

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018

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SVITOLINA SERVES

Elina Svitolina, the world's No. 4-ranked tennis player, took time out of her hectic schedule to attend a youth tennis clinic with local high school and middle school players at Bush Tennis Center.

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Dallas Fed creates Energy Advisory Council

Concho's Tim Leach is one of seven members; Midlander Richard Folger also is participant

By Jeff Mosier
The Dallas Morning News

Texas oil and gas drillers aren't the only ones scrambling to dominate the energy market. The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas continues to carve out its niche as the energy Fed.

The Dallas Fed is setting up an Energy Advisory Council to help the Fed understand "emerging trends and issues" in the energy sector. In recent years, Dallas Fed president Rob Kaplan has pushed to make his location an important hub for research into the economics of oil and gas.

Houston is known as the nation's energy capital thanks to its refineries, port, corporate headquarters and operations centers. But the Dallas area is home to energy powerhouses — ExxonMobil, Energy Transfer Partners and others — as well as financiers fueling the nation's oil and gas expansion.

"The Dallas Fed plays a unique role in conducting economic research and provides key insights into the impact of the



Leach

energy sector on the U.S. and world economies," Kaplan said in a statement. "The concentration of superb energy-related companies in the 11th District provides us with a unique perspective which helps inform our research as well as our views on the global economic impact of the energy sector."

The 11th Federal Reserve District, based in Dallas, covers Texas, southern New Mexico and northern Louisiana (the nation's Nos. 1, 3 and 9 oil producers, respectively).

Texas' crude oil production is more than triple that of No. 2 North Dakota. Also, Texas leads the nation in natural gas production and is home to about 30 percent of U.S.

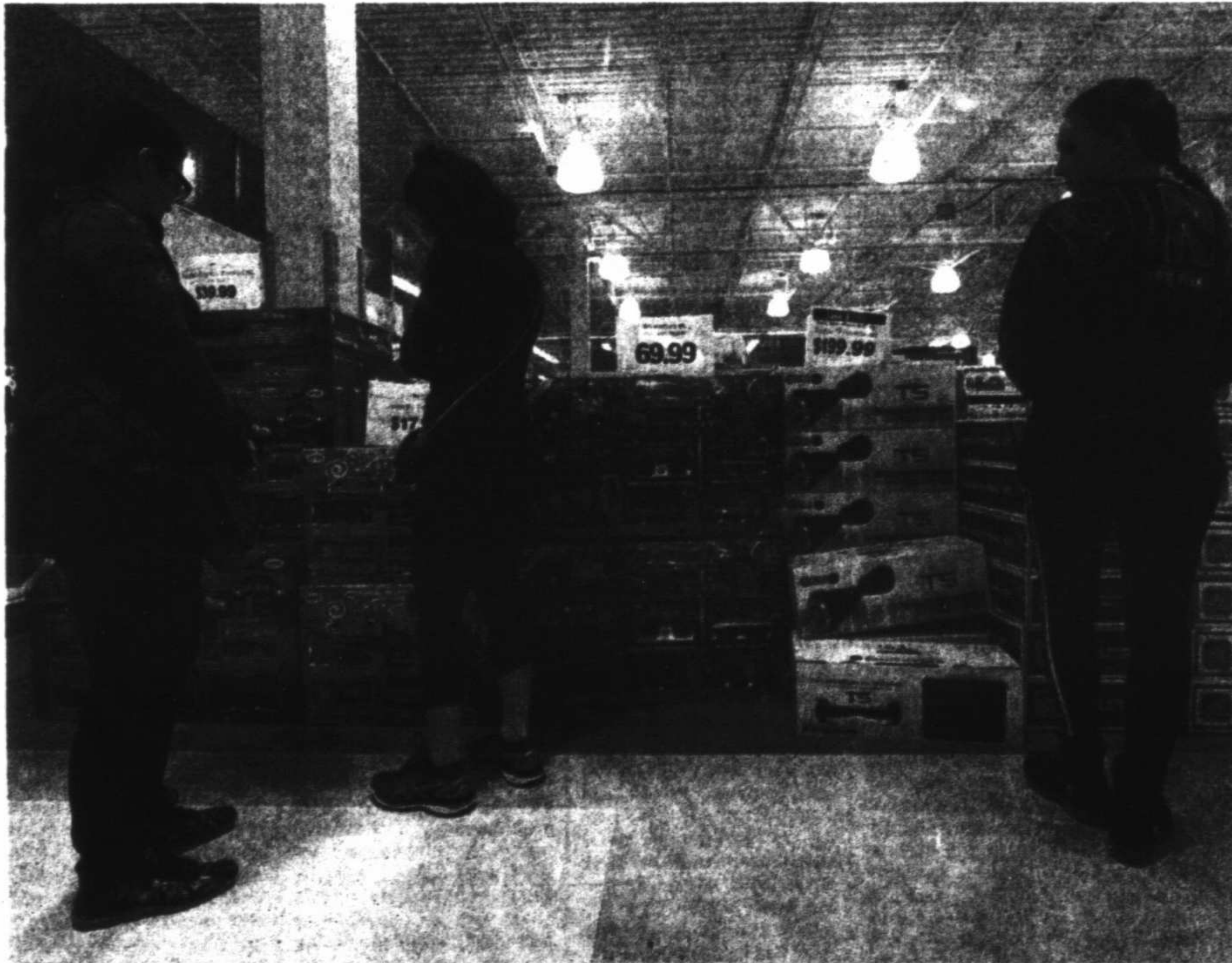
oil refining capacity, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The new seven-member council includes representatives from oil and gas drilling, refining, oilfield services, finance and analysis. The initial group, which could be expanded to 10 members, did not have representatives from the renewable sector.

Since taking over as the Dallas Fed president in 2015, Kaplan has expanded the district's energy research efforts. The number of energy economists doubled from three to six, and local Fed staff created a monthly

Please see COUNCIL/2A

Toys 'R' leaving?



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Shoppers at Toys 'R' Us check out Black Friday deals in 2016. The company, which has filed for bankruptcy, is planning to sell or close all 800 of its U.S. stores. See story on Page 6C.

Fire marshal: County close to needing burn ban

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Midland County Fire Marshal Dale Little said Wednesday that "we are getting really close" to calling for a burn ban in Midland County.

Little said the lack of rainfall and high winds are factors in why a burn ban might go before the Commissioners' Court later this month or in April.

A burn ban prohibits or restricts outdoor burning for public safety, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service. As of Wednesday, there were 91 counties in Texas with burn bans currently in place, including much of West Texas and the Panhandle. Some of those counties without burn bans in place include the higher-populated counties such as Midland, Tom Green (San Angelo), Lubbock and Taylor (Abilene). Midland County is basically surrounded by counties with burn bans in place. Other counties close to Midland without burn bans include Andrews, Gaines (Seminole) and Dawson (Lamesa).

The Texas A&M Forest Service states that the Keetch-Byram Drought Index is an index used to determine forest fire potential. Its measurements go from zero to 800. A measurement of 800 means it would take 8 inches of precipitation to fully saturate the soil. The score inside Midland County is 400 to 500. A score of 400 to 600 indicates that a "lower litter and duff layers contribute to fire intensity and will burn actively," according to the drought index. "Wildfire intensity begins to increase significantly. Larger fuels could burn or smoulder for several days. This is often seen in late summer and early fall."

The Texas Forest Service reports "high observed fire danger" covering an area from Midland to Lubbock.

So far this calendar year, 0.65 of an inch of precipitation has fallen in Midland. Less than 1 inch of rain has fallen at Midland International going back to Oct. 1, according to the National Weather Service.

The U.S. Drought Monitor reports moderate to severe drought in and around Midland County. The U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook shows drought persists in the region.

The Climate Prediction Center isn't calling for relief any time soon. Its 30-day forecast calls for a 40 percent chance of above-average temperatures and below-average rainfall. The 90-day forecast from April through June calls for a 60 percent chance for above-average temperatures and a 40 percent chance of below-average rainfall.

Conaway's panel sets vote on GOP's Russia report

By Karoun Demirjian
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The House Intelligence Committee has set itself a March 22 deadline to make any changes to a draft report authored by panel Republicans, at which point they plan to adopt the report as final and send it on to the intelligence community for any necessary redactions of classified information.

The committee posted a notice of next week's meeting on its website, defining the window within which members will be able to lobby for changes to the 150-page document. The report was announced to the media on

Monday and shared with panel Democrats on Tuesday. Democrats are not expected to endorse the findings in the Republicans' report, as they have pledged to continue investigating on their own. On Tuesday, Democratic committee members excoriated their Republican colleagues for concluding there was "no evidence" President Donald Trump or anyone affiliated with him had colluded with Russian officials during the 2016 election and that the intelligence community erred in finding the Kremlin pursued "active measures" during the election to aid Trump's campaign. Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the ranking

Democrat on the committee, instead argued Tuesday night there was "significant evidence of collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia" and expressed chagrin that the GOP broke with the intelligence community over its findings about Russian interference. At least two Republicans on the panel also appeared to contradict investigation chief Mike Conaway's presentation of how the report broke with the intelligence community. The GOP report never concluded "We don't see anything (where) the Russians were intending to hurt Hillary (Clinton) and help Trump," Rep. Thomas Rooney, R-Fla., told CNN on

Monday. On Tuesday night, Conaway appeared to backtrack from his earlier remarks, telling reporters nothing Russia had done "remotely helped Hillary Clinton" and that whether Russian meddling hurt Clinton or helped Trump was a "glass half-full, glass half-empty" question.

"You can pitch that either way," Conaway said, while still maintaining that the panel would separately report on how the intelligence community had failed to meet its own standards in making that determination.

"Only (Russian President Vladimir) Putin knows for sure what he wanted to do," Conaway said.

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Price of oil

\$60.96 ▲ \$0.25

The big number

10

That's what three students around the U.S. began gun violence protests. Page 6A.

Word of the Day

optimism
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 5A.

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TODAYINMIDLAND

WORD OF THE DAY

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optimism
(op-ti-mizm)
noun
1: a doctrine that this world is the best possible world
2: an inclination to put the most favorable construction upon actions and events or to anticipate the best possible outcome expressed optimism about the future of the business the optimism of cheerleaders



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Things to do

Watercolor art classes by Sara Drexler, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. To register, email sara@artscouncilmidland.com.

Think. Make. Spring Break! 10:30 a.m., Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. The daily program will feature cartoons, outdoor movement, storytime and crafts. museum.org.

Travel Adventure: Building Block Jars. 4 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2500 W. Loop 250 N.

Laure Bush Literary Program Reading Event will feature the book "Olivia and the Easter Egg Hunt" with copies given to each child in attendance. 4:30 p.m., George W. Bush Childhood Home, 1412 W. Ohio Ave. Space is limited so reservations are encouraged. Free. bushchildhoodhome.org.

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

"Travel Adventure" at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2500 W. Loop 250 N. Invites children and families to create using LEGO bricks. The exhibition also features creations by LEGO Master Builders along with a photo booth and a life-size adventure vehicle.

30G, 6:30 p.m., Alhedge Gardens, 3300 N. Fairgrounds Road. Bridge game play 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-4555.

The Holistic Approach by Earth, Body and Soul, 7-8 p.m., Brew St. Bakery, 4610 N. Garfield St. The monthly meetup covers the uses of essential oils, crystals, meditation and more.

Adult Paint and Sip: "Colorful Daisies," 7 p.m., Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3303 N. Midway Road. \$35. kiddsparties.com.

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

Kevin Fowler, Brian Milton, 7 p.m., Rockin' Rodos, 4400 N. Big Spring St. rockinrodosmidland.com.

Know a member of the military coming home?



Maghan Swain, with Midland Festival Ballet, hands out ballet shoes Monday at the Midland County Public Library Centennial branch for Princess Ballet Camp.

Military families can call 352-6785 or email vicente.gomez@cablenet.com when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Airport so the Midland Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

Honor those who served

There are many organizations in operation right here in the Permian Basin that are at the heart of serving all kinds of needs for present and former members of our military. Some of them are:

Show of Support (887-2167)
Honor Our Troops (888-0177)
Proud Troops (528-0533)
Centers for Children and Families

(570-1084)
Midland College Veterans Affairs Office (885-4511)
Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee (388-3458)
Soldiers of Today and Tomorrow (831-3422)

Large item pickup

For residential customers, the city of Midland will pick up furniture and appliances at no additional charge. These items must be placed in the city right-of-way; the city will not go onto private property. Do not place your item next to the Dumpster. It needs to be behind your home, in the alley. These larger item collections must be scheduled with the Solid Waste Division. Please call 432-685-7278 to

schedule this service. City of Midland

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Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, March 15, the 74th day of 2018. There are 291 days left in the year.
On this date:
In 44 B.C., Roman dictator Julius Caesar was assassinated by a group of nobles who included Brutus and Cassius.

In 1977, the U.S. House of Representatives began a 90-day closed-circuit test to determine the feasibility of showing its sessions on television. The station carried "Three's Company" starring John Piller, Joyce DuVall and Suzanne Somers, premiered on ABC-TV.

In 1989, CBS' "60 Minutes" aired an interview with former White House employee Kathleen Willey, who said President Bill Clinton had made unwelcome sexual advances toward her in the Oval Office in 1993, a charge denied by the president.

Today's birthday: Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 85. Singer Mike Love (The Beach Boys) is 77. Rock singer Don Stryker (Bad Company) is 63. Rock singer Bret Michaels (Panic!) is 35.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 5-6-9
Pick 3 day: 3-7-4
Pick 3 evening: 4-3-1
Pick 3 night: 4-3-1
Daily 4 morning: 3-1-4-2
Daily 4 day: 0-8-4-7
Daily 4 evening: 6-9-0-8
Daily 4 night: 6-1-8-5
Cash Five: 7-14-30-31-35
Lotto Texas: 11-15-16-30-31-50

Super Lotto: 5-9-20-25-27-38-41-45-51-53

Powerball: 6-12-24-41-68
PB: 9 Power Play: 3
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-4-5-6-7-9-10-11-13-20-23
All or Nothing day: 2-4-6-8-10-12-14-16-18-20-21-24
All or Nothing evening: 1-2-4-7-8-11-13-15-18-23-24
All or Nothing night: 1-3-5-6-8-10-14-15-16-19-22-24

Weather

Weekend's temperatures
High: 71
Low: 41
Normal high: 70
Normal low: 41

March 14 records
High: 89, set in 1989
Low: 14, set in 1988

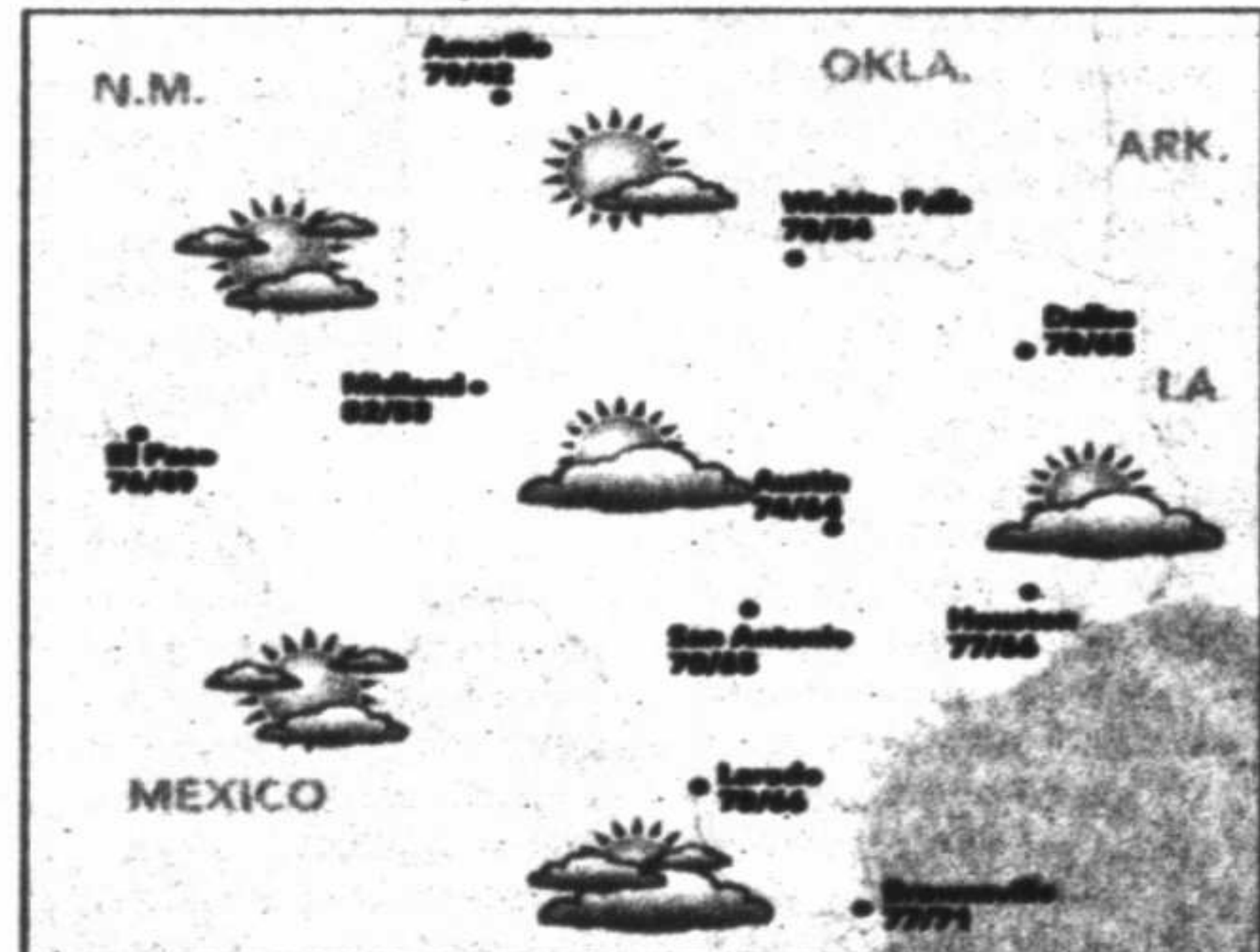
Precipitation
Tuesday: 0.00 in.
Wednesday: 0.00 in.
Month total: 0.00 in.
Year total: 0.05 in.
Normal total (year to date): 1.54 in.

Winds
Average wind speed: 13.6 mph
Highest sustained wind speed: 23 mph
Highest gust speed: 35 mph

Today's forecast

Today's weather

Forecast for Thursday, March 15, 2018



High: 82
Low: 51
Conditions: Partly sunny during the day/partly cloudy at night
Winds: 15-20 mph (gusts as high as 30 mph) during the day and night
Chance of rain: none
Sunrise: 7:59 a.m.
Sunset: 7:57 p.m.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

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

A baby born today has a Sun in Pisces and a Moon in Aquarius if born before 6:11 a.m. (ET). Afterward, the Moon will be in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Thursday, March 15, 2018:
This year you can expect a strong theme of positivity to emerge. What is happening might be quite beneficial to your life. If you are single, you meet people easily and naturally. Others sense your magnetism and charisma. If you are attached, the two of you are likely to decide to fulfill an important life goal. Make sure to schedule some fun, caring times with your sweetie. A fellow PISCES enjoys living vicariously through you, as your life takes an intriguing turn.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Keep your own counsel, even if you have a lot on your mind. You'll gain some knowledge when you pull back and consider what has been going on. Friends build around the workplace. Know that you need to honor your commitments. Tonight: Not to be found.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You might not realize how much you value

supporters until they are right in front of you. Be direct in how you express your thoughts and feelings. If you follow through on your emotional demands, you will be guided toward success. Tonight: Meet up with your friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Take a stand, if need be. Others might have a strong reaction, especially a partner. You will need to deal with different ideas and perspectives. Relate with the intention of understanding, rather than proving that you're right. Tonight: In the mood to get serious.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Approach someone at a distance, and air out an issue before it's too late. You could feel a heaviness around what is happening, and will want to pull back. Decide how important the people involved are to you. Act accordingly. Tonight: Draw to dream when making plans.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You relate to others on a strong one-on-one basis. You might want to find an expert to help you out on an issue that seems to require a personal relationship. You could feel tired

of having to follow the same routine every day. Try to diversify. Tonight: With a special person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You have a lot going on right now. Just when you complete one matter, another seems to appear. Understand that emotions are deeply tied to a problem. A little self-discipline with a love relationship will be helpful. Tonight: Allow your imagination to take over.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You are more emotionally involved in a matter than you originally had anticipated. Consider why you might have misjudged this situation. Stay focused on your domestic life and on where you are heading. You could be dealing with some upset. Tonight: Money on home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Your words come from a place of earnestness and a need to be heard. You will be

able to tune into your feelings to understand why you have been triggered. Tap into your creativity and get in touch with your feelings, and the results will be better. Tonight: Be naughty and nice.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ An innate sense of being driven emerges. A matter or an expense surrounding your home could cause an animated talk. Your instincts tell you that there is a situation that might not be up to snuff. Assess the issue before it causes any more damage. Tonight: Refuse to get uptight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You might feel unusually energized. Consider the pros and cons of being so open. You have a lot to deal with right now. Reach out to a loved one who could be overly serious. Together, you will do a great job of eliminating some tension. Tonight: Refuse to close doors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Your sense of direction comes through as you deal with a financial matter. You might not be serious about a long-term commitment, especially if it involves your checkbook. Do not hesitate to say "no." Put the kibosh on a problem. Tonight: Be more frugal with your funds.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You are in the midst of a significant change or reversal. At some point, you might wonder whether you can make a necessary adjustment. A friend could check you with what he or she shares. Be aware of your judgments and your response. Tonight: Choose a favorite position.

