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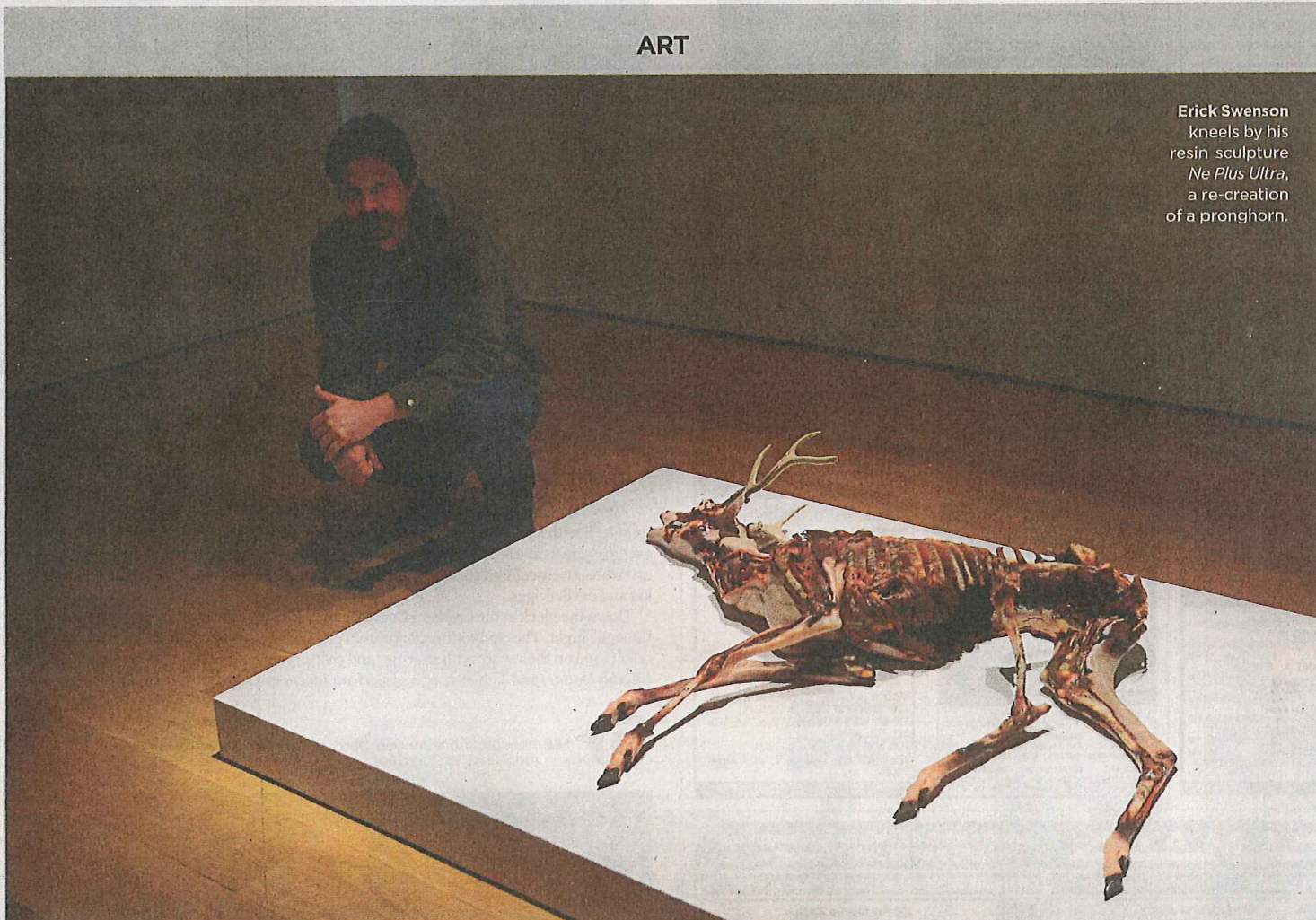
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ART

Erick Swenson
kneels by his
resin sculpture
Ne Plus Ultra,
a re-creation
of a pronghorn.



By **MICHAEL GRANBERRY**
Staff Writer
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Erick Swenson grew up a military kid, the son of an Army man *and* woman (his mom rose to the rank of captain). He was born in Phoenixville, Pa., "but I couldn't tell you anything about it," he says. Home became Maryland, Georgia, Colorado, even South Korea.

Finally, his family settled in dusty El Paso, where he graduated from high school, not exactly embracing conventional paths of learning. He ended up at the University of North Texas, where he graduated with an art degree and found like-minded souls in the school's Good/Bad Art Collective.

At 39, Swenson is a master of the small-scale sculpture, as evidenced by his three-piece "Sightings" on view at

the Nasher Sculpture Center through July 8. His are time-consuming works, most of which take a year to complete.

He turns to a piece called *Scuttle* and says, "It's a nautical term for sinking your own ship, so that others can't have it. It's a gastropod, wrapping around its own shell, destroying its own shell, while still inside of it. So

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SCAVENGING *for* LIFE'S MEANING

G.J. McCarthy/Staff Photographer