



NEWSBRIEFS

New Socorro council

Socorro City Council representatives, both former and those elected last Tuesday, continued a recent streak of absenteeism by not showing up for the regular council meeting on Thursday, Nov. 4 — with the exception of Mayor Irma Sanchez, who was the lone councilperson to appear. Votes from last week's election were to be canvassed this week on Nov. 9. The new mayor will be Willie Gandara Jr. who won in a three way race against Sanchez and Chuy Hernandez. Gary Gandara will remain councilman at large; Luis Varela won the district one seat; Mary Perez will represent district two; Trini Lopez district three; and Jesse Gandara Jr. district four.

Official arrested

Belen Barrio Arriaga, 43, of Chaparral, New Mexico has been charged with theft over \$20,000 but under \$100,000 by a Public Servant. She is also charged with five counts of Tampering with Government Records. Detectives allege Arriaga has altered numerous government records and it is suspected Arriaga stole more than \$88,000 from El Paso County. Her bond is \$100,000 and she remained in the El Paso County Jail as of 2 p.m. last Friday. El Paso County Sheriff's Office began investigating after receiving information from the County Auditor's office of some discrepancies in an internal review of financial records. The White Collar Crime Unit initiated the investigation in mid-October 2004 after a preliminary investigation indicated funds from several "grant files" assigned to Arriaga appeared to be missing some money. "We appreciate the cooperation and professionalism of the County Auditor and his staff. The internal review helped our Detectives in the initial stages of this investigation," said Rick Glancey, Public Information Officer, El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

Memorial fund

A memorial fund has been established at the First National Bank of Fabens for the family of Cristobal Cano, the Clint High School senior who was killed in a tragic accident on Nov. 3. Persons who would like to make a contribution, are invited to visit any branch of FNB or mail your contribution to any branch. Contributions can be made payable to the Cristobal Cano Memorial Fund account # 600100641.

In other news

■ Megan Tara Harris was crowned Miss Teen El Paso last month in a competition against about 700 other contestants. She will now travel to the National Competition in Orlando, Florida Dec. 17-22. She is a 19-year-old sophomore at El Paso Community College and she plans to

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No matter how humble you think you are, it always comes as a shock to find out some people don't like you.
— Quips & Quotes

Unique veterans award to be unveiled in Clint this weekend

CLINT — The Victory Veterans Organization in Clint will host the unveiling of two marble plaques on Saturday, Nov. 13, bearing the names of about 430 veterans from WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and all other veterans from Clint that have or are currently serving in the U.S. military.

The ceremony, to begin at 11 a.m. at the San Lorenzo Catholic Church in Clint, will feature guest speaker Robert Skov Jr., son of a WWII veteran. In attendance will be Chief of Staff from Ft. Bliss, Gen. Harry D. Boomer, and

CSM William R. White of the 31st BDE, and other dignitaries.

The plaques are to be mounted on either side of a monument built in the late 1940's by Rafael Guardado of Clint to honor the town's Catholic veterans from WWII. The additional names will complete the roster, and names will be read by descendants of the veterans, others by members of the organization and still others by volunteers.

A reception will follow the ceremony and the public is encouraged to attend.

‘Peter Pan’ helps establish healthy habits in San Eli

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — If you have visited Borrego Elementary in the San Elizario school district recently, you might have seen a greenish figure who bore a striking resemblance to Peter Pan walking — not flying — around the campus.

Portrayed by Borrego's cafeteria manager Jackie Mendoza, this Peter Pan is not flying around and living in the fantasy and make-believe world of James Barrie. Rather she is very much down-to-earth, reflecting the reality and importance of a healthier lifestyle in a fun way for the students.

"I enjoy it; we are big kids," Mendoza says. "Not every cafeteria manager would put on a Peter Pan costume."

Why Peter Pan?

Peter Pan is the name of a popular brand of peanut butter and what better way to get the kids' attention than to make healthy snacks from peanut butter, reasoned school nurse Laura Rodriguez.