BORN TODAY
U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933), actor Jack Black (1975), actress Eva Longoria (1975)

TREE REMOVAL

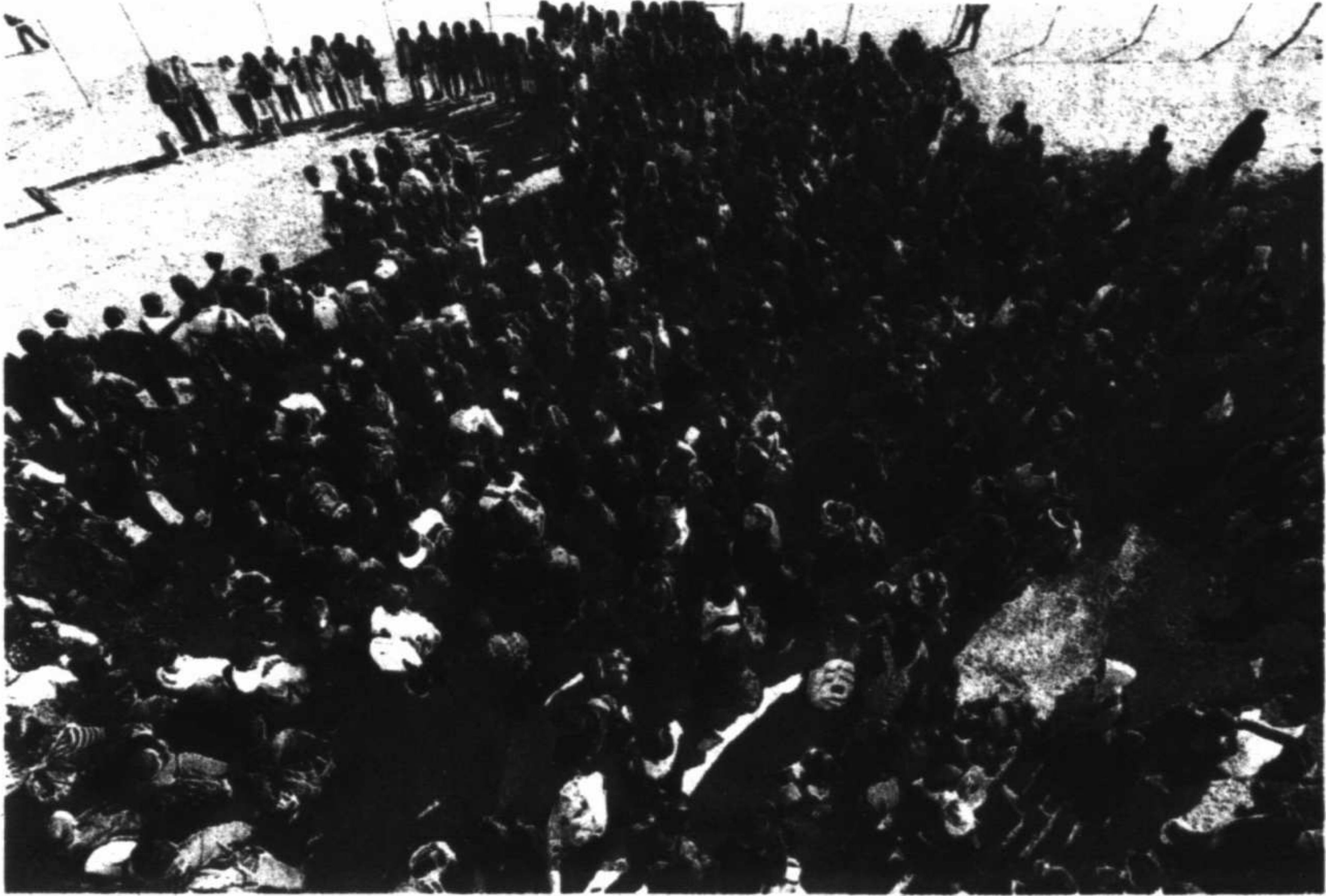
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Hundreds of students from Tennyson Middle school gather at an outdoor classroom during the nationwide protest against gun violence on Wednesday in Waco.

'Enough is enough': US students walk out over gun violence

By Collin Binkley
Associated Press

They bowed their heads in honor of the dead. They carried signs with messages like "Never again" and "Am I next?" They rallied against the National Rifle Association and the politicians who support it.

And over and over, they repeated the message: Enough is enough.

In a wave of protests one historian called the largest of its kind in American history, tens of thousands of students walked out of their classrooms Wednesday to demand action on gun violence and school safety.

The demonstrations extended from Maine to Hawaii as students joined the youth-led surge of activism set off by the Feb. 14 massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

"We're sick of it," said Maxwell Nardi, a senior at Douglas S. Freeman High School in Henrico, Virginia, just outside Richmond. "We're going to keep fighting, and we're not going to stop until Congress finally makes resolute changes."

Students around the nation left class at 10 a.m. local time for at least 17 minutes — one minute for each of the dead in the Florida shooting. Some led marches or rallied on football fields, while others gathered in school gyms or took a knee in the hallway.

At some schools, hundreds of students poured out. At others, just one or two walked out in defiance of administrators.

They lamented that too many young people have died and that they're tired of going to school afraid they will be killed.

"Enough is enough. People are done with being shot," said Iris Fosse-Ober, 18, a senior at Washburn High School in Minneapolis.



Miguel Roberts/The Brownsville Herald via AP
St. Joseph Academy students, faculty and staff participate in a walk out of their classrooms in silence and prayer to protest gun violence on Wednesday in Brownsville one month after the deadly shooting inside a high school in Parkland, Fla.

Some issued specific demands for lawmakers, including mandatory background checks for all gun sales and a ban on assault weapons like the one used in the Florida bloodbath.

While administrators and teachers at some schools applauded students for taking a stand — and some joined them — others threatened punishment for missing class.

As the demonstrations unfolded, the NRA responded by posting a photo on Twitter of a black rifle emblazoned with an American flag. The caption: "I'll control my own guns, thank you."

The protests took place at schools from the elementary level through college, including some that have witnessed their own mass shootings: About 300 students gathered on a soccer field at Colorado's Columbine High, while students who survived the Sandy Hook Elementary School attack in 2012 marched out of Newtown High School in Connecticut.

In the nation's capital, more than 2,000 high-school age protesters observed 17 minutes of silence while sitting on the

ground with their backs turned to the White House. President Donald Trump was out of town.

The students carried signs with messages such as "Our Blood/Your Hands" and "Never Again" and chanted slogans against the NRA.

In New York City, they chanted, "Enough is enough!" In Salt Lake City, the signs read, "Protect kids not guns." "Fear has no place in school" and "Am I next?"

At Eagle Rock High in Los Angeles, teenagers took a moment of silence as they gathered around a circle of 17 chairs labeled with the names of the Florida victims.

Stoneman Douglas High senior David Hogg, who has emerged as one of the leading student activists, livestreamed the walkout at his YouTube channel. He said students couldn't be expected to stay in class while there was work to do to prevent gun violence.

"Every one of these individuals could have died that day. I could have died that day," he said.

In joining the protests, the students followed the example set by many of

the survivors of the Florida shooting, who have become gun-control activists, leading rallies, lobbying legislators and giving TV interviews. Their efforts helped spur passage last week of a Florida law curbing access to assault rifles by young people.

Another protest against gun violence is scheduled in Washington on March 24, with organizers saying it is expected to draw hundreds of thousands.

But whether the students can make a difference on Capitol Hill remains to be seen.

Congress has shown little inclination to defy the powerful NRA and tighten gun laws, and Trump backed away from his initial support for raising the minimum age for buying an assault rifle to 21.

A spokeswoman for Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, newly appointed head of a federal panel on school safety, said DeVos "gives a lot of credit to the students who are raising their voices and demanding change," and "their input will be valuable."

David Farber, a history professor at the University of Kansas who has studied social change movements, said it is too soon to know what effect the protests will have. But he said Wednesday's walkouts were without a doubt the largest protest led by high school students in the history of the U.S.

"Young people are that social media generation, and it's easy to mobilize them in a way that it probably hasn't been even 10 years ago," Farber said.

Wednesday's coordinated protests were organized by Empower, the youth wing of the Women's March, which brought thousands to Washington last year.

MCSO: Volunteer firefighter arrested after arson investigations

From staff reports

A Greenwood volunteer firefighter was being held Wednesday and faces felony charges related to arson. Alan Alton Self, 24, admitted to starting multiple fires, according to a press release from the Midland County Sheriff's Office. Bond has not been set.

Self, who has an address in Greenwood, faces a first-degree felony charge related to a fire at Valley View Baptist Church as well as second-degree felony charges related to eight other fires, according to the release. Self admitted to starting fires, which "consumed or caused damage" to the Greenwood Volunteer Fire Station on two occasions,



Self

an 18-wheel water truck inside the fire station, a trailer home on East County Road 140, an abandoned home on ECR 140 and the church. He also admitted to starting three wooden pallet fires in the city of Midland, according to the release.

Self allegedly said he was bored as a volunteer firefighter and wanted to start fires.

The Midland County Sheriff's Office, Midland County Fire Marshal's Office, Midland Fire Department and Texas State Fire Marshal's Office had completed arson investigations for several months, according to the release.

David Cobos, justice of the peace for Precinct 2, issued the warrants and will set bond for Self today.

If convicted, Self could face up to 99 years imprisonment for the first-degree felony charge and up to 20 years imprisonment for the second-degree felony charge.

Florida couple sues over Texas shooting blamed on immigrants

By David Warren
Associated Press

DALLAS — A Florida couple is seeking more than \$1 million in damages from a group of hunting guides following a shooting at a remote Texas border camp that initially was blamed on immigrants crossing the border from Mexico.

Edwin and Carol Roberts, of Pensacola, Florida, filed the lawsuit Monday against several parties, including a New Mexico guiding company and two of its guides.

The lawsuit stems from a January 2017 incident in which deputies found Edwin Roberts and a guide, Walker Daugherty, with gunshot wounds.

According to the lawsuit, the couple was sleeping in a motor home while Daugherty and the second guide were staying nearby in a small cabin. The couple awoke to someone trying to enter the locked motor home and Edwin Roberts shouted several warnings before firing a shot toward the door. He then started driving the vehicle toward the cabin.

for protection but was shot twice, the lawsuit says.

An investigation by the Presidio County sheriff's office determined that Daugherty had shot Roberts and that the other guide shot Daugherty. It's not clear why either guide fired their weapons. Roberts and Daugherty were treated for their wounds. But the couple's attorney, Kevin Glasheen, says Edwin Roberts continues to suffer physical pain and impairment.

Glasheen said it remains unclear who attempted to enter the motor home, but that he thinks it may have been one of the guides trying to pull off a prank.

"Whatever it was, it was a mind-boggling level of stupidity taking place," he said. Sheriff's investigators were told that a band of immigrants passing through the area had attacked the group, but they say officers searched the perimeter of the ranch where the hunters were staying and didn't find signs of people approaching the camp that night or any evidence of "cross-border violence."

Austin police get 370 suspicious package calls, find nothing

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Austin police say they have responded to at least 370 calls reporting suspicious packages but found nothing dangerous in the wake of three package bombs that killed two people and wounded two others.

The Austin Police Department said in a tweet that, as of Wednesday morning, an additional 108 suspicious package calls had been received — increasing the total to 370.

A package bomb exploded at an east Austin home on March 2, killing a 39-year-old man. Then, on Monday, package bombs at two addresses in other parts of the city exploded, killing a 17-year-old, wounding his mother and injuring a 75-year-old woman.

No arrests have been made.

Police continue to urge anyone receiving unexpected packages to call 911 without handling or attempting to open them.

New Mexico students gather as others walk out over violence

By Susan Montoya
Bryan
Associated Press

Hundreds of students at a New Mexico high school where two classmates were gunned down by an armed intruder in December gathered around a flag pole Wednesday for a "walk-up" as a way to unify their rural campus while students elsewhere in the country joined walkouts against gun violence.

The student council at Aztec High School had asked administrators for time in their schedule so they could honor the 21 students who have been killed in school shootings in recent months — including their two classmates — and to talk about 21 pledges they can take to get involved in making their campus safer.

The message on one poster read: Walk up to the kid who sits alone and ask that him to be part of the group, walk up to teachers and thank them, and walk up to someone and just be nice.

Almost the entire student body showed up for the gathering at the campus in a rural community in northwest New Mexico near the Arizona and Colorado borders. One student held a banner that read "Time for Change," while others had donned the school colors.

"We weren't protesting for gun safety. We did this to commemorate our fallen family and make it a positive movement," said Jesse Smith, a 17-year-old senior who was friends with Casey Jordan Marquez — one of the victims at the school.

Shock followed the Dec. 7 shooting that killed Mar-

quez and classmate Francisco "Paco" Fernandez. Then school shootings in Kentucky and Florida prompted students at Aztec High to identify ways to make a positive change on their own campus.

"Change doesn't happen with silence," Smith said.

In Albuquerque, about 300 students at La Cueva High School held a 17-second moment of silence for the victims of last month's shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Junior Ruth Clark said it was important for students to join the conversation and push policies to make school safe.

Clark also told classmates that adults have a responsibility to keep school safe and pass measures to regulate some weapons.

Ex-student charged in Florida shooting silent in court

By Curt Anderson
Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The former student charged with killing 17 people at a Florida high school last month remained silent in court Wednesday and had a not guilty plea entered on his behalf as police released more recordings that captured the terror of the Valentine's Day slayings.

Nicholas Cruz, shackled and wearing red jail clothes, sat in the jury box with his head bowed and said nothing during the brief hearing. Because he refused to announce his plea, the judge entered it for him on each of the 34 counts he faces.

His attorney Assistant Public Defender Melvin McNeill reiterated that Cruz would plead guilty if prosecutors waived the death penalty, which they refused to do.

Cruz is accused of carrying out the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida that also wounded 17 people in a case that has ignited a national debate about gun control and school safety. It also prompted a nationwide walkout of thousands of students Wednesday, who showed solidarity with the Parkland students a month after the shooting.

As Cruz sat in the courtroom, more details of the shooting emerged as the Court

Spring Police Department released recordings of 911 calls and police radio traffic.

In the recordings, students and dispatchers were uncertain about the shooter's location and how to hide from him.

Some were frightened the gunman would return to their location when asked if they could perform CPR on the wounded.

"Please, please, please, there are people here. They are bleeding. They are all going to die," a teenage girl calling from Room 1216 said through tears and heavy breathing. "There's a lot of people around us that are injured, people that are injured, people that are bleeding. He is upstairs now."

Moments later, the girl starts screaming "They are coming in, oh no!" before discovering it was police officers who were entering the room.

A teacher from Room 1216 also called for help and told the 911 operator that a student had been hit in the chest, and wasn't breathing. The officers found wounded victims and bodies, and they started treating the wounded before allowing other students and teachers to leave. On the third floor, they said they shattered windows in some locked classrooms doors because terrified students would not open doors. Cruz was arrested a few blocks away from the school.

His next hearing is scheduled for April 11.

Police improve social media skills, raising worries by media

By Kathleen Foody
Associated Press

DENVER — It opens with a warning: This video contains footage from real police body cameras. Viewer discretion is advised.

Then, an introduction: "I would like you to hear from me, what happened," Douglas County Sheriff Tony Spurlock says, facing the camera.

The next eight minutes provide a carefully edited glimpse of the events that led to a 29-year-old deputy's Dec. 31 death inside an apartment complex south of Denver.

The video posted Jan. 8 on the department's social media accounts is punctuated by gunshots and shouts of panic and pain, and undoubtedly illustrates the danger Deputy Zack Parrish and other officers met during that call. Open government advocates also consider it a dramatic example of law enforcement agencies' expanding efforts to release their own accounts of events to the public and media.

There's nothing wrong with police communicating through social media, open government advocates said. But they worry it allows law enforcement to bypass questions from traditional media and warn that taking advantage of the tools requires agencies to be completely transparent, whatever the situation.

In Colorado, Parrish was among three deputies in three counties shot dead while on duty in barely more than a month. The calls that preceded the killings varied — a mentally ill veteran, a reported fight and a stolen car investigation. But the departments took similar approaches, relying on their social media accounts to release information and giving news outlets limited opportunity to ask questions about what happened.

Police have made use of social media for years, from viral videos of officers' dance-offs with kids to the Boston Police Department's extensive use of Twitter following the 2013 marathon bombing.

Agencies are eager to cut the middleman and tell their own stories, said Lauri Stevens, a former TV news reporter who founded an annual conference in 2010 that teaches departments about promot-

"More people watch the news than the number of people who watch us, and you've got to maintain that relationship, but law enforcement is becoming more skilled and has (our) own platform now that we didn't have before."

Sgt. William Hutchison, Palm Springs police spokesman

ing themselves on social media.

"It's not any less valid than any media, in this day and age," she said.

Stevens said many agencies are getting better at connecting with residents on routine days, sharing updates and knocking down rumors during high-profile incidents.

Sgt. William Hutchison, Palm Springs police spokesman, presented at Stevens' conference last year about his agency's communications strategy after two officers were shot dead in 2016. Looking back, Hutchison said he would have posted even more information directly to Facebook and Twitter.

Hutchison said he doesn't view social accounts as a way to avoid traditional media, and complimented local coverage of the officers' killings.

"More people watch the news than the number of people who watch us, and you've got to maintain that relationship," he said. "But law enforcement is becoming more skilled and has (our) own platform now that we didn't have before."

But that takes a staff capable of providing regular updates as they balance other responsibilities, a challenge for smaller departments on any day.

Sheriff Howard Sills leads rural Georgia's Putnam County agency, which has no full-time communications staff. He became the primary spokesman during a June manhunt for two inmates accused of killing two prison guards on a transfer bus.

Sills provided no social media updates and instead held regular press conferences on the case. He continued taking reporters' calls on his personal cellphone through the day the inmates were arrested.

Traditional media "get things right usually," Sills said. "And if they don't get things right, it's usually our fault."

In Douglas County, the department cited an ongoing investigation to deny media requests for body

camera footage from the call that led to Parrish's death. Days later, the agency posted its video to Facebook and Twitter, which includes some of the material denied to media.

The video omits the shooter's face and voice. And it includes only audio of the moment Matthew Richi fired through his bedroom door, fatally wounding Parrish and striking four other officers trying to take the shooter into custody on a mental health hold.

In an interview with The Associated Press nine days after the shooting, Douglas County's sheriff defended releasing the edited video after the department denied journalists' open-records requests for the complete footage.

"I knew that if I went to the press, radio and television, I'm going to get 60 seconds, and the rest was going to hit the editor's floor," Spurlock said. "I'm not going to be able to tell the story in such a fashion that I thought was appropriate for the dignity of Zack Parrish and the other four officers that were shot — and what I believe the citizens of Douglas County deserve."

Spurlock's office released roughly 50 hours of unedited body camera video the same day he spoke with the AP. It included Parrish's shooting, the injured officers' escape, and arriving officers taking cover as the shooter continued firing.

No portion of the unedited footage suggests the office's video posted on social media inaccurately portrayed the shooting.

The files didn't include Parrish's body camera footage, and sheriff spokeswoman Lauren Lekander said it won't be released "due to the sensitive nature of the material recorded on his camera." Members of the SWAT unit that entered the shooter's apartment and killed him don't wear body cameras, she said.

Social media's widespread use makes it a tempting resource for

law enforcement, but police must use it responsibly, said David Alan Sklansky, a Stanford criminal law professor who has studied law enforcement use of technology.

"If a department wants its feed to be trusted, it needs to earn that trust partly by making sure it is candid and forthright in what is posted," he said.

Failing to uphold that standard can prove damaging, as in San Antonio where the Express News found that a promotional police department video claiming to feature "real 911 calls" actually included a fake call and two real calls with modified details. The newspaper uncovered the issue by requesting the original 911 recordings.

The agency admitted it was a mistake to include some of the calls but defended the video, which was intended to discourage the use of 911 except in emergencies.

"This was a hugely successful social media campaign that amassed 122,870 views on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube and even more through traditional media nationwide," Jeff Coyle, director of government and public affairs, said in a statement provided to the newspaper.

Law enforcement in the other Colorado counties that lost officers this winter, Adams and El Paso, also depended largely on social media to share updates about the shootings, repeatedly directing reporters seeking more detail to those feeds. Meanwhile, press conferences held within hours of the officers' deaths allowed for no media questions after officials read statements.

El Paso County Sheriff Bill Elder considers Twitter and Facebook his agency's best tool to keep the community informed — and to simultaneously provide updates to traditional media. The department posted a stream of updates after Deputy Micah Flick's February death during a stolen car investigation.

Residents inevitably take to social media when they see police swarming an area, and the department's accounts should provide official updates before others weigh in, Elder said.

"We have to be proactive," he said. "Otherwise we're following the story; we're letting somebody else write the narrative."

NATION BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Study: T. rex-era volcanic ash is key to shale boom

America's looming dominance in crude production started about 100 million years ago.

Ash from hundreds of volcano flare-ups during the time when the Tyrannosaurus rex roamed North America was key to forming the oil-rich layers of shale rock, from the Permian Basin in Texas to the Bakken in North Dakota, according to a study led by Rice University professor Cui-Ty Lee in Houston.

