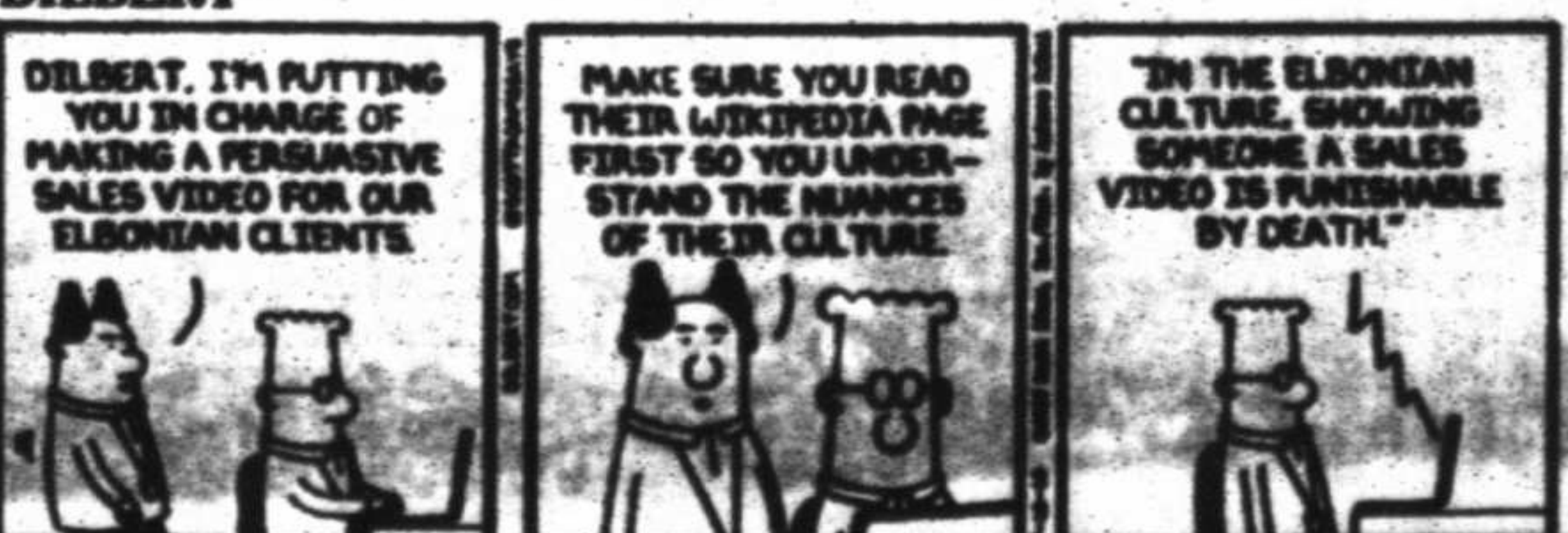
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



LOCKHORNS



mrt★com/jobs



Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

Financial Accounting Position

Oil & Gas Energy firm in Midland, TX is looking to fill a Financial Accounting Position. This position will be responsible for all financial reporting, compliance, budgeting and all year-end audit reconciliations. Candidate must have excellent computer and communication skills. College degree in Accounting or Finance required. 401K and cafeteria Plan. Mail resume to: Financial Accountant, 211 N. Colorado, Midland, TX. 79701 or email to employment@westtexasgas.com.

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

COPY EDITOR/DESIGNER

WANTED: A team-oriented, deadline-conscious copy editor/designer. You're a good fit if you're creative, willing to work nights, weekends and holidays, have at least one year of layout or copy editing experience, are InDesign proficient, can learn quickly, aren't afraid to ask questions, have an eye for detail, have a firm grasp of punctuation, grammar and AP style, and have a strong commitment to visual journalism. About us: The Midland Reporter-Telegram has a universal copy desk that handles the daily paper as well as products from other Hearst newspapers in the region.

About the job: This is an entry-level position that offers paid vacation, a 401(k) and other benefits. Experience in design is necessary, experience with sports is a plus. Recent college graduates are encouraged to apply. This would be a good job for someone looking to perfect their copy editing/design skills.

If you're interested: Submit your cover letter, resume and clips in PDF format to Editor Stewart Doreen at sdoreen@mrt.com.

CLERICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE

Licensed A&P Mechanics

Deer Horn Aviation with locations in Midland and Odessa seeks Licensed A&P Mechanics with 2+ years of GA experience. Up to \$30.00 per hour D.O.E. \$1000.00 sign on bonus. (432) 552-7881



CUSTOMER SERVICE

Strawberry Fields Café

Strawberry Fields Café has openings for motivated individuals with a great attitude and self starters. Great work environment, great management, pleasant customers. Part time and Full time positions are available. Apply in person at 2311 W. Wadley Ave., Midland. Hours of operation are 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday thru Friday / 7:30 am to 7:00 pm on Saturday. We are closed on Sundays!

EDUCATION/TEACHING

PRESCHOOL AND CDO TEACHERS

Part Time Preschool and CDO Teachers needed! Looking to hire an enthusiastic teacher to join our team. Candidates must be passionate about creating a caring and developmentally appropriate learning environment within the classroom. This position is part-time and applicant must be eager to work with infants to 4-year-olds. If you are interested, please come by First United Methodist Church at 300 N. Main St., Midland, Texas 79701 to apply in person. 432 682 3701. Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Qualifications: Experience, references, and ability to lift small children. Teaching degree preferred but not required.

FIELD OPERATIONS

Field Operator

Primary Responsibilities:

- Ensure proper load out of all needed equipment for customer jobs
- On location, gather and effectively communicate information concerning stages completed, consumables used, personnel tracking and utilization of equipment in Microsoft Excel format
- Test all equipment, open well, go into the hole, make real time suggestions to insure well control

Secondary Responsibilities:

- Once job is completed, determine daily cost, final job ticket, and damages
- Perform all duties as assigned by the District Manager, Assistant District Manager, or Field Supervisor

Education, Experience:

- High School Diploma/GED, PREFERRED: Associates Degree or Bachelor's Degree
- 2 years related experience and/or training in the field, or equivalent combination of education and experience

Required Skills:

- 2 years of experience operating/performing maintenance on gate valves / frac sticks
- Working Knowledge of: Well Control, Fluid Dynamics, Hydraulic pressure, Methods to calculate fluid volumes in round/irregular tanks
- Ability to define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions
- Ability to interface with personnel of other Service Companies and Clients to support proper rig up, operation, test and ongoing process of the job being executed

Benefits:

- Group Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance available
- 100% Company paid Short Term and Long Term Disability Insurance
- Company 401(k)

To Apply: Please send resume to Zachary@midlandreporter.com



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Advanced Consultants Corp. is now hiring both Trainees and Experienced Wellbore/Field Geologists for West Texas. Email resume to advice@advancedconsultants.com

ENERGY/UTILITIES

Oilfield Solutions, Inc., a major oil and gas chemical manufacturer is taking applications for the following positions:

Product Manager/Procurement

- Review reactions/ blends
- Manage SDS program
- Procurement of raw materials
- Requires some chemical knowledge

Chemical Reactor Operator

- Requires minimum one year of chemical reaction experience
- 12 hour shift - 5 days per week

Chemical Blender

- Requires minimum one year of oil/water chemical blending
- 12 hour shift - 5 days per week

Please send resume to galison@oilfieldsolutionsinc.com

Openings @ West Texas Gas Processing Plant

NW of Stanton, TX.

Gas Measurement/Communications Technicians. Duties include Installation, Calibration, Maintenance, Troubleshooting and Repair of Electronic Meters, Gas Sampling Systems and Radio Communications System. Excellent record keeping, communication and computer skills necessary. Salary DOE. Competitive wages and benefits.

Natural Gas Compressor Mechanic Position open at natural gas processing plant. Excellent benefits. Salary DOE.

Experienced Natural Gas Field operator for natural gas compression station. Individuals need to have an understanding of natural gas compression, operations of a gas facility, natural gas pipelines including high and low pressure systems and operations. Knowledge with Texas 811 and ONECALL is preferred.

Please Send Resume To
Admin
2873 FM 829
Stanton, TX 79782
Or Fax (432)458-3423
Or Email vmccormack@wtgigas.com

HEALTHCARE

Certified Pharmacy Technician

Super Mercado Pharmacy now hiring full time Certified Pharmacy Technician. TSBP certified. Bilingual skills is a plus. Benefits, paid holidays. Salary DOE. Bring resume to 2208 North Big Spring St. Midland, TX. 79705 or call Eric or Sokhan at 432-682-8801

Registered Nurse (RN)

Permian Basin Pain Management - Midland, TX
Experienced Full-time Registered Nurse needed for medical office in Midland. Hours: M-F 8am - 5pm

Send resumes to PBPM@pb-pain.com

VETERINARY

3 Large Animal Technicians/ Vet Tech Assistants & Receptionist

Brook Veterinary Clinic looking for 3 large animal Technicians. Willing to train the right people. Positions also available for Vet Tech Assistants & Receptionist. Great advancement opportunities. Apply in person at 1204 S. Dallas Ave., Lamesa, Texas or call 806-473-3183.



