Pipe bomb surprise

Border Patrol Agents made a routine mari-
juna seizure at the traffic checkpoint on Hwy 62/180 east of El Paso and got a nasty surprise in the bargain — a pipe bomb in a gym bag hidden in a late model pickup. The seizure of about 31 pounds of mari-
juna occurred on Sunday as agents ques-
tioned the two female occupants of the ve-
icle. It turned out both are U.S. citizens from Kansas City, Missouri, but they dis-
played "unusual mannerisms" during their conversation with agents, prompting a non-intrusive canine search. The mari-
juna was found in a spare tire, prompt-
ning further search which turned up the PVC plastic pipe bomb. The Border Pa-
rol agents turned the device over to the El Paso Police Department Bomb Disposal Unit which detonated the device. The two women were arrested and turned over to the Hudspeth County Sheriff's Office along with the marijuana. One was found to have a criminal record for felony ve-
icle theft.

Labor Day crackdown

The Horizon City Police Department will join about 1,700 other law enforcement agencies in a crackdown on driving off-
fenses that can contribute to crashes on Interstate 10 and their feeder routes, ac-

s the Horizon Police Chief Tony Aguilar. The multi-state law enforcement ele-

nt "Operation Blue TALON 4: Crash Crackdown," will begin at 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30 through midnight Monday, Sept. 2. Officers will be closely watching traf-
ic for speeding, ignoring traffic laws and signals, failure to use seat belts and child safety seats, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and aggressive drive-
ing. Aguilar said that special emphasis will be placed on picking up trucks as a dispro-
portionate number of traffic deaths occur in pick up trucks due to low seat belt us-
age by their occupants, and greater tendency to rollercoaster.

In other news

• If you're coming from the East County on Interstate 10, plan to slow down and move over. There is currently a westbound left lane closure on I-10 from Zaragosa Rd. to Lomaland Dr. This closure will last approximately three months and is neces-
sary to construct the Le Trevino Turn-

rounds.

• Anthony High School hopes to begin a long-lasting tradition this year by hon-

ing an Outstanding Ex-Student Sept. 27 during homecoming. Nominations must have graduated prior to 1995, have excelled in career and community service, and have been active while attending Anthony ISD.

Nomination forms and information are available at AHS, or by contacting Patsy Leos at 386-6554.

• Clint High School is looking for an outstanding Ex to honor during home-

coming activities. Qualifications include: graduated before 1992, made contributions

See BRIEFS, Page 4

A road sign in Texas: “Drive like hell, and you’ll get there.” — Quips and Quotes

Horizon City faces challenges as taxes go up, lands run out

HORIZON CITY — The future of Horizon City, once considered a shining city on the hills of East El Paso County, may be facing a more bleak future as land available for commercial development runs out and the tax burden on property owners increases.

The town is considering changing its five-
year-old home-rule Charter in November. Nov. 12 was previously designated as the date to hold an election of Charter Commission members to rewrite the document, with an eye to creating the position of city manager not al-

lowable under the present Charter.

Mayor Pat Randlee spearheaded the ap-

pointment of an advisory committee to review

the existing Charter, seeking changes in the method by which the town selects its chief of

police and municipal court judge.

In February of this year, the committee re-
turned its recommendation — to completely

overhaul the existing Charter.

The town is also considering expansion of the current town hall, left, on a lease-

purchase agreement from the Church of the Incarnation, an Episcopal Church, which still occupies a part of the annex, seen background, right. Horizon is now consid-

ering purchase of the rest of the annex for administrative office expansion.
WE'RE PLANNING A SURPRISE ATTACK... BUT IT WON'T HAPPEN BEFORE THE FALL ELECTIONS... AND WE'LL NEED APPROVAL FROM CONGRESS AND...

What would you die for?

By Francy Shrum

The first anniversary of Sept. 11 is swiftly approaching. People are talking about how we have changed as a nation. Maybe we should talk about how we haven't changed.

I've heard it said that the power of an idea is the most dangerous force on earth. I don't agree. I think the lack thereof is far more frightening — and I am frightened.

I'm not talking about the invention of new electronic gadgets, building a better pipe-bomb, or formulating a sure-fire process to clone ourselves. I am talking about a national commitment to raise children who understand what is important in life and who are ready and willing to live and die by a set of behavioral standards that go far wider than the next high-stakes paycheck.

We are not doing that.

From mom and dad to the homeroom teacher, from our employer to the hottest sports icon, the role models of today are shaping a whole generation of young people who have nothing in their lives noble enough for which they would give their lives.