The energy bounty that pioneers such as EOG Resources Inc. started tapping with fracturing techniques — supplies that are now elevating the U.S. to the ranks of the world's biggest oil producers, rivaling Russia and Saudi Arabia — probably wouldn't exist if it weren't for the high concentration of carbon the volcanoes provided.

MISSOURI United mistakenly flies Kansas-bound dog to Japan

KANSAS CITY — United Airlines says it's investigating after mistakenly flying a Kansas family's dog to Japan. KCTV reports that Kara Swindle and her two children flew from Oregon to Kansas City, Missouri, Tuesday on a United flight.

They went to a cargo facility to pick up 10-year-old Irigo, a German shepherd, but were instead given a Great Dane. Swindle, of Wichita, Kansas, learned Irigo had been put on a flight to Japan, where the Great Dane was supposed to go.

Airline officials in Japan put Irigo on a flight back to Kansas City. It isn't clear when the dog will arrive.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Thursday, March 15, 2018 | Page 6A

N. Korea's dark history should frame negotiations

■ This won't be easy, because North Korea is better at international politics than the U.S. is

President Trump's decision to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un elicited a wide range of responses from experts. But one thing you hear from everyone is that the president and administration need to prepare. The North Koreans may be technologically (and morally) backward and rhetorically juvenile, but they're also incredibly adept and disciplined at international politics. They have eaten our lunch for more than 30 years.

But before getting their facts and figures together about nuclear stockpiles and missile throw-weights, perhaps the administration should ponder a simple question that even the experts never seem very interested in.

What is North Korea?

It seems like a silly question. It's a country, of course. But what kind of country? The labels we hear most often — dictatorship, totalitarian, communist and "Stalinist" — have their merits descriptively or historically. But they're all inadequate.

Those are all relatively modern terms, and North Korea really isn't a modern country. Oh, sure, it's got some modern

JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service



stuff — mostly its thriving nuclear program — but its social and political model is ancient.

For starters, Kim Jong Un is a monarch. According to government propaganda (or really, the state religion) his father, Kim Jong Il, was a creature of divine birth, born under a double rainbow atop the holy Baekdu Mountain. When he was born, a new star appeared and winter turned to spring.

Kim Jong Un is also a divine being, with a body so efficient that he has never needed to use a bathroom. According to official myth, Kim could drive at age 3. As a student at Kim Il Sung University (named after his grandfather), Kim reportedly wrote 1,500 books and six operas in three years. North Koreans are taught that their leader is revered worldwide as one of the greatest composers ever, and his operas are "better than any in the history of music." The first time he picked up a golf club, he recorded 11 holes-in-one and

shot 38 under par.

It's easy to laugh at this stuff — his father claimed to have invented the hamburger — but it isn't a laughing matter, because the North Korean people believe it.

The entire country has been raised in a mystical cult. The North Koreans shed any allegiance to Marxism-Leninism decades ago, replacing it with Juche, a philosophy that elevates a "Great Leader" as a monarch over society. They took the Divine Right of Kings and replaced it with the Divine Right of the Kims.

North Korea mirrors ancient monarchies in another respect: It is a feudal society. Under a system called Songbun, North Korea divides the population into three major classes and roughly 50 subclasses. Whatever class you're born into determines nearly everything important about your life, and each class is largely hereditary. If your grandfather was a "subversive" or "traitor," you're considered one, too. If your grandfather fought with Kim Il Sung against the Japanese, you're probably a member of the ruling class. It's possible to improve your status, though extremely difficult and rare. It's easy to have your class downgraded, which means your children will also be downgraded.

The lowest caste of North Koreans are the slave-labor peasants, who are the first to be starved when the state resorts to

man-made famine. As Nicholas Eberstadt recently wrote in *Commentary* magazine: "Life chances in North Korea — and no less important, death chances — turn on one's assigned class. ... (D)eadth from starvation is almost entirely consigned to the state's designated enemies from the 'hostile classes.'"

North Korea is arguably the greatest implementation of the totalitarian regime imagined in Plato's "Republic." Based on a series of myths that Plato would call "noble lies," North Koreans subscribe to the belief that they are a superior, chosen race in much the same way Nazis subscribed to potted views about Aryans. This is interesting in its own right, but it also forms the backdrop for the regime's paranoia about the outside world.

Of course, the regime itself also operates as an extortion racket, feeding off not just its own people, but a global black market in arms, drugs, sex trafficking and counterfeiting.

The regime has been willing to starve its own people in the pursuit of nuclear weapons, which it sees as the only guarantor of its sovereignty and its eventual destiny of reuniting the peninsula. Negotiating with North Korea may be the right thing to do, but our negotiators should understand the monstrosity they're dealing with.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

GUEST VIEW

Democratic runoff for governor could signal the party's future in Texas

Every few decades, a political party reaches a moment when it has the opportunity to redefine itself. The upcoming runoff for Texas governor between former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez and Houston businessman Andrew White could represent one of those moments within Texas' Democratic Party.

Valdez has all the traditional democratic demographics in her favor. She's a liberal, Hispanic and a lesbian, a combination that shattered barriers as Dallas County sheriff and offers a compelling narrative to core constituencies. It was a strong enough narrative for her to get 42.9 percent of the vote in a nine-person primary field and to amass a 15 percentage point advantage over second-place finisher White, who campaigned as a conservative, business-oriented "common sense" Democrat and whose father was former Gov. Mark White.

Therein lies the challenge for Democratic voters in the runoff — whether to double down on a traditional orthodoxy that has proved successful in primary contests but has failed in statewide elections since 1994 or to embrace a new approach that some hope will attract crossover voters and independents. Four years ago, former state Sen. Wendy Davis carried into the general election an even more impressive portfolio of Democratic orthodoxy than Valdez, only to lose by a massive 20 percentage points to Republican Greg Abbott.

The dilemma here is whether a party plays to its base, or seeks to build a margin of victory by also pulling in non-ideological voters. The latter has examples of success on both sides. In Texas, George W. Bush broadened the base of the Republican party in 1994 to beat Gov. Ann Richards. State Democrats have yet to recover from the defeat. Nationally, Bill Clinton — powered by the ideas of Al From and the Democratic Leadership Council — won the presidency in 1992 with a centrist message of "it's the economy, stupid." Democrats have since held the White House for 16 of the past 25 years.

Texas Democrats now face consequential decisions that pit ideology against Texas' changing demographics and recent statewide political trends. Valdez invigorated Hispanics, the fastest-growing demographic in the state, while White struggled in a crowded field to connect with Democratic voters, many of whom expressed suspicion about his self-description as a conservative Democrat. Both candidates are very long shots against Abbott in the fall. However, the challenge for Democratic voters in the runoff is to decide how best to build a party that can compete with Republicans who are so confident in their ability to run the tables that they run the risk of playing too much to their base.

Texas needs a healthy two-party system that doesn't leave behind the political middle. This runoff could be the start of this overdue debate among Democrats.

— Dallas Morning News

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Insubordination meant Tillerson had to go

■ By projecting weakness to Pyongyang, Tillerson was undercutting Trump's message of strength

There are many reasons Rex Tillerson's tenure as secretary of state was a failure, from his notorious isolation from his subordinates to his failure to help quickly staff the political appointment positions at State with competent Republicans. But it was his insubordination to the president that assured that he wouldn't be long in his position. With a summit with North Korea in the works, President Trump's decision to oust Tillerson and replace him with CIA Director Mike Pompeo could not have come at a better moment.

Tillerson was completely out of step with Trump's hard-line stance on North Korea, which ultimately brought Kim Jong Un to the bargaining table. Instead, Tillerson's North Korea strategy seemed to be to beg Pyongyang for talks. Speaking at the Atlantic Council in December, Tillerson delivered this embarrassing plea: "Let's just meet. And we can talk about the weather if you want. ... But can we at least sit down and see each other face to face?" He might as well have added: "Pretty please, with sugar on top."

Trump's critics were constantly griping that the president was undermining Tillerson's diplomatic efforts with North Korea, when in fact the opposite was true. Trump's strategy has been to achieve a peaceful solution by getting Kim to understand that the United States is ready to use force to stop him from deploying a nuclear intercontinental ballistic missile capable of destroying an American city. This is the message Trump was trying to send during his address to the South Korean legislature, when he told Kim in no uncertain terms: "The weapons you are acquiring are not making you safer. They are putting your regime in grave danger. Every step you take down this dark path increases the peril you face."

By projecting weakness to Pyongyang, Tillerson was undercutting Trump's message of strength — and thus making war more likely. The fact that Tillerson could not seem to grasp this or get on the same page as his commander in chief made his continued leadership of the State Department untenable.

Pompeo, by contrast, is in lockstep with Trump in sending Kim a clear message that, should diplomacy fail, the United States will not hesitate to act. "The president is intent on delivering this solution through diplomatic means," Pompeo told me during a recent conversation at the American

MARC THIESSEN

Washington Post Writers Group



Enterprise Institute. "We are equally, at the same time, ensuring that ... if we conclude that it is not possible, that we present the president with a range of options that can achieve what is his stated intention."

The failure to deliver those options is yet another reason Tillerson's tenure at State had to end. Tillerson was working with Defense Secretary Jim Mattis to slow-walk the delivery of military options to the president, apparently out of fear that the president might actually act on them. According to *The New York Times*, after a conference call about North Korea organized by national security adviser H.R. McMaster, Tillerson stayed on the line with Mattis and, unaware the other participants were still listening, complained about a series of meetings the National Security Council had set up to consider military options. "Signs, Mr. Tillerson said, that [the NSC] was becoming overly aggressive."

No one elected Tillerson to make these decisions. They elected Trump. With Tillerson gone and Pompeo at State, McMaster will now have an ally at State who shares his belief that for Trump's warnings to North Korea to be credible, he must have well-developed and credible military options on the table.

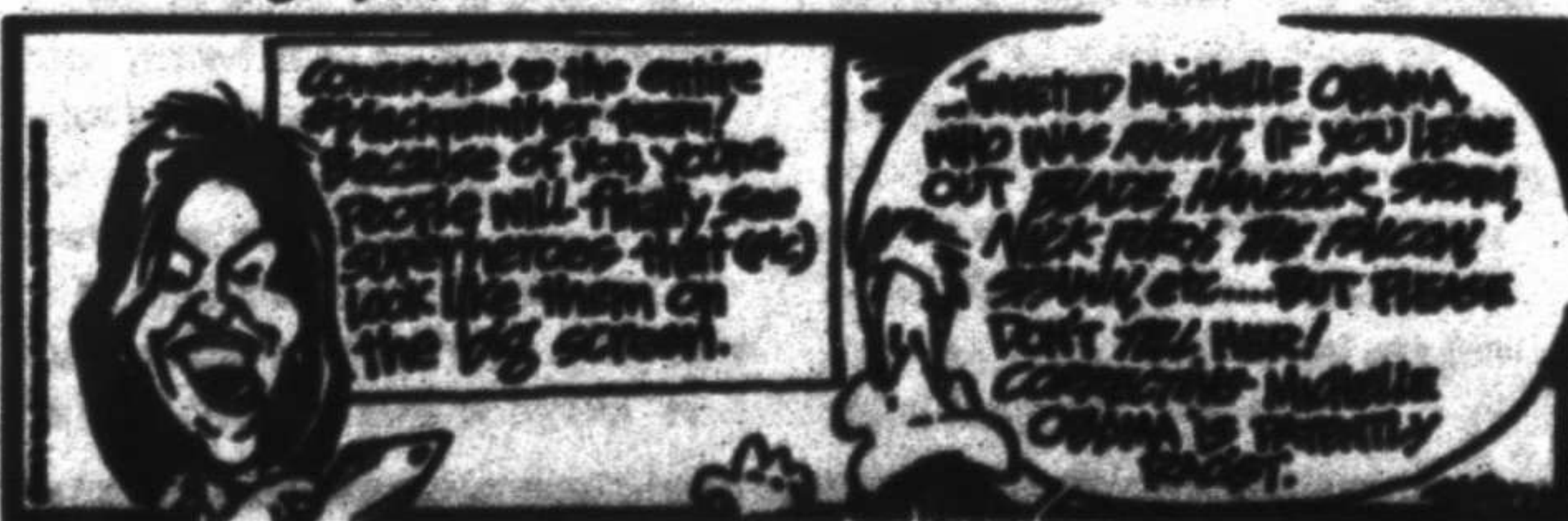
As Trump put it, Tillerson had to go because "we were not thinking the same. With Mike Pompeo, we have a similar thought process." Having a trusted advisor at State will be critical to the success of the biggest diplomatic gamble of Trump's presidency: his upcoming talks with Kim.

At AEL, Pompeo told me that the CIA assesses that Kim is a rational actor — which means that, given accurate information about the president's intentions, Kim should make a rational decision that will not lead to the destruction of his regime. "We're taking the real-world actions that we think will make [it] unmistakable to Kim Jong Un that we are intent on denuclearization," Pompeo said. "We're counting on the fact that he'll see it. We're confident that he will." With Pompeo in office, Trump now has a much better chance of getting that message across to the North Korean dictator.

From the Left | Deenabury



From the Right | Mollard Fillmore



Trump picks camera-proven Kudlow as top economic aide

By Josh Boak and
Ken Thomas
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has chosen Larry Kudlow to be his top economic aide, elevating the influence of a longtime fixture on the CNBC business news network who previously served in the Reagan administration and has emerged as a leading evangelist for tax cuts and a smaller government.

Kudlow told The Associated Press on Wednesday that he has accepted the offer, saying the U.S. economy is poised to take off after Trump signed \$1.5 trillion worth of tax cuts into law.

"The economy is starting to roar and we're going to get more of that," he said.

Kudlow will join an administration in the middle of a tumultuous remodeling as a wave of White House staffers and top officials have departed in recent weeks. Trump on Tuesday dumped his secretary of state, former Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson.

The famously pinstriped-suited Kudlow would succeed Gary Cohn, a former Goldman Sachs executive who is leaving the post in a dispute over Trump's decision to impose tariffs on imported steel and aluminum.

With Trump's tax cuts already being implemented, Kudlow would be advising a president who appears increasingly determined to tax foreign imports — a policy Kudlow personally opposes. Kudlow said he is "in accord" with Trump's agenda and his team at the White House would help implement the policies set by the president.

Trump has promised to reduce the trade imbalance with China and rewrite the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico. Kudlow declined to say what advice he would give the president on trade issues, saying instead that Trump is "a very good negotiator."

Kudlow, 70, has infor-



Richard Drew/Associated Press

Larry Kudlow, a longtime fixture on the CNBC business news network who previously served in the Reagan administration, is interviewed on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Wednesday. President Donald Trump has chosen Kudlow to be his top economic aide.

mally advised the Trump administration in the past and he has spoken with the president "at some length in recent days," so he is ready "to hit the ground running."

Kudlow told CNBC on Wednesday that he will be going to Washington on Thursday to meet with Trump. White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the administration is preparing for an orderly transition and "will keep everyone posted" on when Kudlow officially assumes the job. Friends and colleagues say Kudlow possesses two critical attributes prized by the president: He is a bluntly spoken debater and is resolutely loyal.

"He's a very sensitive man and a very logical man, which is exactly what Trump needs," said Arthur Laffer, a well-known economist and longtime friend of Kudlow.

The two men and their wives used to celebrate New Year's Eve together outside San Diego, where Laffer lived at the time. In the Reagan administration, Kudlow worked in the White House budget office and Laffer served on an economic policy advisory board. Both built their economic visions around

the notion that tax cuts are critical for maximizing economic growth, a principle at the heart of the \$1.5 trillion tax reduction Trump signed into law last year.

In 1987, Kudlow moved to Wall Street and, though he never completed a master's program in economics and policy at Princeton University, served as chief economist at Bear Stearns. He left that position in the early 1990s to treat an addiction to alcohol and drugs, after which he worked at Laffer's research and consulting firm.

Kudlow soon settled comfortably into the world of political and economic punditry, working at the conservative National Review magazine and ultimately becoming a host of CNBC shows beginning in 2001. He has remained a contributor to CNBC and a colleague and friend for many at the network. Indeed, among the first to report on Kudlow's possible move to the White House was Jim Cramer, the stock market guru and his former co-host on "Kudlow & Cramer." It was on CNBC that Kudlow gained a high-profile platform for explaining, defending and — at times — faulting Trump's economic agenda.

meltdown it triggered began the month that column was published.

Laffer described Kudlow as someone who would be inclined to offer "unvarnished" advice to the president on the appropriate path for economic policy.

"And if by chance, he doesn't convince the president of something, he will be a loyal employee," Laffer said. "He stays loyal even if the decision goes against him."

Kudlow has shown himself willing to embrace personal transformations. He converted from Judaism to Catholicism, according to a 2000 interview with the religious magazine Crisis. After graduating as a history major from the University of Rochester in 1969, he worked on Democratic campaigns in New York. But he evolved into a committed Republican who considered entering the 2016 race to challenge Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Connecticut Democrat.

Jared Bernstein, who was an economic adviser to Vice President Joe Biden during Barack Obama's presidency, said he's been debating Kudlow from the opposite side of

the ideological fence for decades and still likes him. Bernstein said he has never managed to convince Kudlow that that tax cuts that he has zealously championed have failed to deliver the promised growth, a view shared by many academic economists. But Kudlow understands trade, the Federal Reserve, employment, inflation and the financial markets, Bernstein said.

"And, at least on those issues, he listens," said Bernstein, a senior fellow at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal think tank.

For a president who pays close attention to image and wants advisers who look every inch the part, Kudlow seems to fit the role of high-powered presidential aide. Customarily attired in narrow-lapelled suits, Kudlow has relied on the same Savile Row-trained, New York-based tailor, Leonard Logsdail, for 26 years.

Logsdail said Kudlow still wears some of the first suits he made for him.

"He does take care of them," the tailor said.

Kiara Graves

8-18-1989 - 3-15-2006

12 Long Years

Roses are red
Violets are blue
We are always thinking of you
And missing you and loving you

The Graves Family
and a special Aunt

Ex-Trump campaign chairman asks judge to dismiss charges

By Eric Tucker and
Chad Day
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman asked a federal judge Wednesday to dismiss some of the criminal charges he faces related to his foreign lobbying work on behalf of Ukrainian interests.

In a series of motions, attorneys for Paul Manafort attacked the case brought against him in Washington, arguing that special counsel Robert Mueller exceeded his authority to prosecute Manafort on criminal charges that date back more than a decade. The arguments largely mimic a civil suit Manafort filed earlier this year.

The filings were the first volley from the defense in a criminal case that exposes Manafort to several years in prison. He has pleaded not guilty.

Manafort's lawyers argue that Mueller shouldn't be allowed to prosecute him since the allegations in the indictments predate the 2016 presidential election. Mueller was appointed to investigate potential coordination between Russia and the Trump campaign, but his mandate allows him to prosecute crimes that arise from his investigation.

In their motion to dismiss, the defense lawyers say Mueller has improperly surpassed his authority in-

cluding that granted to him to investigate any crimes arising from his inquiry.

"The original and superseding indictments do not focus in the slightest on alleged coordination between the Russian government and the Trump campaign during the 2016 election, or even Mr. Manafort's brief involvement in the campaign," the attorneys write.

Instead, the lawyers say,

the indictments are focused on foreign consulting work that ended in 2014 and on years-old bank accounts and tax filings that have no connection to either the Trump campaign or the Russian government.

Lawyers for the Justice Department, which represents Mueller's office in the civil suit, have argued that Mueller is well within his authority.

DAILY
BROUGHT TO



Revelation 21:27

Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

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WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

BEST BETS

TODAY

TWO FOR ONE Get a double dose of music when Kevin Fowler and Brian Milson play at Rockin' Rodeo. Doors open at 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

GET OUT Teens can test their wits in the Harry Potter Escape Room at Centennial branch where they figure out a way out of the office of the High Inquisitor of Hogwarts. 4 p.m.

SATURDAY

FROM THE TAP The second annual Tap Into Downtown Odessa on Grant Avenue at Fourth Street will feature craft beer and wine tastings, live music and food trucks. 6 p.m. \$15.

SUNDAY

BRUNCH BUNCH Grab some brunch and do your shopping at the downtown Urban Brunch Market. Where else can you sit on the second story of a bus with Eggs Benedict and a mimosa? 11 a.m.

MONDAY

COFFEE CLASS Attend Brew School at Bean and Grape with master roaster Jonathan Aldrich from Dallas. Tweak Coffee Roasters. Admission comes with a bag of coffee. 5 p.m. \$20.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Film opening and closing this week at Midland theaters.