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 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

Facilities Assistant

Facilities assistant position available. Manages 60,000 sq. ft. facility. Must possess knowledge of HVAC, security and fire systems. Electrical and computer skills needed. Responsible for program and rental set-up. Rotates weekend duty. Assists with evening/nighttime functions as required. Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits included. Send resume to the Petroleum Museum, 1800 Interstate 20 West, Midland, Texas 79701 or email to petroleummuseum.org

PETROLEUM MUSEUM

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call

432-682-6222

OTHER JOBS

Domino's

NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS

- Great attitude and desire to be part of the Domino's team a must!
- Must be 18 years of age or older with a good driving record
- Valid Driver's License
- Your own vehicle with insurance
- Earn hourly wage plus tips and mileage. Great drivers can earn \$18-\$25 per hour with a great attitude and hustle
- Full time & Part-time positions available with flexible hours

CASHIERS AND PIE MAKERS

- Great first job for student over 16 years old
- Earn a \$12 hourly wage with quick raise opportunities
- Full time & Part-time positions available

APPLY ONLINE at JOBS.DOMINOS.COM

or any of the 16 Midland & Odessa locations
1307 N Loop 250 - Midland
3300 W Illinois - Midland
4519 N Garfield - Midland
604 N Big Spring St - Midland
503 I-20 - Midland
3111 Faudree Rd - Odessa
950 E 87th St - Odessa
1108 E 42nd St - Odessa
2251 Linda Ave - Odessa
9001 W University Blvd - Odessa

Overnight Stocker - Seasonal

Position Description
Responsible for distributing and stocking merchandise throughout the store including caring for store equipment and cleaning hazardous materials spills. Also responsible for providing excellent customer service by greeting customers and assisting customers in locating, selecting, demonstrating, and loading of merchandise.

- Job Requirements**
- Requires late evening, night-time, and early morning availability any day of the week
 - Physical ability to move large, bulky and/or heavy merchandise
 - Physical ability to perform tasks that may require prolonged standing, sitting, and other activities necessary to perform job duties

Minimum Qualifications

- Ability to read, write, and perform basic arithmetic (addition, subtraction).

To Apply

- Please visit <https://jobs.lowes.com/>

Lowes is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer and administers all personnel practices without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, veteran status, genetics or any other category protected under applicable law.



RESTAURANT/FOOD SERVICE

Restaurant Positions

Strawberry Fields Café has openings for motivated individuals with a great attitude and self starters. Great work environment, great management, pleasant customers. Part time and full time positions are available. Apply in person at 2311 W. Wadley Ave., Midland. Hours of operation are 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday thru Friday / 7:30 am to 7:00 pm on Saturday. We are closed on Sundays!

RETAIL

Part Time Cashier

Health Food Store is taking applications for energetic and friendly part-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.

HILLIARD

Account Executive

As an Account Executive, you will be responsible for achieving individual sales goals. You will manage assigned resources and territory to ensure long-term business development and sales growth. Your mission will be to develop accounts via prospecting and strategic marketing. This is an outside sales position; past sales experience is required.

- Qualifications:**
- Must be aggressive and hardworking
 - Excellent verbal and written communication skills
 - Self-starter, ability to plan and implement territory sales strategy with limited supervision
 - Ability to thrive in a competitive, goal-driven environment
 - Ability to cold call and prospect for sales leads
 - Must have a proven track record in this industry.

Job Benefits:

- Matching 401k
- Company paid Health Insurance
- Dental and Vision
- Phone Provided
- Company Van Provided
- Training Provided

Please email resume to jean.bushell@hilliard.com

STENOGRAPHY

DENTAL ASSISTANT - ODESSA, TX

Seeking a personable, highly motivated dental assistant committed to comprehensive dental care resulting in a beautiful smile. Requirements: minimum 3 years experience, fluent in English, willing to provide background check. Fax your resume to 432 550-4774 or email to resumes@stevensortho.com

TECHNOLOGY

CNC Machinists, Machine Operators & Shop Hands

Machine Shop Openings: Peak Completion Technologies, a Midland based oil tool company, is seeking experienced CNC machinists and machine operators. Peak offers modern equipment, an excellent benefits package and competitive pay in a drug free workplace.