That's because we, the average adult of this nation, in our own personal lives probably don't either.

In spite of all the rhetoric about the heart of America, we are still failing to communicate to our young people, who are not much different from our students, that we do not compromise so long as "you feel good about it.

We are scared to death of opinionated children. In a society that claims tolerance of others as the epitome of social achievement, we have a really odd way of practicing it.

When David Horowitz tried to have his essay against reparations for the descendants of slaves published and debated on American college campuses he was booted off the stage and his arguments dismissed by the "powers that be.

Agree or disagree with him as you will, Horowitz proved that providing young people with an honest opportunity to make up their own minds still does not exist.

While the reaction against Horowitz was loud and obvious, we smother, in far more subtle ways, everyday opportunities for young people to expand as individuals. We asphyxiate "odd" behavior by penalizing the practitioner with bad grades, isolation or firing. Still a virgin? Good. Still a virgin? Good. You have differences in religious beliefs? You must belong to a cult. Refuse to give test answers to your classmates? What selfish behavior is that? — where's your sense of teamwork?

Question why your kid still doesn't know how to read or why there is no bottom-line authority on the playground? Resistance is futile.

Question why you don't have as much stuff as your neighbor does — though you didn't work nearly as much stuff as your neighbor does — and you'll probably be invited as a guest on prime-time talk TV.

There was a time when our families — wife, husband and offspring — were worth dying for, and many did. Our society now teaches us that the only thing that matters is self-gratification — which anyone who has tried that in a family setting knows is practically impossible. Our divorce laws and "divorce as a badge of honor" attitude make it so easy to get out of this "restrictive" situation that instead of fighting to keep our families together there is practically a daily rush to divorce court to give our families away.

Little wonder that many intelligent and idealistic young people get sucked into extremism and violent behavior. They are looking for something to believe in. They have found something to believe in. They have found little in our society that challenges the part of them that cries out for something bigger and more important than our petty individual concerns.

Worse yet, if they find something that does challenge them to grow in character, nine times out of 10 they'll be told by someone of influence they are naive or unrealistic for pursuing it.

Sept. 11 brought our national sense of mortality but that has mostly faded behind the din of arguments over what we'll build at Ground Zero, disappointment over the misuse of millions in heart-felt donations, and the frenzied preparation to spend millions more to commemorate the one-year anniversary.

Too bad that all the national rhetoric about things worth dying for hasn't translated into a better way for us to live.

Canutillo ISD promotes healthy breakfasts

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — "Don't forget breakfast!" encourage parents to help their children make the grade this year by taking advantage of the nutritious breakfast meals served at all six Canutillo Independent School District campus cafeterias," said Adele Balesh, Canutillo ISD Food Services director.

A healthy choice-filled breakfast can help beat back-to-school stress, asserted Balesh. Canutillo ISD school cafeterias offer free breakfast and lunch meals to all students and low-cost a la carte items for adult customers.

"As early as 7 a.m. students, parents and District employees can choose between fruit or juice, hot or cold cereal, an entrée, and plain or flavored milk," said Balesh.

According to Balesh, studies show that a breakfast of protein, carbohydrate, drates, and vitamin C promote physical and emotional endurance and better school-related task performances well into late morning.

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Well, it’s that time of year again — our kids are heading back to school. It’s a time for new beginnings, a new school year, new grade levels, new teachers and new classrooms. Fresh from the long summer break, students all over Texas are trotting off to school once again to begin a new year of homework, studying and tests.

As we buy new school clothes, notepads and pens for our children, we are also pondering the quality of education our kids are getting. It used to be that all you needed for school was a Big Chief tablet and a number two pencil. Today computers are the norm. The way children are educated has changed drastically over the past few decades. But with help from President Bush, our children’s education is looking better every day.

Just last year, Congress passed the president’s education plan. We’re already seeing improvements in the school system. The “No Child Left Behind Act” is changing the education of our children. By cutting the bureaucratic red tape, we’re putting our nation’s education system in the hands of educators, not political leaders in Washington, D.C.

Our new approach cuts down on federal requirements and gives schools more of the flexibility they need and deserve. First things first, we’re making it possible for schools to reduce class size by hiring more teachers. This is simple math. The smaller the classroom, the more attention students receive and the better they do in school. And we’re not just hiring more teachers, we’re also giving schools the freedom to provide more training for teachers. The more knowledge our teachers possess, the more our children will receive.