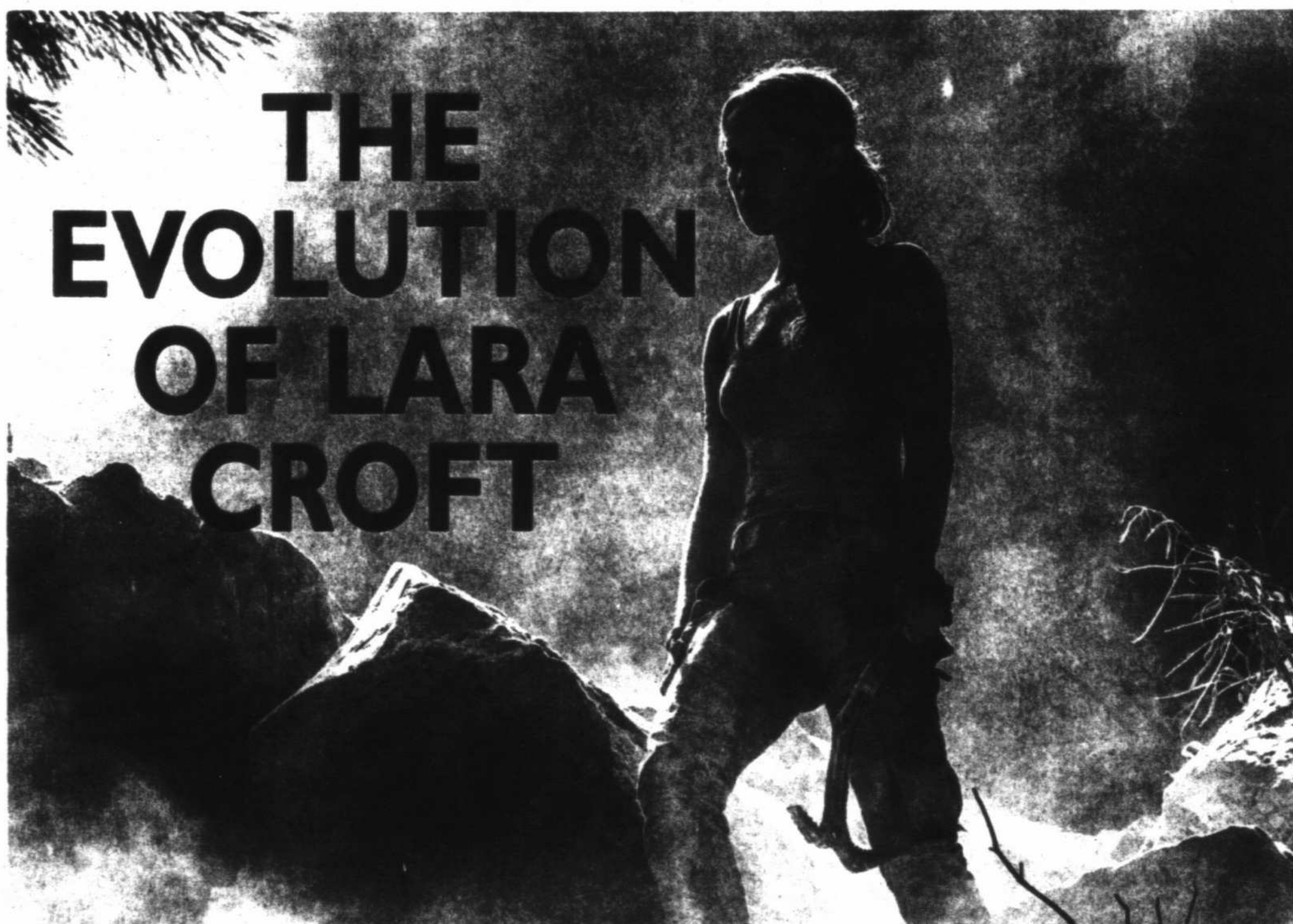
TALL CITY 14 Opening: 7 Days in Erethea, "I Can Only Imagine," "Love, Simon," "Tomb Raider."

CINERGY CINEMAS Opening: Love, Simon, "Tomb Raider." Closing: "Fast & Furious."

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

COMING SOON

FLYING



'Tomb Raider' lacks story, but it's a fun ride

Angelina Jolie left her indelible mark on Lara Croft back in the early 2000s, but this video game character constantly regenerates with impunity, whether we want her to or not. She's resurfaced again, with a whole new look and level of sass, thanks to Oscar-winning star Alicia Vikander, Norwegian film director Roar Uthaug, and writers Geneva Robertson-Dworet, Alastair Siddons and Evan Daugherty. In this origin story, they've reimagined Lara as an orphaned infant, a radical MMA-fighting, radical bike courier rebelling against her privileged past.

But when she's forced to confront it, she discovers her long-lost father Richard Croft's (Dominic West) passion for dangerous treasure hunting, and follows in his footsteps. In this case, it's to the treacherous island Yamatai, where he's gone raiding the tomb of Himiko, an ancient Japanese queen sorceress. Lara follows suit to Yamatai, where she shows her old man just how to raid a tomb, while battling career raider Vogel (Walton Goggins), employed by a mysterious company to retrieve the dangerous contents of said tomb.

Truthfully, there isn't very much plot here at all. The film skips over large swaths of exposition, like why Vogel sticks around in this dead-end job for close to a decade, how the Dread Pirate McNulty, aka Papa Croft, evaded him, or really anything having to do with why anyone is on this island. Good henchman benefits,

probably.

But this movie isn't about plot or story, and that's OK for its form, which mimics a video game. This is very much a film about puzzles and tasks, which Lara has to complete to move on to the next level. It's Lara vs. the bike messengers, Lara vs. the Hong Kong muggers, Lara vs. the tricky trap door floor, Lara vs. the spiky poles.

This is why Uthaug is such an ideal choice of director. His previous film, "The Wave," was brilliant in its simplicity of depicting a tsunami devastating a small village, focusing on the mechanics of the evacuation and the ticking clock. Here, he again focuses on mechanics, in a way that harkens back to early silent cinema, just like "The Perils of Pauline." In the perils of Lara Croft, she'd never be tied to a train track, instead dangling from a rusted plane over a waterfall, hands bound. Like another silent star, Buster Keaton, she's possessing of an incredible physical acumen she applies to getting out

of sticky situations.

This also ties into another important evolution of the character. Lara Croft has always been tough and strong, but she was known far more for her sexy, cosmetic assets. This Lara is worth looking at not for her sex appeal but for her strength and skill — for what she can do. Her physicality functions to run, fight and survive, and Vikander is astonishingly ripped in this film. The only double Ds here are her deltoids.

She's awe-inspiring even when aided by far too much janky CGI, and that's the thing — the story is essentially nonexistent and very silly, and a lot of the digital action is very sketchy. But Vikander attacks this role at a headlong pace, with a raspy primal yelp, and she's so much fun to watch. This fresh, modern and grounded approach to Lara Croft has you in its chokehold before you can resist. Might as well go along for the rest of the ride.

'TOMB RAIDER'

2.5 stars out of 4

Cast: Alicia Vikander, Dominic West, Walton Goggins, Daniel Wu, Kristin Scott Thomas. Directed by Roar Uthaug. Running time: 1 hour, 58 minutes. Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and action, and for some language.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service



HEAT INDEX: Cowboys, cosplayers take over Horseshoe

By Rich Lopez
rlopez@mrt.com

PERMIAN BASIN SPRING STAMPEDE PRO RODEO AT THE HORSESHOE

The Permian Basin Spring Stampede Professional Rodeo returns for its second outing with some special highlights. The PBSR will host the Kid's Mutton Bustin' competition, and rodeo queen will be crowned on Friday. The "Man in the Can," Ronald Burton, will serve as the special guest rodeo clown and bullfighter. The man is not only a national award winner for both bullfighting and his clown antics, he's also had a documentary made about his life and work. Of course, what's a rodeo without the usual bull riding, saddle bronc, bareback, steer wrestling, roping competitions, ranch bronc riding and barrel racing? Slack rodeo kicks off today.

Doors 6 p.m., rodeo 7:30 p.m. today-Saturday at Horseshoe Arena, 2514 Arena Trail. \$15-\$25. midlandhorseshoe.com.

PERMIAN BASIN COMIC CON X ALSO AT THE HORSESHOE

On the other side of the venue, Comic Con X will take over for two days. The annual convention will host Vanguard and Magic the Gathering tournaments and other gaming, the princess pageant, a retro parade, the Kidzone and whole bunch of cosplay. Super Hero Photos will also be there to snap photos of players, so snap up your costume game. The con doesn't stop there. Special guest appearances for this year include original "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers" actors Austin St. John, David Fielding and Walter Jones, "Black Panther" author Don McGregor and "The Walking Dead" actor Juan Douglas. Allecto Arzoon and the 501st Legion are among

the cosplay guests, and artists David Roman and Erick Dominguez will discuss their work. Buy all the memorabilia and comics you want in the vendor market. The Official Costume After Party for 21 and older goes down Saturday night at the DoubleTree by Hilton.

Friday-Sunday at the Horseshoe Pavilion. \$30 two-day pass for Saturday and Sunday, \$45 three-day pass, \$100 VIP pass. pbcomiccon.com.

MAC'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY MUSICFEST IN DOWNTOWN

Mac's Bar-B-Q and Catering is more than just brisket this Saturday. The restaurant is no stranger to hosting music on its patio, but they take that to the next level this weekend. With its inaugural MusicFest at the former Midland County Courthouse site downtown, Mac's will fill up downtown with some major sound. The country music lineup includes the Stateline Band, Mike Ryan, Granger Smith with the Josh Abbott Band headlining. And when you get hungry, hit up the crawfish boil, food trucks and even some Mac's barbecue onsite. Just be sure to have cash for the bar.

Doors at 1 p.m. at the site of the old Midland County Courthouse on Wall Street. \$25-\$75. Macsstonedby.com.

LOS INMORTALES COMEDY SHOW AT THE WASHNER HOTEL

This comedy battle features popular Mexican comedians Adrian Uribe and Omar Chaparro. The two battle it out among their alter egos El Vito, La Coludina, La Litenciana and others throughout the two-hour laugh-fest. But know before you go: The show will be performed entirely in Spanish.

Doors at 8 p.m. Saturday at 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1708. \$50-\$105. wagnerhotel.com.



CALENDAR

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

CLASSES, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

The Holistic Approach by Earth, Body and Soul. The monthly meetup covers the uses of essential oils, crystals, meditation and more. 7-8 p.m. today at Brew St. Bakery, 4610 N. Garfield St.

Meal Planning: Saving Money, Food and your Sanity. The class will cover planning, shopping and preparing meals. Registration available online. 2:30 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Monday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. tinyurl.com/mcplmealplan.

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

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

Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher. The class is for all levels. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. To register, email sara@artsbysara.com.

The Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series: "An Evening with Barak Goodman." The Emmy-winning documentarian will discuss his films such as the Oscar-nominated "Scottsboro: An American Tragedy" and his recent "Oklahoma City" among other works. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Chaparral Center at Midland College, 3600 N. Garfield St. Free. midland.edu.

EVENTS

Adult Paint and Sip: "Colorful Daisies." 7 p.m. today at Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. \$35. kiddsart.com.

Permian Basin Spring Stampede Pro Rodeo will include the Miss PBSS Rodeo Queen, Mutton Bustin' and more. Friday and Saturday at Horseshoe Arena, 2514 Arena Trail. \$15. Midlandhorseshoe.com.

Permian Basin Comic Con will feature guest artists, vendors, contests and more. The event includes the "Magic the Gathering" Preliminary Pro Tour Qualifier. Friday-Sunday at Horseshoe Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail. pbcomiccon.com.

St. Patty's Day party, 8 p.m. Saturday at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St.

Adult Paint and Sip: "Oceanview." 3 p.m. Sunday at Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. \$35. kiddsart.com.

Brews and Blooms floral arranging and pints event. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Midland Beer Garden, 7112 W. Highway 80. alicetab.com.

FAMILY & YOUTH

Think, Make, Spring Break! The daily program will feature cartoons, outdoor movement, storytime and crafts. 10:30 a.m. Through Friday at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Travel Adventure: Building Block Jars. 4 p.m. today at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Laura Bush Literacy Program Reading Event will feature the book "Olivia and the Easter Egg Hunt" with copies given to each child in attendance. Space is limited so reservations are encouraged. 4:30 p.m. today at the George W. Bush Childhood Home, 1412 W. Ohio Ave. Free. bushchildhoodhome.org.

Harry Potter Escape Room. Groups of six to eight guests must escape

the offices of Dolores Umbridge, the High Inquisitor of Hogwarts. For ages 13-19. 4-6:30 p.m. Friday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Family Fort Night. This after-hours event invites families for a night of fort-making and storytelling. All ages welcome. Fort supplies provided but guests are encouraged to bring blankets, pillows and flashlights from home. Pajamas allowed. 6:30 p.m. Friday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. Register online at www.comidland.tx.us.

Easter Bunny at Midland Park Mall. Children can visit and take photos with the Easter Bunny Saturday - March 31 at 4511 N. Midkiff Road. Reservations can also be made online. Simonbunny.com. The event offers activities, games, movies and lunch for children. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at Midland YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring St. \$10 per child.

Garden Explorers: Spring Planting for grades 3-5. 10 a.m. Saturday at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. \$5 members, \$8 non-members. sibleynaturecenter.org.

"The Gingerbread Man and the Leprechaun Loose at School" storytime. 11 a.m. Saturday at Barnes and Noble Book-sellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

Child Painting Event: "Invisible Shamrock." 1 p.m. Saturday at Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. \$25 per child. \$20 adults. kiddsart.com.

Child Painting Event: "Rainbow Shamrock." 3 p.m. Saturday at Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. \$25 per child. \$15 adults. kiddsart.com.

Easter Bunny at Midland Park Mall: Carling Bunny is a comforting photo experience for children with special needs. Noises and lighting will be reduced, queues will be altered and special activities will be available during the wait. 9-10:30 a.m. Sunday at 4511 N. Midkiff Road. simonbunny.com.

Tales and Trails: Squirrels. 10 a.m. Tuesday at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. \$2 suggested donation. sibleynaturecenter.org.

"Travel Adventure" invites children and families to create using LEGO bricks. The exhibition also features creations by LEGO Master Builders along with a photo booth and a life-size adventure vehicle. Through April 22 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

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

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

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

FINE ART & DANCE

CLOSING: Visions 2018: "Persegration in Photography" featuring works by Aaron Badell through Sunday at Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave.

"Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors" is a collection of President George W. Bush's works in oil that honors servicemen and women. Through March 25 at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. Museumsw.org.

On with the Show,

This is It! Chuck Jones and the Animation Art of Looney Tunes through April 1. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays (open to 8 p.m. Thursdays), 2-5 p.m. Sundays. At the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

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

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

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Crown Royal Club, 1110 E. Scharbauer Drive. \$6. For more information, call 432-638-3707 or 250-8215.

FOOD & DRINK

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

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

Tap into Downtown Odessa craft beer and wine tasting event. 6-10 p.m. Saturday at 119 W. Fourth St.

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

Urban Brunch Market features more than 40 vendors, a brunch menu by Bus 22, live DJ and more. 11 a.m. Sunday at 312 N. Colorado St.

Brew School with master roaster Jonathan Aldrich from Dallas' Tweed Coffee Roasters. Admission comes with a bag of Tweed's Los Romeros blend. 5-6:30 p.m. Monday at Bean and Grape, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. \$20.

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

GAMES

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

Zia Park Casino Hotel and Racetrack bus trips by Midland Shuttle Service. Departs at 5 p.m. First Fridays and Sundays to Hobbs, New Mexico. \$55 for adults, \$45 for 65 and older. RSVP by calling 432-260-5428. midlandshuttleservice.com.

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

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

Veggie tournaments. 6-10 p.m. Saturdays at Entertainment, 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave.

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

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

Monday Mayhem features unlimited bowling for \$14.99 with free shoe rental after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Bala Burger House, 667 N. Colorado St.

p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

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

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

MUSIC

COUNTRY

Kevin Fowler, Brian Milson. 7 p.m. today at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Shane Rogers Band, 9 p.m. Friday at the Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

COVER/TRIBUTE

JOE, 6:30 p.m. today at Aldredge Gardens, 3300 N. Fairgrounds Road.

Forgotten Road, 9 p.m. Friday at the Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

DJ/DANCE

DJ Bryan. 9 p.m. Thursdays at Supernova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive.

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

DJ Boris. 9 p.m. Friday at Supernova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive.

DJ Joel. 9 p.m. Saturdays at Supernova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive.

HangoverSundays, 7 p.m. Sunday at Atrium Lounge, 3904 W. Wall St.

DRAG

"RuPaul Drag Race All Stars" viewing party with host Ayva Nevaeh. 7 p.m. Thursdays through April 20 at The Recovery Room, 2802 N. County Road West, Odessa.

FESTIVALS

Mac's MusicFest with the Josh Abbott Band, Granger Smith, Mike Ryan and the Stateline Band. Presented by Mac's Barb-B-Q and Catering. The event will also feature a crawfish boil, food trucks and Mac's onsite. Bars will be cash only. 1-8 p.m. Saturday at the Old Midland County Courthouse site, 500 N. Lorraine St. \$25-\$75. macstexasbbq.com.

KARAOKE

Karaoke, 9 p.m. Sunday at The Detour Bar, 1708 Rankin Hwy. thedetourbar.com.

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

Karaoke Wednesdays with DJ Savage and host Ayva Nevaeh. 9 p.m. Wednesdays at The Recovery Room, 2802

N. County Road West, Odessa. Facebook: @therecoveryroom432.

Rock

Bobby Champion, 9 p.m. Friday at Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.

Tzismani, Doomy Blues, Politely Menacing, 9 p.m. Friday at The Club Odessa, 1023 S. Grant Ave.

Flying Balalaika Brothers, Eddie Artega, 8 p.m. Saturday at Pat's Place Lounge, 7405 N. Andrews Hwy, Odessa.

OUTDOORS, SPORTS & FITNESS

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

Spring Break Barre360, 4 p.m. Sunday at Lacy J. Pilates and Fitness Studio, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. \$5. lacyjilates.com.

STAGE, COMEDY & FILM

"The Jungle Book" by the Pickwick Players. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Runs through March 25 at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. \$28. mctmidland.org.

Musical Thrones: A Parody of Ice and Fire. The comedy show introduces favorite characters from "Game of Thrones" as the audience runs through all seven seasons of the show. This is part of the LOL at the Wagner Noel series. 8 p.m. Friday at 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$35-\$60. wagnernoel.com.

Saturday Movie: "Leap!" The screening will be hosted outdoors by the Bookmobile. Popcorn provided. 11:30 a.m. Saturday at Midland County Public Library downtown, 301 W. Missouri Ave. Free.

Los Imparables with Adrian Uribe and Omar Chaparro. The comedy battle features the popular Mexican comedians will be performed entirely in Spanish. 9 p.m. Saturday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$50-\$105. wagnernoel.com.

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

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

COMING SOON

MARCH

Shotguns and Stilettoes: Luncheon with former first lady Laura Bush hosted by the Junior League of Midland. Business attire required. 11:30 a.m. March 22 at Midland Country Club, 6101 N. State Highway 349. jlmidland.org.

MOSC: Lone Star Brass ClayDesta Concert. Brown bag lunches are welcome at this midday concert. 11:45 a.m. March 22 at ClayDesta Plaza, 6 Dista Way. Free. MOSC.org.

Plant-based Nutrition and Diabetes by the Lifestyle Medicine Center. Limited space so online registration is required. 6-7 p.m. March 22 at Midland Memorial West Campus, 4214 Andrews Hwy. \$5. eventbrite.com.

An Evening with Alex Epstein: "The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels." 6:30 p.m. March 22 at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Free. wagnernoel.com.

Book Talk: "The Goldfinch by Finding" by Donna Tart. Discussion led by Odessa College's Julie Roth. 7 p.m. March 22 at the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

Odessa Jackalopes against Topolita Roadrunners. 7:11 p.m. March 22-24 at Ector County Coliseum, 4201 Andrews Highway, Odessa. Jackalopes.org.

Bart Crow, 8 p.m. March 22 at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Shotguns and Stilettoes: The 17th annual Shotguns and Stilettoes Clay Shoot hosted by the Junior League of Midland. Two flights available. Dress is shooting casual. 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Windwalker Farms, 2551 County Road C2801, Stanton. jlmidland.org.

Thin Line Shootout by the West Texas Fire Solidball. 8 a.m. March 23 at Midland Shooters Association, 5911 S. Farm-to-Market Road 1788.

"Advanced Imaging for Practitioners" by William W. Symes. The lecture is part of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists Distinguished Lecturer Program in collaboration with the Permian Basin Geophysical Society. 11:30 a.m. March 23 at UTPB CEED, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. SEG.org.

Poetry Slam with a cash prize for the winner. 7 p.m. March 23 at Dee's Bistro and Grill, 622 N. Lee Ave., Odessa. \$5.