We also have openings for experienced Shop Hands to assemble, re-dress pistons and other denture tools in our Midland facility. Mechanical aptitude, a good work ethic, and attention to detail are critical in this position. There are full time positions, with overtime as required. Pay is based on experience.

Apply in person between 8 AM and 5 PM on weekdays at 7716 W. Hwy 80, Midland, or submit a resume to careers@peakcompletion.com. EOE



SKILLED LABOR

Supreme Services & Specialty Company



Supreme Services is currently seeking a Full Time CDL class "A" driver needed for tractor trailer combination, or other commercial vehicles. Hazmat endorsement would be helpful. Inspects vehicles, equipment, and performs general trouble shooting and maintenance as required. Must be proficient in securing the equipment for transport. Assists workers in loading, and unloading trucks. Obeys all laws applicable to commercial vehicle operation as regulated by Federal, State, and local authorities. Minimum 10 years experience. Email resume to: hr@supremeservices.com or complete application at www.supremeservices.com

HL ELECTRIC



HL Electric is for electrical apprentice. Immediate Opening for Electrical Apprentice with sign on BONUS!! Please Call 432-987-1065

Mason Tenders

Hiring Mason Tenders. No experience needed! Will Train! Starting \$14/hr Call 432-559-3444

Supreme Services & Specialty Company



Supreme Services is currently seeking a Full Time Shop Technician to work from checking in through loading out equipment which consist of the following: maintenance, repair, and testing of equipment and materials. We offer a competitive pay package, as well as a generous group health plan. Email resume to: hr@supremeservices.com or complete application at www.supremeservices.com

TECHNOLOGY

HILLIARD

Systems Administrator - Midland location:
Design, implement, troubleshoot, analyze and maintain the IT infrastructure our customer environments, including network connectivity and utilization, Windows server administration, virtualization, performance tuning, backup and restore. Identifies, researches, and resolves technical problems. Familiar with a variety of the field's concepts, practices, and procedures. Relies on training, experience, and judgment to plan and budget time to accomplish goals. Performs a variety of complicated tasks, and provide support for escalated trouble tickets.

Candidates should be team players with excellent communication skills and have the ability to manage assignments independently. The ideal candidate will have a nurturing personality and the desire to help in the development and mentoring of level 1 technicians.

Systems Administrator Responsibilities:

- Create and maintain comprehensive documentation as it relates to server and network topology, equipment, and configuration(s).
- Create project plans, design, and implement solutions.
- Level 2 and Level 3 Support for problems identified with systems and network. Will act as an escalation for Level 1 and Level 2 Managed Services support technicians.
- Create, request, and present technical specifications and requirements for purchasing of new servers and networking equipment via quote procedure.
- Participate in after-hours upgrades, troubleshooting, and/or on-call availability as needed.
- Standard system administration duties including server install, System/Application install and patch management, Windows problem determination and escalation, log analysis, etc.
- Configure, test, and maintain LAN equipment and services, including switches, routers, firewalls, and VPN.
- Identify, diagnose, and resolve network problems including network connectivity, traffic utilization, etc. using available network tools in a timely fashion.
- Provide Infrastructure services in all areas needed: storage networking, Operating System, network security, directory services, server virtualization using system backup and restore, system and network monitoring, application installation and configuration.
- Assist with monthly reports and recommendations for Managed Services Clients.
- Utilize superior customer service skills.
- Stay current with system information, changes, and updates.

Requirements:

- 5-7 years of prior IT experience.
- Prior experience working for a service provider is a plus.
- Experience working with Windows Desktop XP-10, Windows Server 2003 - 2012, VMware, SBS Server, Storage Technologies.
- Hands on experience with Wired and Wireless networking, PC and server virtualization software, virus protection, backup systems.
- Microsoft certifications preferred.
- MCSA, VCP & CCNA certifications are preferred.

Skills:

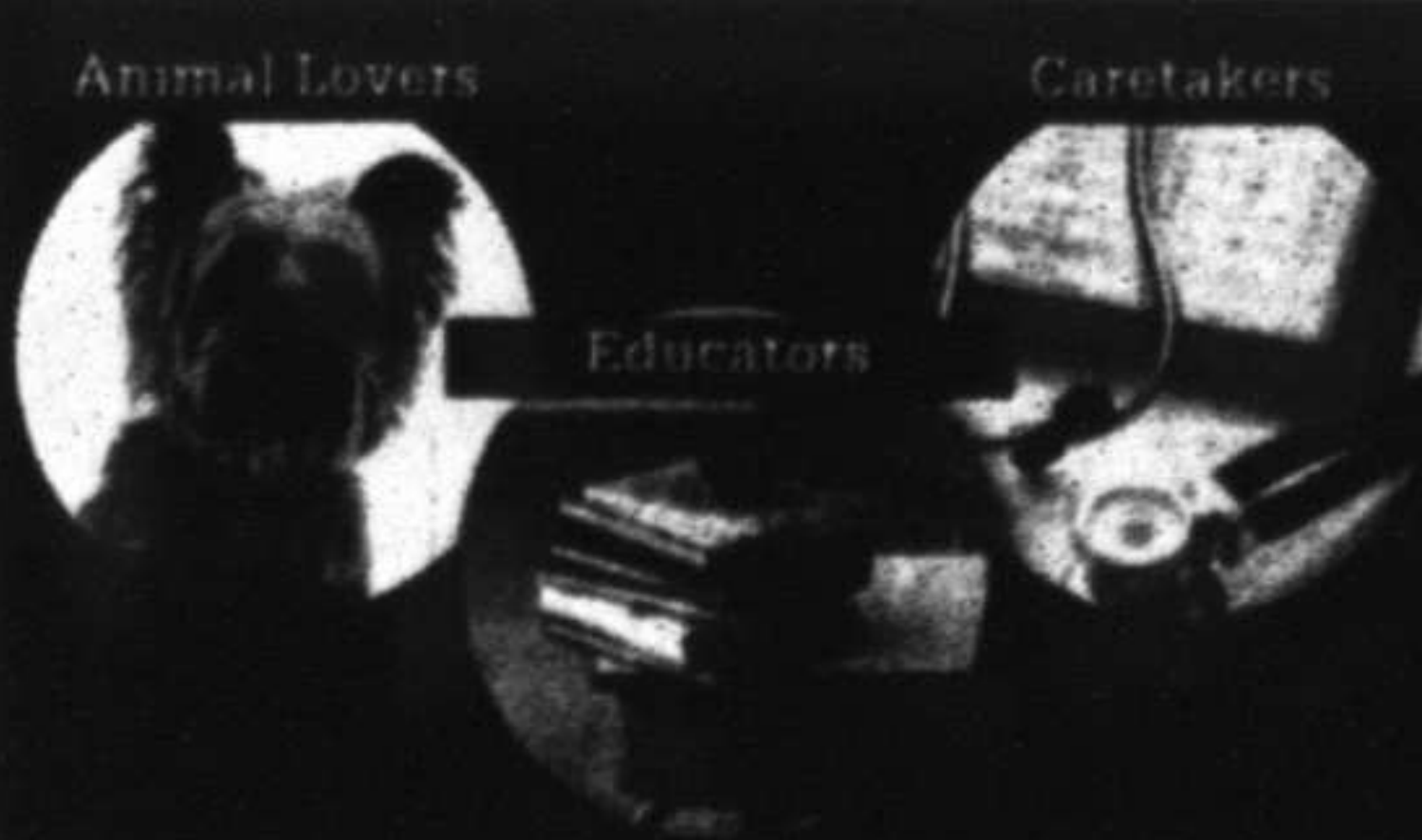
- Effectively communicate by phone or in person.
- Strong written communication skills.
- Establish successful outcomes in handling difficult situations and work with various customers and management levels.
- Demonstrated ability to identify and troubleshoot critical issues.
- Ability to work in a high-performance culture.
- Manage multiple priorities and follow through on projects to completion.
- Works effectively both as a team member and independently to resolve problems.
- Effectively utilizes tools to resolve issues and escalate appropriately.
- Network configuration, monitoring, and troubleshooting experience are a must.
- Proven background in providing great customer service.
- Ability to work independently, prioritize existing projects, and proactively determine areas requiring additional attention, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Strong documentation skills.

Please email resumes to feenard@mibo.com

Answer

Your Calling

Browse Dozens of
Rewarding Career
Opportunities for



Online Today at mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram
JOB SECTION

In Print & Online

432.682.6222

Snap Up a Deal in the Classifieds



Call or
go online
to **browse**,
buy or
sell!

Midland Reporter-Telegram

CLASSIFIEDS

sellittexas.com • **432-682-6222**

**You can advertise your business
for as little as \$47.00 monthly.**

Call 682-6222 for details.

Classified
CAN
812-6222

Trailers

Notices

Rebels

CLICK

 Everything
You Need Is Just A
Click Away
In The
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Classified

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

Call: 432-682-6222
Email: classified@mrt.com