The No Child Left Behind Act promotes early reading skills and increases the focus on math and science education. Funds are allocated for better math and science programs. We’re also encouraging schools to make their programs more rigorous to help children reach higher education goals. The new plan includes a performance-based grant program. This program supplies more funding to schools to increase literacy in technology. In other words: schools that need the most help will get the most help.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this legislation is that we’re putting discretion in the hands of the schools. We’re giving the schools the power to make decisions on how to spend federal funding. They can choose to spend more on development or they can make reducing class size a priority. Schools will make the decisions, not bureaucrats.

In the spirit of the season, of a new school year and of new beginnings, I’m proud that our education initiatives are beginning the process of removing Washington from the education equation. Local control of education will provide our students with the best education possible. Class dismissed.
Public Notice
Fabens Independent School District
PUBLIC NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Fabens Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, services or employment.

The Fabens Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Assistant Superintendent Charles Hopp, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 764-2025. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

NOTIFICACION PUBLICA

Es la norma de conducta del distrito escolar de Fabens prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Fabens está comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Discapacidades.

Para información toca a sus derechos comuniquese con Asistente Superintendent Charles Hopp, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 764-2025. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

NOTIFICACION PUBLICA

SECRETARIA EDUCATIVA PARA ESTUDIANTES INCAPACITADOS

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens provee servicios educacionales para incapacitados desde la edad de tres años hasta el veintidós, con la habilidad para vivir y socializar. Los servicios educacionales para incapacitados incluye educación pre-vocacional, vocacional, continua, destrezas fundamentales, para vivir y socializar.

En conformidad con los Derechos Educativos de la Familia y el Acto Próvido de 1974 y la Ley Public 94-142, padres y estudiantes adultos tienen el derecho de revisar los archivos educacionales de estudiantes incapacitados. Las Instituciones del Distrito, FL-E y FL-I proveen inspección de archivos de estudiantes, procedimientos de confidencialidad y quejas. Si los padres tienen preguntas, ellos pueden llamar al director de la escuela.
Lion JROTC cadets fight for ‘The Cure’

By Israel Del Toro
Special to the Courier

CLINT — The Clint High School Lion JROTC battalion is at it again. This time not fighting for trophies but to find a cure for the children of the MDAs (Muscular Dystrophy Association).

Early Saturday morning five of the Lion’s cadets met at the Big 8 food store at the corner of North Loop and Horizon Blvd. to raise money to find the cure for Muscular Dystrophy.

Selling root beer floats may have been a difficult task for other folks but for the lions it was a walk in the park. Customers looked to the root beer floats for relief from the extreme temperatures and for only a dollar the customers got just that.

Within four hours Cadets Laura Torres, Brenda Garcia, Denise Diaz, Ismael Aguayo, and Israel Del Toro sold over $100 of root beer. As they exchanged ice cream floats for cash donations Cadet Aguayo said, “Our goal today is to help the kids suffering from MD live a more comfortable life. If you think that one dollar might not change anything you may just be proven wrong when the cure for Muscular Dystrophy is found.”

On this hot West Texas day, teamwork was the key to success for these young JROTC cadets.

Fabens High School earns TEA Recognized status

Fabens — Almost half of the 35 new teachers hired by the Fabens School Board to begin the new school year were on hand Aug. 21 during the regularly scheduled meeting to get acquainted with the trustees, and hear the Texas Education Agency accountability ratings for their campuses.

Interim Superintendent Pancho Garcia said the TEA has awarded Fabens High School “Recognized” status; Fabens Middle, O’Donnell Elementary and Fabens Primary all earned “Accredited” rating; and the ALTA campus received “Needs Peer Review” status.

District Financial Officer Donna Cline reported on progress of the 2002-03 budget, reporting that a tax rate of $1.58 is being proposed — the second lowest in the County, she said.

A property hearing has been set for 5:30 p.m. Aug. 29 to consider and approve the budget and tax rate.

In other business:
• A building committee has been formed to consider options presented by Charles Hopp and Mike Goodwin, project manager, for repair on the Risinger Primary School roof, and the possible replacement of the high school gym bleachers.
• The PDAS calendar (teacher appraisal) was approved for Sept. 9, 2002 to May 6, 2003, and certified appraisers were approved.
• Charles Hopp was named Title IX Coordinator and ADA/Section 504 Coordinator.
• A resolution in support of “Insure El Paso Week” was approved in support of the TexCare and CHIP programs for children.
• A resolution of official intent to reburse costs of projects at Risinger Primary was approved, to come into affect should alternative funding be obtained.
• An interlocal agreement with Texas Association of Public School Property and Liability Fund for providing property casualty insurance for the district was approved.