MIDLAND NORTHSIDE LIONS CLUB

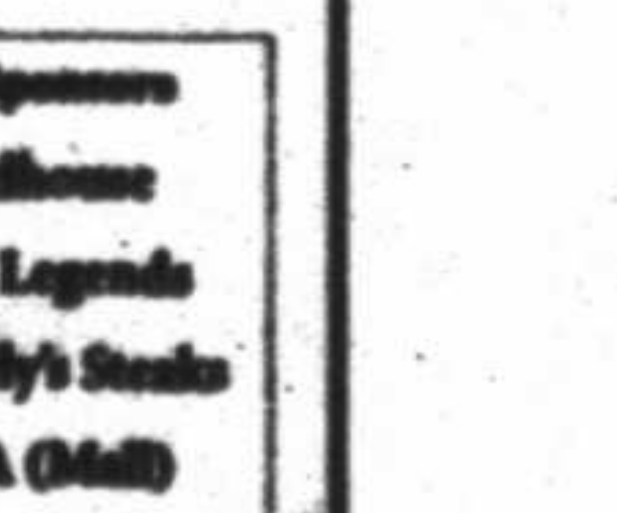
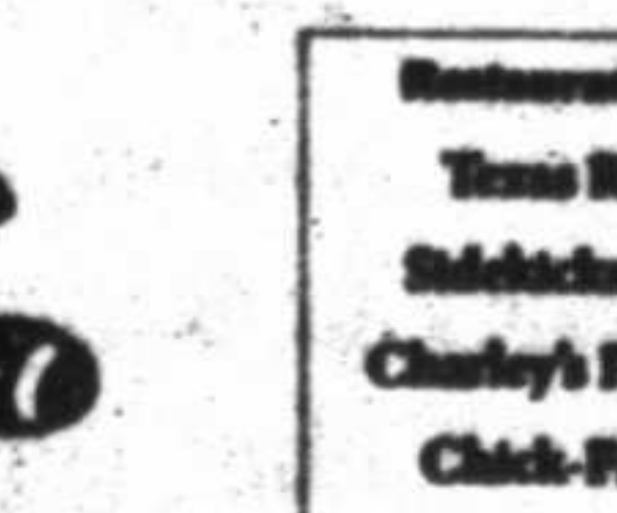
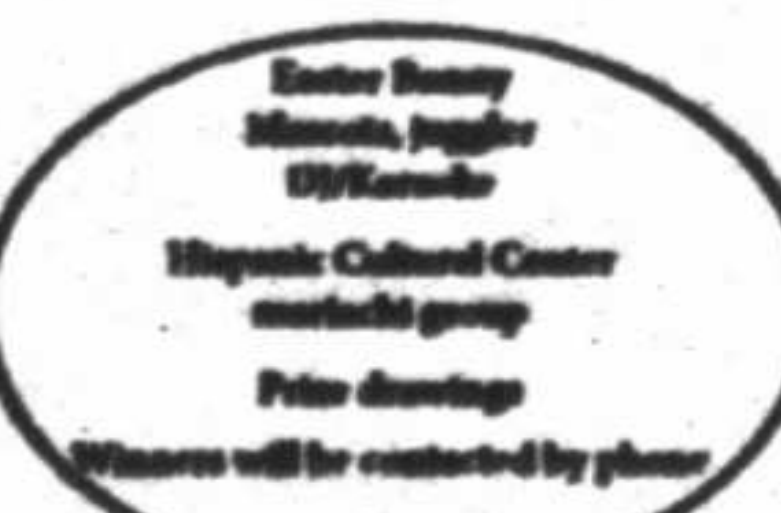


25th
annual



BUNNY BREAKFAST

Midland Park Mall Food Court
7:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, March 24, 2018



CO-SPONSORS

Midland Park Mall
The West Texas Fire Solidball
Blakemore Planetarium
Midland County Public Library
Midland County Public Library Centennial branch
Midland County Public Library Downtown branch
Midland County Public Library East branch
Midland County Public Library West branch

Victims (50 seats) available at:

Blakemore Planetarium, Claydon Center
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland Park Mall
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library Centennial branch
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library Downtown branch
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library East branch
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library West branch

Reservations to be made by:

Blakemore Planetarium, Claydon Center
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland Park Mall
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library Centennial branch
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library Downtown branch
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library East branch
Blakemore Planetarium, Midland County Public Library West branch

ON SCREEN



'LOVE, SIMON'

'Love, Simon' is so much more than a coming out story

Does 2018 need an earnest coming out story about an upper-middle class cisgender white boy? At face value, the tale of "Love, Simon" could possibly seem a bit dated. But the teen comedy — directed by Greg Berlanti, written by Elizabeth Berger and Isaac Aptaker, based on the book "Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda" by Becky Albertalli — is impossibly infectious, and so much more than just a coming out story.

The nature of the film itself is political: It's a necessary and humane representation that foregrounds a queer character's journey and gives them a swooningly romantic love story to boot. But setting all that aside, "Love, Simon" is simply a fantastic high school comedy that's grounded, funny and heartwarming.

Nick Robinson stars as Simon, a senior in high

school who's been privileged with a charmed life — loving parents (Josh Duhamel and Jennifer Garner), a sweet sister (Taliaha Eliana Bateman), gorgeous home, inexplicably hip musical taste (The Bleachers frontman Jack Antonoff is the music supervisor), and a clique of awesome friends: Leah (Katherine Langford), Nick (Jorge Lendeborg Jr.) and new girl Abby (Alexandra Shipp).

The only thing that sets Simon apart is his deep, dark secret — he's hustling after the hunky gardener next door. That's right, he's gay. But how, now, with legal gay marriage, a supportive, liberal family

KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service



and a multi-culti group of cool friends, could that be an issue?

Robinson and the filmmakers make his struggle visceral in a way that might make any viewer check their behavior. Simon winces at every small, joking instance of homophobia, the remarks from his well-meaning, but unaware former jock dad, the jokes about porn and girlfriends, and friends talking about crushes and hot girls, while Simon flails, trying convey himself as "normal," i.e. "like everyone else."

Totally, "Love, Simon" exists on a spectrum between "Lady Bird"

and "Mean Girls." It has the warm winsomeness of "Lady Bird," and the crackling humor of "Mean Girls," playing with the high school archetypes that film captured so well. All three are about the protagonists at the center learning to be themselves fully and freely in the world, struggling against the prison that is the opinion of others. As Simon hems and haws about coming out, he plaintively notes that he's not ready to lead a different life, or be a different person.

The larger message of "Love, Simon," aside from tolerance, acceptance and love, is that being yourself and living your truth out loud is good for you, and it's good for the people around you too. Being

closeted means Simon hurts the people closest to him, as he manipulates his friends to keep his secret under wraps. It can be difficult for a viewer to accept that his friends don't acknowledge just how hard it is for Simon to come out. He's blackmailed and bullied, but that doesn't change their expectations of him as a friend. Perhaps that's the right choice for the film, underscoring that sexuality doesn't define our morality, but you can't help but wish they cut sweet Simon a bit of slack.

That's because Robinson, Berlanti and the writers make Simon such an empathetic and detailed character to whom we can all relate. Ultimately, more than anything else, Simon just wants to be loved. He's

a hopeless romantic risking not only his heart, but his identity, and that's what makes him a hero worth rooting for.

'LOVE, SIMON'

4 stars

Cast: Nick Robinson, Jennifer Garner, Josh Duhamel, Katherine Langford, Tony Hale, Alexandra Shipp, Keiyan Lonsdale, Talitha Eliana Bateman, Logan Miller, Jorge Lendeborg Jr. Directed by Greg Berlanti.

Running time: 1 hour, 49 minutes.

Rated PG-13 for thematic elements, sexual references, language and teen partying.

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ON SCREEN

'Lady Bird' edges out 'Three Billboards' for week's best

PICK O' THE WEEK

"Lady Bird" (R) Triumphant coming-of-age story is possibly the best of its kind ever told from a female perspective. Greta Gerwig's autobiographical tale realistically shows all the highs and lows that can happen between a mother and her teenage daughter — and a dad and his teenage daughter, too — and does so with a wicked sense of humor. **A**

ICK! O' THE WEEK

"The Body Tree" (unrated) You kind of expect a movie trailer to be incohesive — that's what helps sell it to interested viewers. The trailer for this film is the only cohesive thread it has, which is not saying much. Clichéd thriller takes one too many twists to remain watchable. **F**

MORE REVIEWS

"Aliens Ate My Homework" (PG) Any cuteness this film might have enjoyed ends at the title, as the storyline gets ridiculously convoluted and the derivation becomes annoying. **D**

"The Bad Kids" (not rated) One of the best

Reeled & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

documentaries of its kind since "Hoop Dreams" shows an absorbing look at a rural Arizona high school that reaches out to the students who have fallen through the cracks. Of the profiles, Joey, a gifted guitarist whose mother's addictions threaten his graduation, will be the one you never forget. **A-**

"Can We Take a Joke?" (R) Documentary looks at the state of comedy on college campuses and a growing trend to ban some humor despite First Amendment protection. The debate is thought-provoking and the examples used will test anyone's resolve to remain open-minded. **C**

"City of Gold" (unrated) The first food critic to win a Pulitzer Prize, Jonathan Gold, is profiled in this searing look at the Los Angeles food scene. Its only flaw is focusing too much on the man and not enough on the food. **B-**

"The Man Who

Invented Christmas" (PG) Cute, though somewhat pretentious, look at Charles Dickens' quest to pen "A Christmas Carol." **C+**

"Same Kind of Different as Me" (PG-

13) Fact-based story of couple's troubled marriage is buoyed by its performances, notably that by Djimon Hounsou, who plays the homeless man who turned around the couple's life. **B-**

"The Sandman" (R) Bad horror fare is little more than a re-telling of Stephen King's "Firestarter," which wasn't one of his best to begin with. **C**

"The Star" (PG) Ani-

mated story of the birth of Jesus told from animal perspectives is fresh, unique and, of course, adorable. **B**

"Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" (R) Its stature as one of the best films of the year is not undeserving. It is brilliant and far funnier than one might expect. It is also shocking and the year's best for ensemble cast performances, winning two of the three it was given Oscar nods for.

(Sorry, Woody). **A**

"Wonder Wheel" (PG-13) Woody Allen's latest effort is unsuccessful on many levels, none of which include his offstage antics, something that has plagued him for years. Rather, this period piece lacks a strong performance from its leading man — sorry, Justin Timberlake — and at least one over-the-top performance from its supporting cast — sorry, Jim Belushi. **C**

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The top 10 DVD rentals at Redbox kiosks for the week of March 5:

1. Murder on the Orient Express — Fox
2. Coco — Disney
3. Daddy's Home 2 — Paramount
4. Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri — Fox
5. Thor: Ragnarok —

6. Wonder — Lionsgate
7. Lady Bird — Lionsgate
8. Darkest Hour — Universal
9. A Bad Moms Christmas — Universal
10. Hangman — Lionsgate

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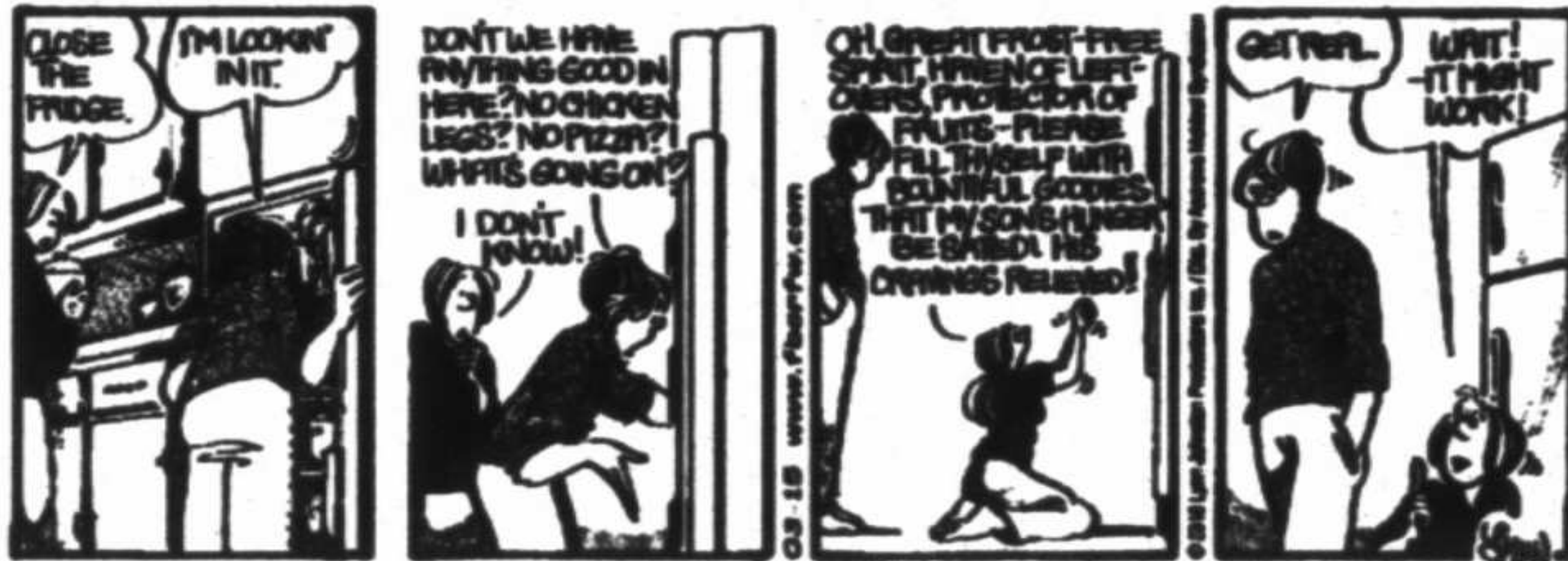
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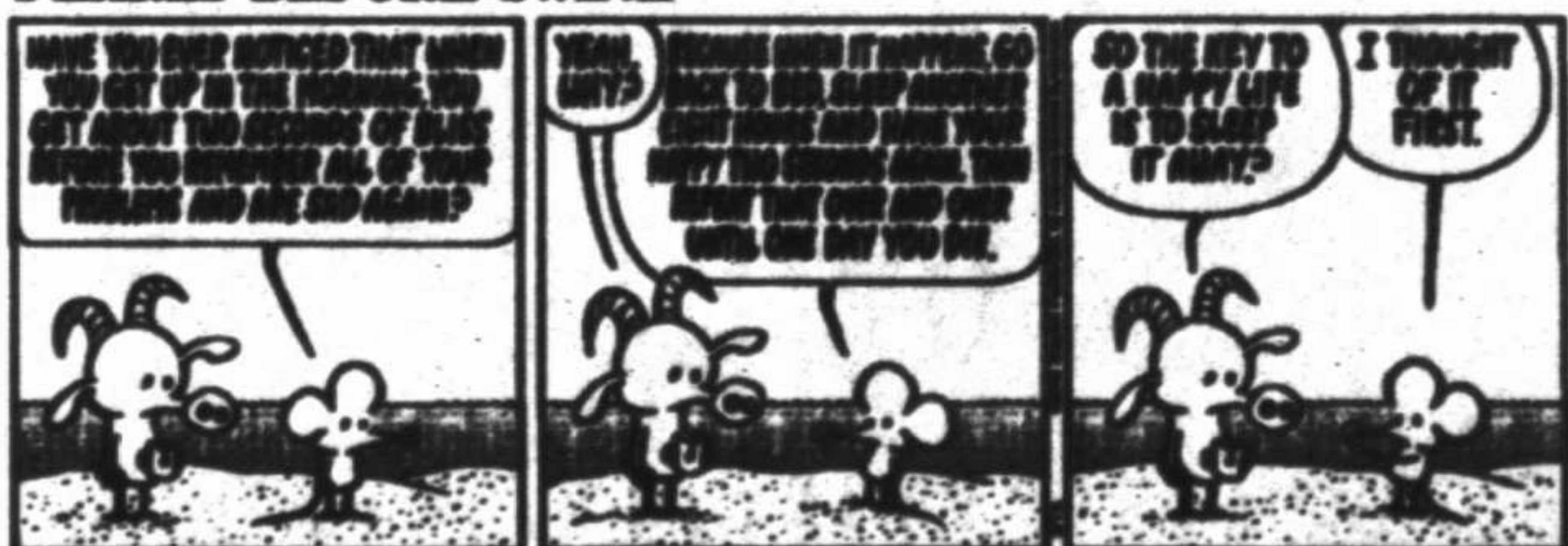
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ON SCREEN

FILM CAPS

"7 Days in Entebbe" (PG-13) The 1976 hijacking of an Air France flight leads to a diplomatic standoff in Uganda as the Israeli government races the clock to rescue the passengers. With Rosamund Pike, Daniel Bruhl, Eddie Marsan, Ben Schnetzer. Written by Gregory Burke. Directed by Jose Padilha.

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

"Every Day" (PG-13) A teenager falls in love with a soul who changes bodies every 24 hours. With Angourie Rice, Maria Bello, Debby Ryan. Written by Jesse Andrews, based on David Levithan's novel. Directed by Michael Suss.

"Death Wish" (R) Bruce Willis stars in this remake as a surgeon seeking revenge after his family is brutally attacked. With Vincent D'Onofrio, Elisabeth Shue, Dean Norris, Kimberly Elise. Written by Joe Carnahan, based on the 1974 screenplay by Wendell Mayes from novel by Brian Garfield. Directed by Eli Roth.

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

"The Greatest Showman" (PG) Hugh Jackman stars as P.T. Barnum, the 19th century impresario who created entertainment known around the world.

With Michelle Williams, Zac Efron, Rebecca Ferguson, Zendaya. Songs by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul. Written by Jenny Bicks and Bill Condon; story by Bicks. Directed by Michael Gracey.

"Gringo" (R) Disloyal business partners, a drug cartel and a mercenary push an easygoing man over the edge in Mexico. With Joel Edgerton, Amanda Seyfried, Charlize Theron, Thandie Newton. Written by Anthony Tambakis and Matthew Stone. Directed by Nash Edgerton.

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

"Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" (PG-13) Four teenagers find themselves inside an old video game console featuring ferocious realism and danger. With Dwayne Johnson, Jack Black, Kevin Hart. Written by Chris McKenna & Erik Sommers and Jake Kasdan & Scott Rosenberg & Jeff Pinkner; story by McKenna, based on the book by Chris Van Allsburg. Directed by Jake Kasdan.

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

"Peter Rabbit" (PG) James Corden gives voice

to Beatrix Potter's notable hare in this mix of live-action and animation. With Rose Byrne, Domhnall Gleeson; voices by Daisy Ridley, Elizabeth Debicki, Margot Robbie. Written by Rob Lieber and Will Gluck. Directed by Gluck.

"Red Sparrow" (R) Jennifer Lawrence stars as a former Russian ballet dancer recruited to be a seductive and deadly spy. With Joel Edgerton, Matthias Schoenaerts, Jeremy Irons, Mary-Louise Parker, Charlotte Rampling. Written by Justin Haythe, based on a novel by Jason Matthews. Directed by Francis Lawrence.

"The Strangers: Prey at Night" (R) A trio of psychopaths terrorize a family at a secluded mobile home park. With Christina Hendricks, Martin Henderson, Bailee Madison, Lewis Pullman. Written by Bryan Bertino and Ben Ketai. Directed by Johannes Roberts.

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

"A Wrinkle in Time" (PG) Three spiritual guides lead a young girl on a journey of empowerment. With Storm Reid, Oprah Winfrey, Reese Witherspoon, Mindy Kaling, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Michael Pena, Zach Galifianakis, Chris Pine. Written by Jennifer Lee, based on the novel by Madeleine L'Engle. Directed by Ava DuVernay.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Hijacking political thriller '7 Days in Entebbe' is larger than life

The gripping political thriller "7 Days in Entebbe" — based on true events and directed by Brazilian filmmaker José Padilha — opens, somewhat surprisingly, with a modern dance performance. It's a captivating choice that serves as an unlikely thematic throughline of the film about a high-stakes high-wire act of negotiation and military operation during a tumultuous period between Israel and Palestine in the late 1970s.

Performed by the Batsheva Dance Company, choreographed by Ohad Naharin, the dancers flail and stumble out of chairs, dressed in suits, and rip their clothes off in a rhythmic, repetitive ritual. The dance has a place in the narrative, as one of the dancers (Zina Zinchenko) is the girlfriend of an Israeli special forces soldier (Ben Schnetzer), but it has a larger place in the film emotionally and symbolically. It represents a sense of anxiety and chaos, a mob mentality. As dancers wrestle with chairs and clothes in unison, one dancer falls, again and again. She can't — or won't — get in formation with the group.

Written by Geoffrey Burke, "7 Days in Entebbe" recounts the tale of a real plane hijacking that looms large in the history of Israel. In June 1976, two German and two Palestinian revolutionaries — the nomenclature varies from "freedom fighter" to "terrorist" depending on who you ask — hijacked an Air France flight from Tel Aviv to Paris and directed it to Entebbe, Uganda, to demand the release of 52 political prisoners.

The smart script by Burke weaves together the happenings at the terminal in Uganda, emceed by an ebullient Idi Amin (Nonso Anozie), just happy for the media exposure, as well as the political distress in Jerusalem as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (Lior Ashkenazi) struggles for power with his Defense Minister Shimon Peres (Eddie Marsan). But much of the story focuses on the morally complex situation of the two Germans, Brigitte Kuhlmann (Rosamund Pike) and Wilfried Böse (Daniel Bruhl).

For these young European revolutionaries, they are just far enough away from the Holocaust, and just geographically removed enough from real oppression, that the event is where the rubber meets the road — where rhetoric becomes action, which is often grimy, complicated and disturbing. Wracked by

KATIE WALSH

Tribune News Service



guilt, Böse proclaims, "I'm not a Nazi!" but then again, he's a German, hijacking Jews. His counterpart, Brigitte, is much tougher, chomping speed pills and unafraid to use violence to make her hostages fall in line. Pike is haunting in her performance, her Brigitte both faraway and ferocious.

A climactic moment intercuts a special forces military operation led by Yonatan Netanyahu (Angel Bonanni), older brother of future prime minister Benjamin, with the pulse-pounding dance of the opening. With so many moving parts and unpredictable forces, the entire hostage crisis is a dance, with all the pieces needing to come together perfectly for anyone, on any side to prevail. It's a delicate balance of choreography and chaos, of ideas and action.

The story is larger than life, and difficult to believe it even happened. Padilha brings a frenetic, authentic style and flair to this depiction, and never loses sight of its larger messages and themes. As Rabin, Ashkenazi drives home the point that without negotiation, they will always be at war. It's poignant and powerful to consider the ways in which negotiation between Israel and Palestine reverberated throughout the lives and careers of Rabin and Peres, and the history of conflict in the Middle East, which stretches back to Europe. The film never lets us forget that legacy.

'7 DAYS IN ENTEBBE'

3.5 stars

Cast: Daniel Bruhl, Rosamund Pike, Lior Ashkenazi, Eddie Marsan, Ben Schnetzer.

Directed by José Padilha.

Running time: 1 hour, 46 minutes.

Rated PG-13 for violence, some thematic material, drug use, smoking and brief strong language.

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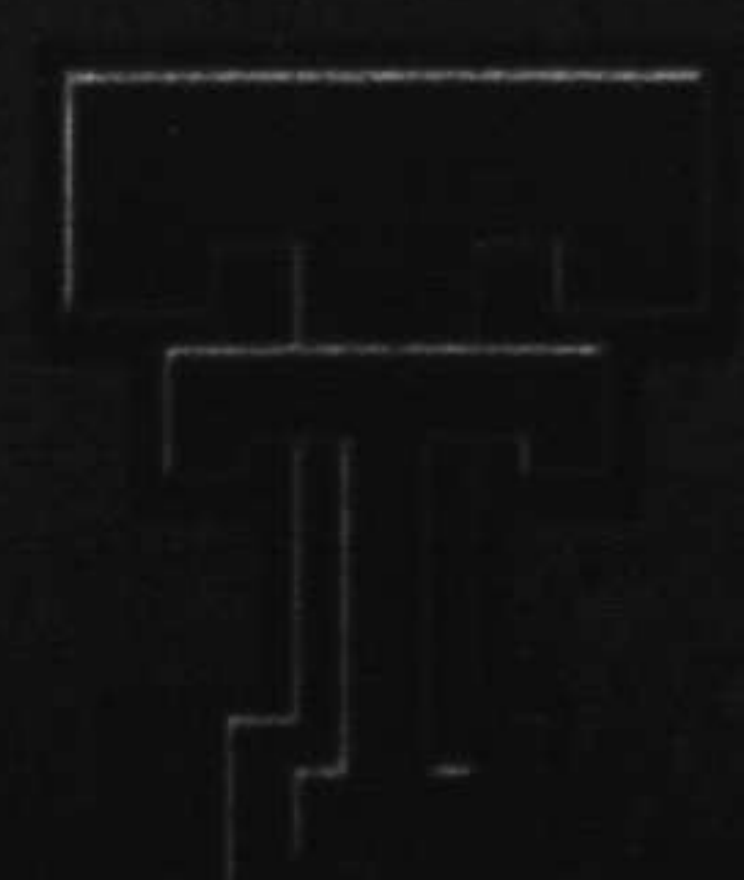


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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Thursday, March 15, 2018 | Section C

Texas season full of ups and downs on road to NCAA

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Through each game since early January, win or lose, the Texas Longhorns have insisted teammate Andrew Jones has been with them every step of the way as they fought to return to the NCAA Tournament.

When it came time to see if their name would be called on Selection Sunday, the Longhorns dialed up Jones, who is in Houston for leukemia treatments, on a video conference call. They watched and listened together.

"He called it out before we did, maybe his TV was a couple of seconds ahead," junior guard Kerwin Roach II said. "He's so excited. He wanted to come shoot baskets with

us before we leave."

Jones was the emotional core in the Longhorns' season-long struggle to get back to the tournament after missing last year. Close losses and a midseason slump had coach Shaka Smart facing some tough midseason questions about his third season at Texas. And in late February, the school benched shooting guard Eric Davis, Jr., after his name surfaced in a report that suggested he took \$1,500 from an agent representative. School officials have said there's no change on Davis' status ahead of Friday's tourney opener between the 10th-seeded Longhorns and No. 7 seed Nevada in Nashville, Tennessee.

"This has been, for us as a team, a season unlike any other," Smart

said. "A lot of twists and turns." Nothing was more wrenching than Jones' diagnosis.

Jones' father was paralyzed in a car accident when he was 7 years old — Jones was in the car but uninjured — and Jones considered turning pro after his freshman season last year. But he returned for what many expected to be a breakout sophomore season.

Jones never looked or felt himself early in the season. A fractured wrist sidelined him for several games and when he returned in late December, he complained of having little energy. He would take himself out of games and practice.

His leukemia diagnosis was

Please see TEXAS/3C



Eric Gay/Associated Press

Texas guard Andrew Jones, center, celebrates with teammates Eric Davis Jr. (10) and Kerwin Roach Jr. (12) after he hit the winning shot against Oklahoma in the second half of an NCAA game on Jan. 23, 2017 in Austin.

Svitolina serves



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Elina Svitolina, the WTA No. 4-ranked player in the world, participated in a youth tennis clinic on Wednesday at Bush Tennis Center.

Rising tennis star discusses her on court success

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Ukrainian tennis player Elina Svitolina has been on a hot streak over the last two seasons.

Svitolina, 23, posted the highest winning percentage of .791 on the 2017 WTA Tour, while winning five tour championships in Toronto, Rome, Istanbul, Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Taipei City, Taiwan.

She has carried the momentum into 2018 with two tour wins already in Brisbane, Australia and Dubai.

On Wednesday, the world's No. 4-ranked player took time out of her hectic schedule to attend a youth tennis clinic with local high school and middle school players at Bush Tennis Center.

Svitolina made a stop in the Tall City en route from this week's BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, California to next week's Miami Open in Key Biscayne, Florida.

"I'm almost home," quipped Svitolina, a native of Odessa, Ukraine.

The 5-foot-9 Svitolina sat down with the Reporter-Telegram Wednesday to discuss her burgeoning career, her pursuit of an elusive Grand Slam title and she of-

fered guidance to young tennis players.

MKT: You've been on a roll with seven wins in the last two seasons, what's going well for you right now on the tennis court?

Svitolina: I've been working really hard with my new team (coaching consultant Thierry Ascione and hitting partner Andrew Bettles), which I changed a year and a half ago. I wanted to have a new view on my game. I just wanted to have a change. I think that's what brought me success and this push. They've changed little things in my game, which has added extra confidence. Yes, I'm really happy with the way it's working out and the way I'm moving forward.

MKT: Last year you had a 15-match winning streak, were you superstitious at all during the winning streak?

Svitolina: Actually no. I didn't really notice it because all the tournaments you're playing, it's very different. You have to focus on each match and you don't really think about it. Of course, it's very nice to win lots of matches and to win the tournaments. I try to really take one match at a time.

MKT: What do you think will be the key for you to finally win a Grand

Slam?

Svitolina: It's the process. I have to work really hard to achieve this. It takes time. I'm a top five player now and I'm more consistent. Consistency is what will bring me more confidence to be playing well in Grand Slams. Hopefully, I will take it one step further and try to not rush things so much because in the Grand Slams, there's lots of pressure and lots of things crossing your mind. Yes, it's very tricky, but I have to really stay focused.

MKT: What's been your favorite moment of your career so far?

Svitolina: There has been lots of them — winning in Toronto and in Dubai last year, and then defending this year at Dubai this year as well. Entering the top 10 for the first time, it was a big deal. It was the first time (an Ukrainian woman made the top 10). Achieving No. 3 in the world also, it was the best in Ukrainian history. It's something nice each time. I have lots of good memories from the (2016 Summer) Olympics as well, beating Serena (Williams). I have lots of them. We are training every day for these kind of moments. It's amazing.

MKT: You've said your serve is your

Please see CLINIC/2C

Villanova tries to avoid another upset on opening weekend

By Dan Gelston
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Carlik Jones' phone has exploded since he hit the 3-pointer at the buzzer that sent Radford into the NCAA Tournament.

"The experience after the shot has been crazy," he said.

It should be.

The biggest win ever for the Highlanders? Sure. But the Big South Tournament champs may have topped it a week later when it went to Dayton, Ohio, and won a First Four game to advance in the bracket.

There are plenty of questions when a little-known program like Radford, out of rural southwest Virginia, makes a splash in the tourney. Like, who else have you beat? Jones noted the top win in the regular season was a 7-point win at East Carolina.

"I can't really compare Villanova to ECU," Jones said.

He's got that right.

The top-seeded Wildcats (30-4) are rolling as they open the tournament against Radford (23-12) in a first-round matchup in Pittsburgh.

Villanova opens as a 23 1/2-point favorite and had a pair of blowout wins en route to winning the Big East Tournament. Without a senior on the roster, the Wildcats have turned to their D-list junior guards — Phil Booth, Mikal Bridges and Jalen Brunson — to carry them to the top of the AP Top 25 poll, the top of the Big East, and a favorite to win it all in San Antonio.

Bridges and Brunson are likely headed to the NBA after this season and Booth led the Wildcats in scoring in the 2016 national championship game. The Wildcats know the expectation among fans and experts is Final Four or bust.

"I can definitely see it," coach Jay Wright. "I see when people talk about being out here Thursday and Saturday, you know, and we're talking about Thursday. We've got to get by Thursday. It's something that I know is around our players, also. And we have to talk to them about that, you know?" Radford's top expectation is having some fun.

The team crashed coached Mike Jones' press conference on Wednesday and yelled and laughed and bounced around at the back of the room while he tried to answer questions.

"Is this legal," Jones said, smiling. "Are you allowed to break into a press conference like this?"

The Highlanders are loose with nothing to lose — no No. 16 seed has ever beat a No. 1. Jones doesn't have

Please see NCAA/3C



Brad Peltz/Associated Press

Team coach Chris Board celebrates after finding out where the Rad Radford will play during a watch party for the NCAA Tournament on Sunday in Lakewood.

Mathieu, Maclin let go; Peppers re-signs in Carolina

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

With all those millions of dollars promised to newcomers, NFL teams have been scrambling to get their ledgers in order as the new business year begins.

While the likes of Drew Brees, Malcolm Butler and Andrew Norwell cash in bigtime, other stars either rode their deals or got released.

On Wednesday, hours before the 4 p.m. official opening of free agency, Arizona released safety Tyrann Mathieu when it couldn't rework his deal. On Tuesday, the Cardinals let run-

ning back Adrian Peterson go.

Baltimore cut receiver Jeremy Maclin. But Carolina had more success with a veteran, completing a one-year deal with defensive end Julius Peppers.

The 36-year-old Peppers, who contemplated retirement after 17 pro seasons, remains with the Panthers for \$5 million, with \$2.5 million guaranteed, a person familiar with the situation said. The person spoke to The Associated Press on Wednesday on condition of anonymity because the team does not release financial terms of contracts.

Cleveland, meanwhile, did

Please see PEPPERS/2C



Mike McClellan/Associated Press

Carolina Panthers defensive end Julius Peppers walks onto the field prior to an NFL game between the Carolina Panthers and the Green Bay Packers on Dec. 17, 2017 in Charlotte, N.C.

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E

MW

1 Virginia
Mar 16, 9:30 PM

10 UNBC

8 Creighton
Mar 16, 9:30 PM

9 Kansas St.

5 Kentucky
Mar 15, 7:10 PM

12 Davidson

4 Arizona
Mar 15, 9:40 PM

13 Buffalo

6 Miami (Fl.)
Mar 15, 2:10 PM

11 Loyola-Chi.

3 Tennessee
Mar 15, 12:40 PM

14 Wright St.

7 Nevada
Mar 16, 9:30 PM

10 Texas

2 Cincinnati
Mar 16, 2:30 PM

10 Georgia St.

1 Xavier

16 NCCTYGO

8 Missouri
Mar 16, 9:30 PM

9 Florida St.

9 Ohio St.
Mar 15, 4:30 PM

12 S. Dak. St.

4 Gonzaga
Mar 15, 1:30 PM

10 UNC-Green

8 Houston
Mar 15, 7:30 PM

11 San Diego St.

3 Michigan
Mar 15, 9:30 PM

14 Montana

7 Texas A&M
Mar 15, 12:15 PM

10 Providence

2 N. Carolina
Mar 16, 2:45 PM

10 Lipscomb

10 LIU-Brooklyn 61 91
March 15

10 Radford 71 18

11 Arizona St. 10
Mar 16, 9:10 PM

11 Syracuse 18

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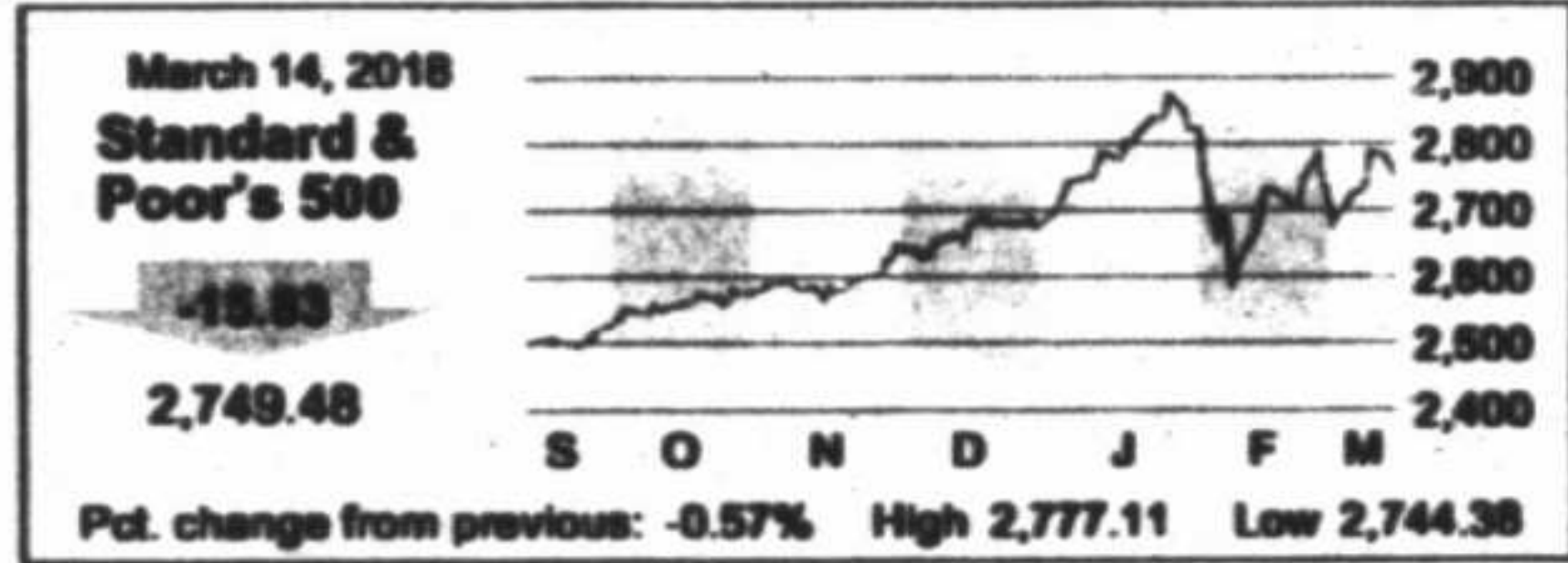
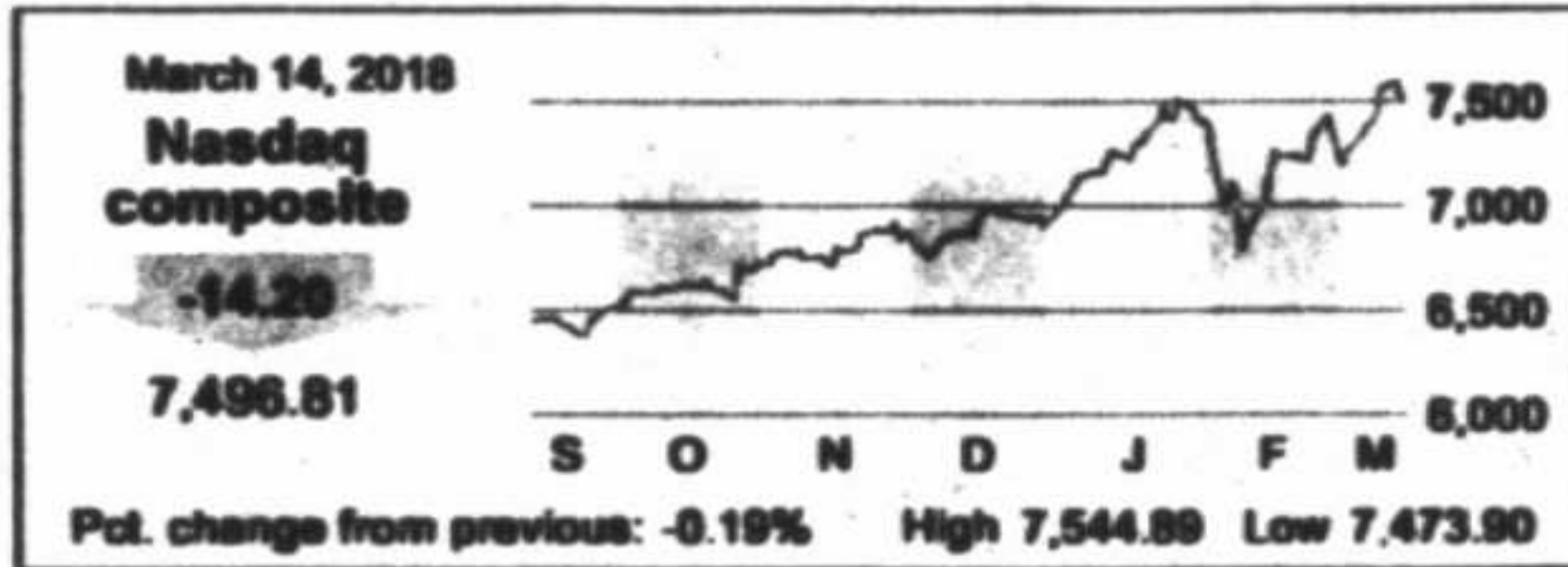
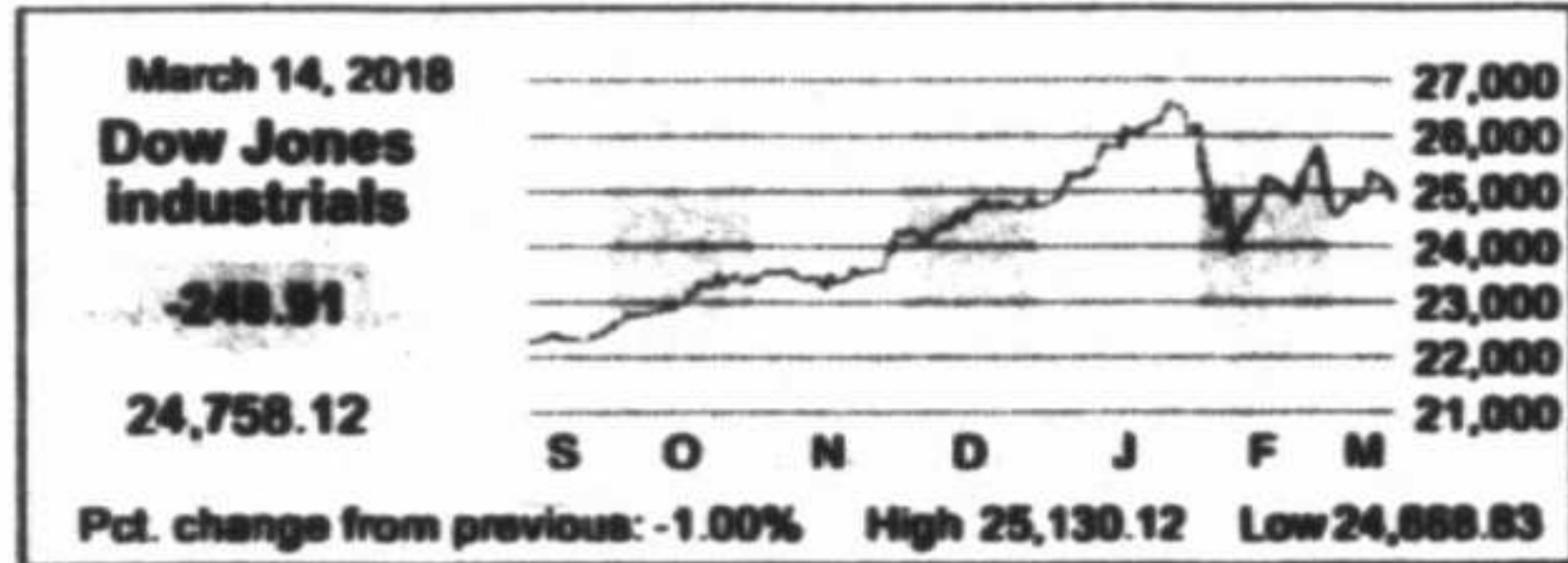
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A DAY ON WALL STREET



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FUTURES

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Previous: \$60.71

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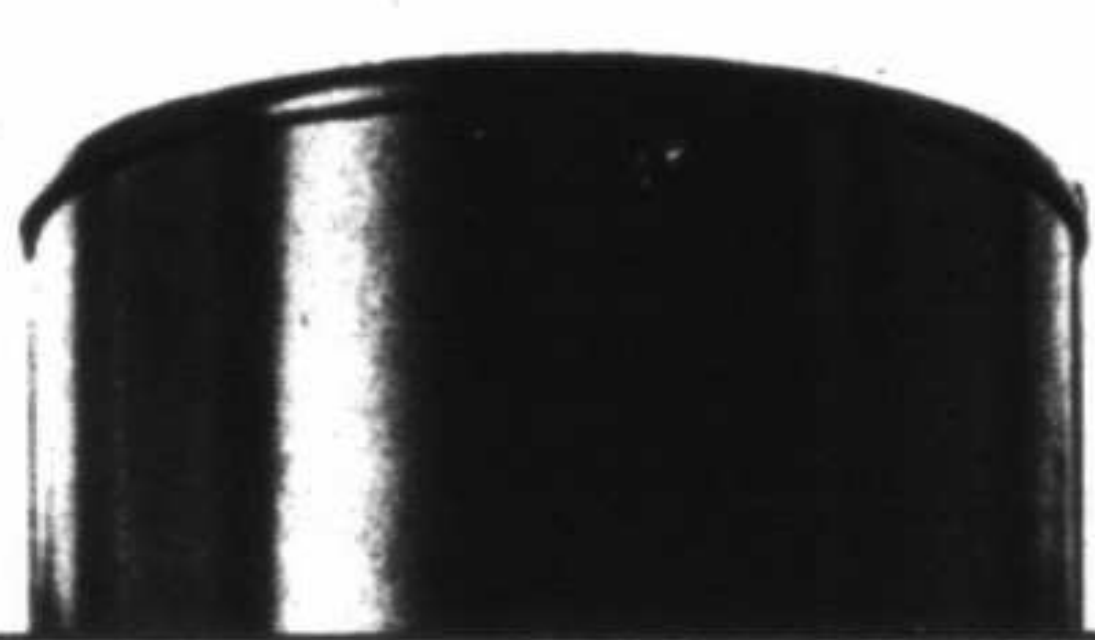
Wednesday: \$57.50
Previous: \$57.80

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Wednesday: \$53.85
Previous: \$53.35

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday: \$2.731
Previous: \$2.786



Toys R Us to close all 800 of its US stores

The Washington Post

Toy store chain Toys R Us is planning to sell or close all 800 of its U.S. stores, affecting as many as 33,000 jobs as the company winds down its operations after six decades, according to a source familiar with the matter.