The next regular meeting is Sept. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination

Fabens Independent School District Provision II Feeding Program 2002-2003

The Fabens Independent School District is pleased to announce that all children in the district will be receiving meals at no charge through the National School Lunch Program for the academic school year of 2002-2003.

Be assured that all children will receive a free lunch and a free breakfast regardless of your income or family size.

In the operation of the child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or handicap. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

City of Socorro

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on September 10, 2002 during the Planning Commission meeting at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the following proposed rezoning(s):

1. Lot 21, Block 10 Country Green Subdivision, 663 Sudan from R-1, Single Family Residential to R-2, Medium Density Residential by Rosa Ortega;
2. Lot 61, Block 1 Friedman Estates, 478 Passmore from R-1, Single Family Residential to C-1, Light Commercial by Jaime and Crescencia Jaime;
3. Lot 22, Block 23 Friedman Estates, 1150 Favila Rd. from R-1, Single Family Residential to R-2, Medium Density Residential by Rogelio and Consuela Pasillas.

TERE RODRIGUEZ
Interim City Clerk

Spanish Services

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens ofrece programas de carrera y tecnología en Economía Domestica, Educación de Negocios, y Mecánica. La admisión a estos programas se basa en el registro en la escuela de Fabens y completar los requisitos necesarios.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios, o actividades vocacionales, tales como enmendarán el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Titulo IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o impedimento en sus programas, servicios, o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.

Para más información sobre sus derechos y procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX, Charles Hopp, Asistente Superintendente, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 764-2025.
Keion’s departure indicates lack of kindred spirit for UTEP

Just before the opening day of college basketball, I had some notes about the UTEP Miners’ top prospects. And in that column I mentioned that I felt, after speaking to possible prize recruit Keion, that UTEP might actually sign this guy about 20-80 against. Also I said that I hoped I was wrong, and I was right.

Keion surprised me and a lot of other media types in town by signing with the Miners over such hoops powers as U. Conn and Oklahoma.

So when I kindred back in the spring there was something in his tone and especially in the eyes that told me he was stuck between the Franklin Mountains and a hard place. There was little doubt that he wanted to attend the University of Texas Permian Basin... or to play for Ryan Williams.

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Keion’s demographic indicates that he was interested in the UTEP Miners over the University of Texas Permian Basin. However, UTEP officials believe that Keion is a strong candidate to attend the Miners.

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Who are we: Dumb concert-goers
By Don Flood

“Won’t Get Fooled Again!”
That’s the title to one of The Who’s most famous songs.
It’s also a slogan I plan to remember the next time I decide to attend an arena-style rock concert.
It all started when I was in the car one day with my 12-year-old son in the back seat. He began singing along with a Who song — from 35 years ago!
So, a little later, in the spirit of family values and quality time — and because it gave me an excuse to see The Who — we got tickets for a concert.
Our tickets were for the lawn — no seats, nothing over your heads, just you and Mother Nature, who turned out to be in a bad mood that night.
But because we were going to be on the lawn, we got this — in retrospect — totally crazy, insane idea: We decided to bring lawn chairs!
Through a pouring, drenching rain, we carried our chairs up to the gates.
HA HA HA HA HA!, the friendly gate personnel told us, you’d have as much luck trying to bring in a bomb!
What they really said was, “You’ll have to go to Guest Services.”

Guest Services turned out to be another way of saying, “The People Who Take Things Away From People.”

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I visited a prison one time and wasn’t checked that carefully. (And yes, it was a visit and not as a place of residence.)

In the old days — not that I would ever have done this, of course — you could walk in with a quarter keg stuffed down your pants, as long as you were discreet about it.

But while I complain, I will be the first to admit that — despite the extra hassle and inconvenience — there is a certain satisfaction in knowing that these long and often annoying security procedures are doing absolutely nothing to increase your personal safety.

But I won’t be fooled again about the lawn chairs!

Maybe there’s a song there somewhere.

On this, of course — you could walk in with a quarter keg stuffed down your pants, as long as you were discreet about it.

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The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday 96°
Friday 94°
Saturday 91°
Sunday 93°
Monday 95°
Tuesday 97°
Wednesday 94°

Partly sunny days are expected over the period with mainly dry conditions. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible, mainly at night over the upcoming weekend. Rainfall amounts, if any, will be insignificant. Relative humidity will drop below 20 percent in the afternoons and rise to 50 percent at night with 6-10 hours of daily sun.

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