The news comes six months after the retailer filed for bankruptcy. The company has struggled to pay down nearly \$8 billion in debt — much of it dating back to a 2005 leveraged buyout — and has had trouble finding a buyer. There were reports earlier this week that Toys R Us had stopped paying its suppliers, which include the country's largest toy makers. On Wednesday, the company announced it would close all 100 of its U.K. stores. In the United States, the company told employees closures would occur over time, and not all at once, according to the source, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss internal deliberations.

Toys R Us, once the country's preeminent toy retailer, has been unable to keep up with big-box and online competitors. The recent holiday season dealt another blow to the embattled company, which struggled to find its footing even as the retail industry racked up its largest gains in years. In January, Toys R Us announced it would close 182 U.S. stores, or about one-fifth of its remaining locations.

Despite turnaround efforts at Toys R Us, which included adding more hands-on "play labs," retail experts say the 60-year-old company has been unable to get customers back into its stores. It doesn't offer the low prices

or convenience of some of its larger competitors, nor the fun-filled experience that many smaller outfits do, some analysts have said.

Toys R Us, based in Wayne, New Jersey, has been struggling for years to pay down billions of dollars in debt as competitors like Amazon, Walmart and Target win over an increasingly larger piece of the toy market. Its bankruptcy filing cited \$7.9 billion in debt against \$6.6 billion in assets.

The company said it has more than 100,000 creditors, the largest of which are Bank of New York (owed \$208 million), Mattel (\$136 million) and Hasbro (\$59 million). (Jeff Bezos, the founder and chief executive of Amazon, owns The Washington Post.)

"The liquidation of Toys R Us is the unfortunate but inevitable conclusion of a retailer that lost its way," Neil Saunders, managing director of the research firm GlobalData Retail, wrote in an email. "Even during recent store closures, Toys R Us failed to create any sense of excitement. The brand lost relevance, customers and ultimately sales."

At its heyday, Toys R Us had a towering flagship store in New York's Times Square (now closed and home to Old Navy) and a ubiquitous icon, Geoffrey the Giraffe.

"We know that customers are willing to pay more for an enjoyable experience — just look at the lines at Starbucks every day — but Toys R Us has failed to give us anything special or unique," said O'Keefe, the Virginia Commonwealth University professor. "You can find more zesty for life in a Walgreens."

Massachusetts candy company may close plant, lay off workers

Associated Press

REVERE, Mass. — The Massachusetts manufacturer of such iconic candies as Necco wafers, Clark bars and those heart-shaped Sweethearts decorated with romantic sayings says it will shut down and lay off nearly 400 workers unless it finds a buyer.

Necco CEO Michael McGee wrote in a letter last week to Revere Mayor Brian Arrigo the company would close its plant in the city north of Boston if it can't find a buyer

by May 6. Negotiations with potential buyers are ongoing.

Necco, which stands for New England Confectionery Co., traces its roots to 1847 and calls itself the nation's oldest continuously operating candy company.

The company's headquarters was sold last year for \$54.5 million to developers who envisioned robotics, biotech and laboratory space at the site, with enough room to continue candy making.

Banks, industrials fall as trade tensions hit stocks again

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks sank again Wednesday as investors worried about tariffs and rising trade tensions. That hurt industrial companies, while banks slumped along with interest rates.

Stocks rose in the morning as investors looked for a rebound from the previous day's losses, but with European leaders warning about the risks of trade disputes, indexes gradually headed lower. Boeing and other industrial companies, including airlines and defense companies, took some of the worst losses.

Stocks have bounced around since President Donald Trump announced his tariff plans at the start of this month. They slumped at first, but came back after the administration said it would grant exemptions to some countries. They've slipped over the last two days as investors considered the possibility of greater trade tensions with Europe and China.

"Since the correction, investors have been a little bit more sensitive to risk," said Karyn Cavanaugh, senior market strategist at Voya Investment Strategies. "Before the correction, investors were almost bulletproof."

Metal prices

Gold slipped \$1.50 to \$1,325.00 an ounce. Silver lost 9 cents to \$16.54 an ounce. Copper rose 2 cents to \$3.16 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price \$150.21 Down 0.29

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price \$6.51 Down 0.09

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price \$125.81 Down 1.34

Legacy Resources (LGCY)
Closing Price \$3.86 Down 0.09

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price \$3.32 Down 0.08

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price \$25.35 Down 0.90

ProPetro Holdings (PUMP)
Closing Price \$17.24 Down 0.58

RSP Permian (RSP)
Closing Price \$40.26 Down 0.96

Rising Energy (REZ)
Closing Price \$14.10 Up 0.16

Viper Energy Partners (VNOB)
Closing Price \$21.93 Down 0.42

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

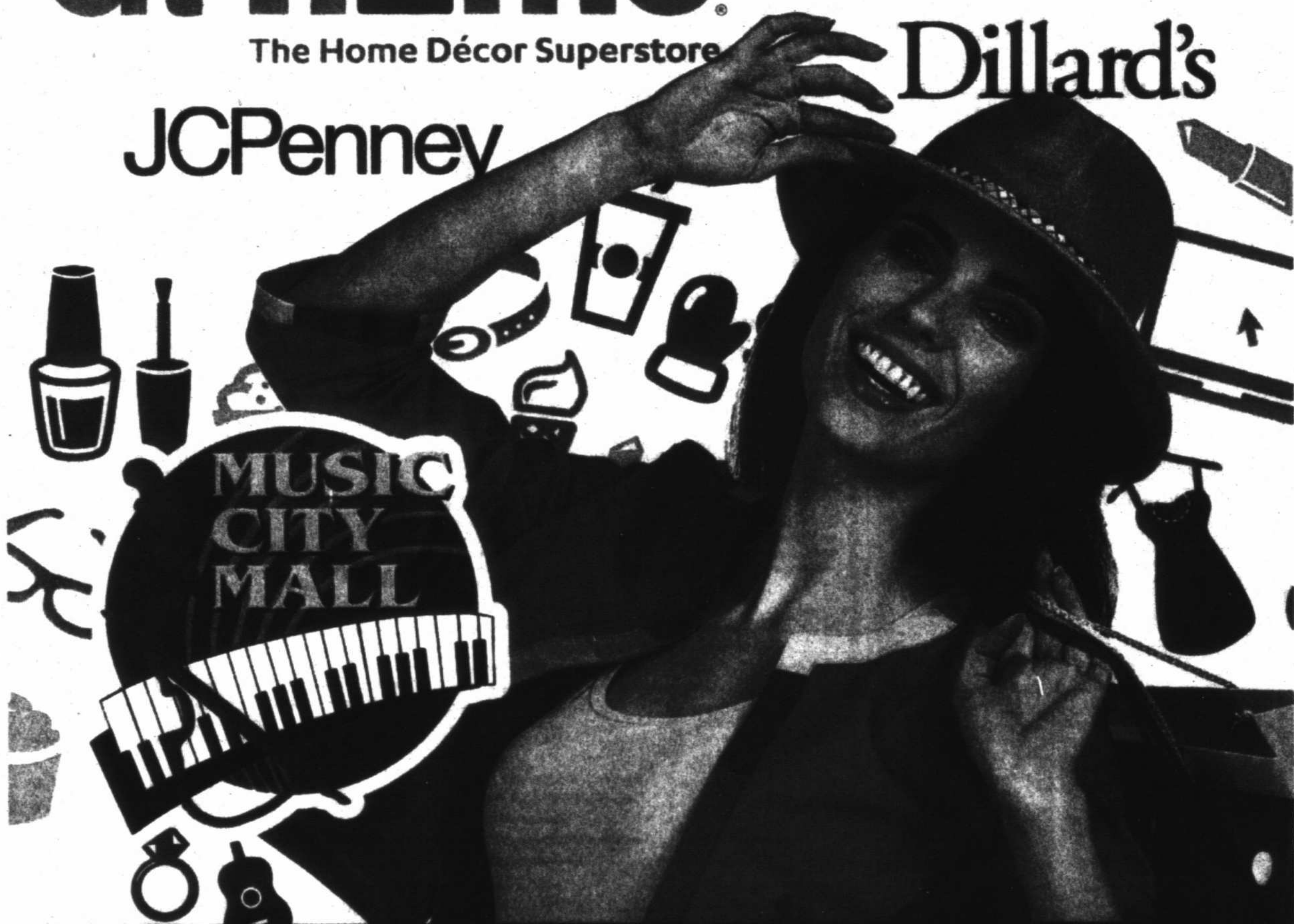
YTD						YTD						YTD						YTD						YTD					
Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	%Chg
AK Steel	—	14	4.00	-0.30	-7.5	Colgate	1.00	24	68.00	-0.20	-0.3	Wabash	4.00	17	111.00	-1.00	-0.9	RAI Fin	2.00	—	44	+0.05	+0.10	Valero	1.00	—	8.00	+0.05	+0.6
AT&T	2.00	14	37.00	-0.30	-0.8	Conoco	1.00	24	68.00	-0.20	-0.3	Wabash	4.00	17	111.00	-1.00	-0.9	RAI Fin	2.00	—	44	+0.05	+0.10	Valero	1.00	—	8.00	+0.05	+0.6
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mrt★com/jobs



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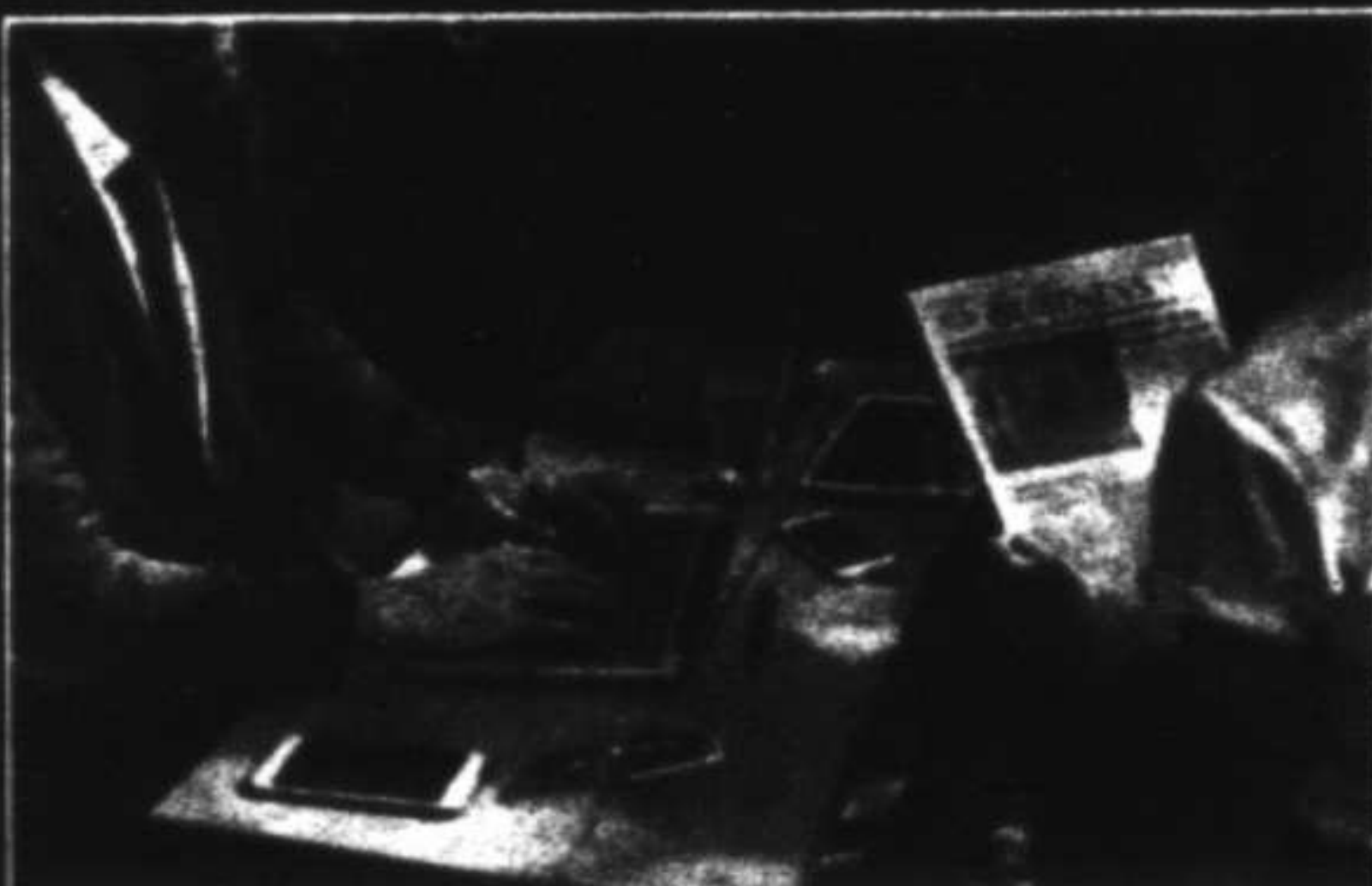
432.682.6999



432.682.6222



mrtclassifieds@mrt.com



Multi-Media Sales Executive

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking Multi-Media Sales Executives just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, a relentless hunter, driving to win new business, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

Multi-Media Sales Executives maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships and generation of new advertising products. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-generation. In short, we help our customers grow their business.

Responsibilities include:

- Consistently meet/exceed all print and digital revenue goals.
- Understand the client's advertising needs, and develop the ideal marketing solution for them.
- Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demo.
- Generating new leads by making cold calls and maintaining an awareness of new businesses opening in the area.
- Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience.

The Ideal Candidate:

- You're self-motivated and results oriented.
- You have an outgoing, resilient personality.
- You enjoy the thrill of the hunt by bringing in new business.
- You're confident and not willing to accept average.

Required Skills & Experience:

- 2+ years of sales experience with a proven record of successfully exceeding goals.
 - Proven to educate clients in their marketing options and close deals.
 - Exceptional communication and presentation skills.
 - Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus.
 - Bachelor's degree preferred.
- What's in it for you?
- Full training.
 - Competitive Base Salary & Commission.
 - Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage.
 - Flex spending account.
 - Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance.
 - 401K with company match.
 - Paid time off & more!

Email your resume to David.Robbins@hearstap.com or mail to David Robbins, 201 E. Illinois Ave, Midland, TX 79701

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

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 6pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person.
\$11.00 per hour

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

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk - Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jason@hearstap.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE



Instructor-Transportation Trainer

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

Required Qualifications:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Must possess a valid Texas Class "A" Commercial Driver License, good driving record, and be insurable on Midland College's insurance policy
- Three years' experience driving "over the road" (OTR) or local
- Experience in pre-employment inspections, coupling and uncoupling of equipment
- Computer literacy
- Knowledge of rules and regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
- Knowledge of OSHA safety procedures and how to teach it as required by TWCPS
- Knowledge of air brake testing procedures and be able to teach it as required by TWCPS
- Knowledge of Hours of Service Regulations and be able to log and teach log book entries as well as log book rules
- Ability to manage multiple tasks while providing close attention to detail
- Ability to work in cooperation with others and work in flexible schedule
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Must maintain a high level of moral integrity, ethics, credibility, and must frequent classes
- Establish goals and maintain a high level of devotion making
- Adaptable to a constantly changing environment
- Ability to move or lift more up to 75 pounds, capable of climbing stairs, balancing, stooping, and repetitive lifting
- Must successfully pass a DOT physical and DOT drug test

Gas Measurement/Communications Technician
HELP WANTED - GAS MEASUREMENT/COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN. Duties include installation, calibration, maintenance, troubleshooting and repair of electronic meters, gas sampling systems and radio communications systems. Excellent record keeping, communication and computer skills necessary. Salary DOE. Competitive wages and benefits. Mail resume to: Measurement Technician Position, 2073 FM 620, Station, TX or Fax to: 432-682-6222 or email to: wmc@hearstap.com

Warehouse Clerk
General Warehouse Clerk, inventory, shipping and receiving. Forklift, Microsoft Word, Computer skills, Office equipment knowledge helpful. Send resume to: klemm@hearstap.com

Inventory Control Manager

Manager at our Odessa Facility. This position will maintain receiving, warehousing, and distribution operations by initiating, coordinating, and enforcing program, operational and personnel policies and procedures. You will control inventory levels by conducting physical counts; reconciling with data storage system. You will also have responsibilities to maintain warehouse staff by recruiting, selecting, orienting, and training. Duties also included completing warehouse operational requirements by scheduling and assigning of employees; following up on work results. 5 years of official warehouse experience and management experience preferred. Our employees enjoy a great work environment with excellent benefits. Pay is dependent on experience. If this career opportunity sounds like the right fit for you please send your resume to employment@mgsl.com or you can apply in person at 12301 W CR 125, Odessa, TX 79705.



NOW HIRING

Associate Traffic Engineer

Job Duties:

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

Benefits:

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

apply online at www.mrtclassifieds.com/jobs

CDL Drivers Needed

Come join our family Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving We want your work experience and your hard work! NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

- Water truck drivers
- Daily Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience. Valid Texas Class A CDL, references for water truck driver.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. After 1 year of service Paid vacation and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Grandview Odessa, Texas 79701

OUT OF CITY DELIVERY DRIVERS/MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

- Must have a clean, valid license & acceptable driving history
- Late night/early morning hours
- Clay all traffic laws
- Strong commitment to safety is a must
- Professional communication with management, co-workers and customers
- Ability to lift, push or pull up to 50 lbs
- Must be able to reach, bend, sit as needed
- Must be able to work independently & in a team environment
- Ability to read, understand & follow oral and written instructions
- Perform other duties as delegated or assigned by Supervisor
- Required education: High School or equivalent

This is a full time position that offers paid vacation and full package of benefits.

Please mail resume to P-410 via Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701

Let Classifieds Work for
You! Call

432-682-6222

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

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 6am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 9 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person.
\$11.00 per hour

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

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NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE



Field Service Mechanics

Come join our family Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving We want your work experience and your hard work! NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

Field Service Mechanics

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience. Must have own tools. Valid Texas Drivers License. Pay will depend on work experience, 80 plus work week.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Grandview Odessa, Texas 79701

Multi-Media Sales Executive

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking Multi-Media Sales Executives just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

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Responsibilities include:

- Consistently meet/exceed all print and digital revenue goals.
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- You're confident and not willing to accept average.

Required Skills & Experience:

- 2+ years of sales experience with a proven record of successfully exceeding goals.
- Proven to educate clients in their marketing options and close deals.
- Exceptional communication and presentation skills.
- Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus.
- Bachelor's degree preferred.

What's in it for you?

- Full training.
- Competitive Base Salary & Commission.
- Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage.
- Flex spending account.
- Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance.
- 401K with company match.
- Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstap.com No Phone Calls Please

Classifieds

Can!

Call

432-682-6222



DOT Driver II

JOB DESCRIPTION: Job responsibilities include local (within Midland City and County) transportation by truck for Endeavor Energy completions or production crews. Cargo transport varies depending on driver's licensing.

Essential Functions:

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

Minimum Requirements:

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

Supervisory Responsibilities:

No supervisory responsibilities are associated with this position.

Work Environment:

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

Physical Demands:

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

Position type and expected hours of work:

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

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



Now hiring for a Field Technician.

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

Job Duties:

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

Minimum Qualifications:

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

Work Environment:

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

Physical Demands:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift/carry/push/pull/move/drag up to 60 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:

This is a full-time position.

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

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICE**Restaurant Positions**

Osoaka Japanese Steakhouse FT
Would you like to make \$15 to \$20 an hour, depending on position?
Now Hiring Hibachi Chef, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders,
Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Come apply in person: 11am-2pm at
1287 Tradeville Blvd. 79706 or online at: www.mj-osaka.com

Insurance Sales Professional

Regional Independent Insurance firm looking for sales professional to initiate change and promote alternatives. Must be able to set appointments, work independently, develop own leads, network and manage your own sales pipeline. Dependable, honest and career minded. Prefer successful track record in sales with active P&C license. Please send resume to: jim@insurexpress.com

Manager & Cashiers

Smother's Chicken BIRTHING BONUS for MANAGER TRAINER & CASHIERS
Full-time & Part-time position must have own transportation
Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5
5000 E University, Ste 11, Odessa, TX

Accounting Clerk

Accounting Clerk must have experience with Microsoft Office/QuickBooks and a good understanding of Accounting. Pay based on experience. Benefits Pkg. Send resume to: Production Lit Cos.
P. O. Box 9423, Midland, TX. 79708 or resumes@productionlit.com

**Systems Administrator**

Perform network and system support functions on segments of the computer environment, including planned and emergency maintenance; performance and security analysis; and monitoring, testing, and implementing new products and procedures. Analyze emerging technology and make recommendations for constant improvements to network and infrastructure services and capabilities.

Job Duties:

- Design and coordinate segments of the IT architecture
- Manage server applications, including but not limited to email, Active Directory, operating systems, and email
- Provision and maintain IT devices, architecture, and specifications documentation, as identified
- Monitor information storage systems, schedules, and tools, including backup and recovery tools, as identified
- Provide research, development, and planning of the IT infrastructure
- Is responsible for the validating, building, and testing IT solutions; analyzing IT infrastructure technical issues; and supporting the design, planning, building, and testing of new IT solutions, as assigned
- Perform related duties as assigned
- Subject to recall 24/7

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science plus two years of experience in a related field is required
- Four years experience may be substituted for the Bachelor's degree requirement
- Valid Texas Driver's License

Benefits:

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

Apply online at www.midlandnowhiring.com/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

**Now Hiring****Transportation Truck Driver**

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Bulk Dump Trucks and hauling materials to drill sites, including crews, etc. Must waterhauled from well locations to proper disposal facilities.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required
- Valid Class A CDL, with Tanker endorsement
- Clean driving record
- Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience

Benefits:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings

**Now Hiring**

Diagnose, repair and maintain city trucks and heavy equipment.

Job Duties:

- Diagnose equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, suspension control, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimate costs and submit to specifications
- Determine the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tire and mufflers
- Inspect vehicles for state visitors
- Determine readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Install special equipment
- Employees must provide own hand tools. City supplies major equipment including power tools, computerized analyzer, and other diagnostic equipment
- Route blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs
- Perform emergency repairs for various departments
- Maintain records of work performed such as work orders, logs, Material Information, and special written requests

Qualifications:

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

Benefits:

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

Apply online at www.midlandnowhiring.com/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

**Now Hiring****Instrumentation & Electrical Technician**

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well services equipment. Home slightly.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent
- 6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment
- Valid operator's license with clean driving record

Compensation Benefits package:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings

**Now Hiring****Local Drivers**

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts Sun-4pm (1407 national) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent
- Valid operator's license
- Clean driving record
- DOT compliant

Compensation Benefits package:

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

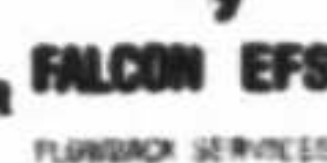
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SKILLED LABOR

FALCON FLOWBACK SERVICES is looking to hire several local, hard working **RIG-UP & SHOP HANDS** as well as an **EXPERIENCED FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER** for our operations based out of Midland, TX. To apply and learn more about this opportunity, please visit www.falconflowback.com

**TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS****CDL DRIVERS**

As a rapidly growing concrete manufacturing company, Ingram Concrete is currently seeking **CDL DRIVERS** for our Midland facility. Excellent benefits with pay rates and compensation based on driving experience. Paid weekly and home day/weekends. Guaranteed hours year round and bonus potential. New pay rates. Come be a part of our family style atmosphere.

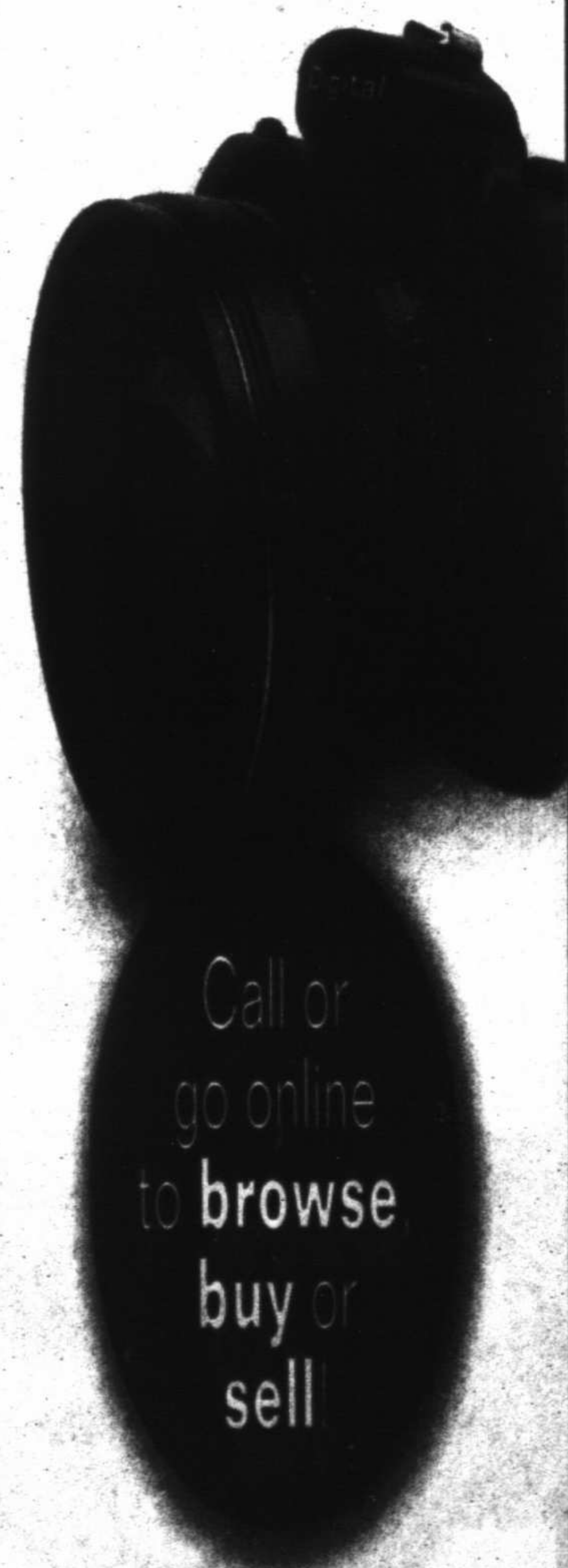
Please apply at 2808 N. FM 1786 in Midland or call (432) 561-8922 for additional information.

Ingram Concrete is an EOE: M/F/D/V

**Delivery Driver**

Wanted: **DELIVERY DRIVER** for local oilfield chemical service company. Good pay, good benefits. Requirements: • High School Diploma or GED • CDL • Must be willing to acquire or currently possess: Hazmat endorsement, Tanker endorsement. Call Tim (409) 388-4101

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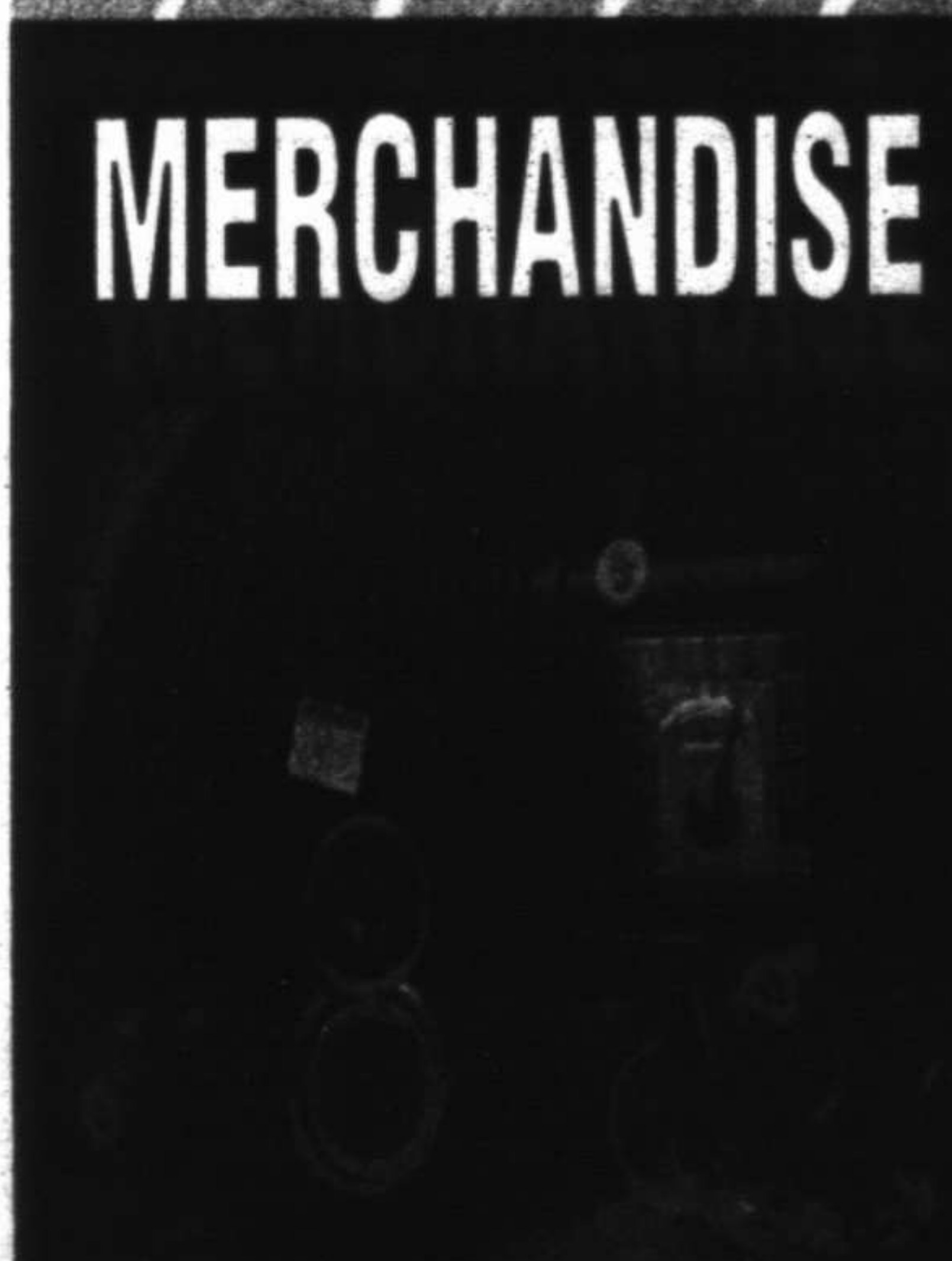
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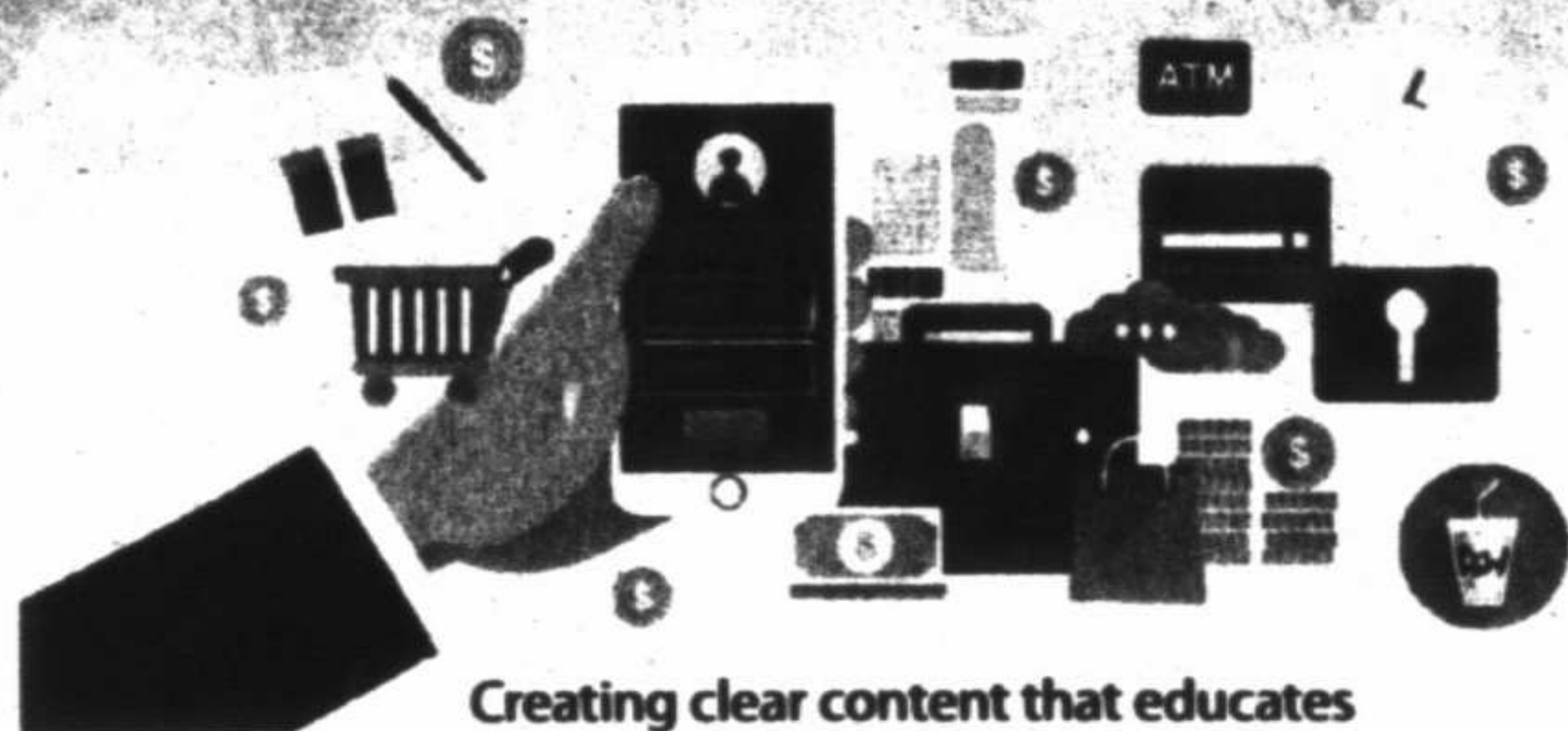
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Pygmy Marmoset: The World's Smallest Monkey



It lives high in the branches of trees in the rainforests of South America. The pygmy marmoset is very hard to see, both because of its size and because of its coloring. Its fur is darker on the top and lighter on the lower parts of its body. If a bird of prey is looking from above, its dark fur blends with the shadows. A predator hunting from below would look up and see a golden glow of sunlight, that is really pygmy marmoset fur!

How small is the Pygmy marmoset?

If you search for pictures of a pygmy marmoset, you will see a lot of pictures of this tiny fellow hanging on to a person's finger! This has led it to be nicknamed the finger monkey.

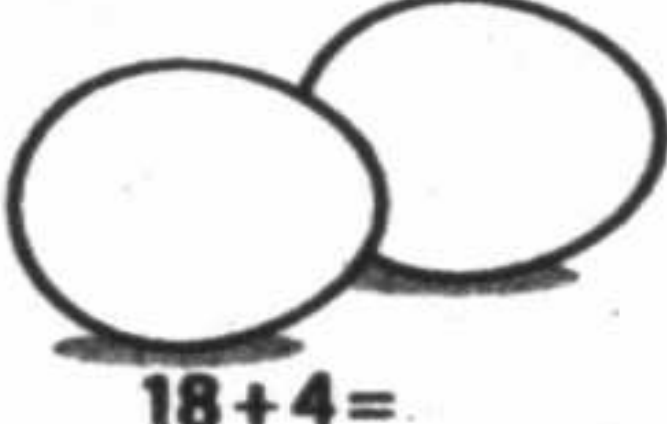
Its body is about 6 inches (15cm) long and its tail adds another 7 to 8 inches (20cm) to its length. It weighs about 3.5 ounces (100cm).

Monkey Math

Add up the numbers under each item. If the sum is an even number, that's true. If it's an odd number, that's false.

1. Pygmy marmosets weigh about the same as:

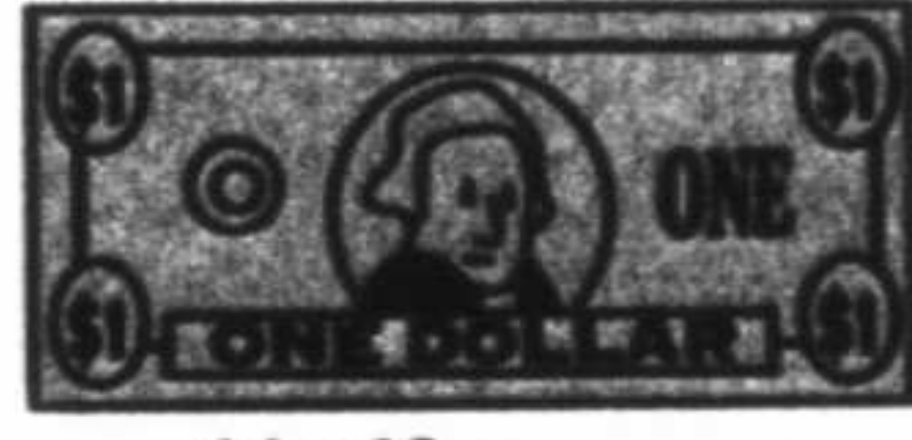
two chicken eggs.



$$18 + 4 =$$

2. Pygmy marmosets are about the same length as:

a dollar bill.



$$14 + 10 =$$

A Troop of Marmosets

Pygmy marmosets live in family groups, called troops. These usually have about five members, but some have as many as nine. Living in a troop means there are more eyes to spot predators, and everyone helps take care of the little ones. For added safety, the troop spends the night among thick vines or in a tree hole.

Replace the missing words.

Pygmy marmosets will _____ a little hole in the bark of a _____ with their sharp lower teeth. They _____ up the sap that _____ up. One marmoset can make up to 1,300 holes in a tree! Bark grows over the hole and a small _____ develops on the tree.

OOZES CHEN TREE DUMP LAP

Help this little marmoset find its mommy.



Extra! Extra! Rhyming Pairs

Look through the newspaper for words that rhyme such as "grow" and "troop." Can you find five or more rhyming pairs?

Standard Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate rhyming words.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

A little bug with that sap?

Sometimes the tiny marmosets lie in wait for insects, especially butterflies, which feed at the sap holes in trees. Then they capture a side order of bug!



Find the two identical butterflies.

Standard Link: Observation: Find the differences between common objects.

Kid Scoop Word Search

RAINFOREST
MARMOSET
PREDATORS
MONKEY
ROTATE
SAFETY
PYGMY
BLENDS
FINGER
OOZES
LUMPY
VINES
SPOT
TREE
SAP

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

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

Standard Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skills and word reading. Pencil spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Marmoset Meals

Look at the advertisement for restaurants in the newspaper. Then make an advertisement for a rainforest tree to attract a troop of marmosets to come and eat.

Standard Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



Weekly Writing Corner

All that glitters ...

Students finish the sentence with a story.

All that glitter is emeralds in the bay. The emeralds are pink, green and blue. They were pretty and everyone loved them. There was a tradition in the town that people would throw emeralds in the bay on June 7, Queen Malia's day. That is why the water in the bay glistens on a sunny day.

Malia,
3rd grade

All that glitter was a pearl deep underwater. The pearl glistened. However, there was one bad thing. It was guarded by sharks. One day, someone wanted it so badly that he dove in to get it. He fought the sharks and got the pearl. He was very lucky.

Johanna,
3rd grade

All that glitters are my dog's eyes, my mom's nails, my dad's wedding ring and all my brother's football trophies. These things might not glitter to you, but they glitter to me.

Victoria,
5th grade

All that glitters are my diamond earrings. They shine in the sunlight and sparkle in the evening. They are the most beautiful things that I have ever seen. They will be precious all my life.

Lily,
5th grade

All that glitter is not real gold or silver. Glitter is just little flakes that you sprinkle on glue. Many things have glitter like clothes. Sometimes people sprinkle glitter on their face, but they should not. They should just show their natural beauty. Glitter doesn't need to go on faces because everyone is beautiful in their own way.

Alexa,
5th grade

All that glitters are the stars that shine and twinkle like they are winking at you. They wink to show that they are watching, always watching over you as you sleep, wishing you "sweet dreams." Even when they disappear at dawn, they are always there, winking, shining, and glittering in the dark.

Mia,
6th grade

All that glitters are the stars in the night sky. The stars began to glitter long ago when a powerful wizard shot white glitter up in the night sky. But for some strange reason, the glitter couldn't get on the planets. He tried again but to no avail and that is why the stars glisten.

Will,
6th grade

Write On!

Elephant Jokes

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