In addition to peanut butter items, Mendoza offers fruits such as watermelon and grapes. "They love it; they are accustomed to it." They are so accustomed to it, that they run out of the healthy snacks."

Rodriguez has established a new front in her war against unhealthy lifestyle habits. It is the



NOT EASY BEING GREEN — Jackie Mendoza dons colors to teach kids you are what you eat.

Healthy Rams Club, a group of 60 students, at last count, who have pledged to live a more healthy life. She sees the kids educating other kids and serving as role models.

Students hit the trail, a walking trail around the school. Four times around is a mile. Twice around the school three times a week earns the child a special foot token for a chain. The girl or boy with the most tokens at the end of the

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Former law officer, Adolfo Lazcano, charged with drug trafficking

EL PASO COUNTY — The El Paso County Sheriff's officers and FBI agents made what they are calling a significant arrest last week as part of a two-month-long special investigation into area narcotics trafficking.

Rick Glancey, Public Information Officer for El Paso County Sheriff's Office, said information obtained by the EPCSO Metro Narcotics Unit indicated a former law enforcement official was allegedly involved in narcotics trafficking.

On Wednesday, Nov. 3, around 2 p.m. officers stopped Adolfo Lazcano, 34, at I-10 West and Geronimo in El Paso and charged him with possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute.

He had 12 kilos of cocaine in his possession at the time of the arrest, Glancey said, estimating the street value of the narcotics at \$168,000.

Lazcano is being held without bond in the El Paso County Jail.

"Our Metro Narcotics Detectives worked very hard on this case. We really appreciate the assistance of the FBI. This partnership (between EPCSO the FBI) proves very rewarding when you can take someone off the street who abuses his law enforcement training," said Glancey.

"This individual violated a sacred trust and attempted to use his previous law enforcement experience to further his illegal operation. This arrest just scratched the surface of our joint investigation," said Captain Tony Morales of the El Paso County Sheriffs Office.

Lazcano was previously employed by the Socorro Police Department in Socorro — his last date of hire there was Dec. 26, 2003. Sources said Lazcano had also previously worked for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

County to open long awaited animal shelter

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso's homeless pet population will have new digs after the grand opening of the city and county's new Animal Shelter next week.

The 30,000 square-foot Southwest-style building will be officially inaugurated and placed into service at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 18 at 5001 Fred Wilson Road. Tours will be provided of the open, well-lighted structure that includes spacious holding areas, examination rooms, a surgical suite, classrooms and adoption spaces.

Jim Kluetz, the shelter's advisory board chairman, described the new shelter as offering state-

The public, too, has to commit to the proper care of their pets.

of-the-art facilities to control the animal population in the region. Compared to the old animal shelter, which had repeatedly failed to pass health inspections, this is an animal shelter for the future, he said.

"I'm thrilled this is happening, it's good to see all the work and all those years of trying to get a new shelter for El Paso become a reality," Kluetz said. "This community has needed one for a long time. I'm also glad the construction was finished on time and within budget."

Kluetz explained the delay in getting the project going was one of procedure, outlining two basic reasons for the five-year hold-back. One was selecting the right location and negotiating the right price, he said. The 4.5-acre site where the shelter is now located belonged to the Public Service Board. Another delay was in approval of the architectural design.

"You have to realize that two government entities had to approve the design, each with its own financial problems," he said. "There wasn't enough money for some of the aesthetic details, such as the tower and mural and the bridge in the ponding area, which can be added later. We had to prioritize, and the cages were more important. The truth is we all worked well together."

Commissioner Charles Scruggs, who was a strong force in getting the animal shelter built, described the construction of the shelter not as an end but as a beginning of another project. The building is only one aspect of animal control, he said. There also has to be a strong commitment from the government to maintain and operate the shelter as required, including the mobile unit.

The public, too, has to commit to the proper care of their pets.

"I'm proud that we were finally able to give such a quality facility to the community," Scruggs said. "But this is no time to rest on our laurels. We need to bring a no-kill policy to El Paso. More than 25,000 animals are killed here every year. With this building we now have the tools to provide the public education needed to deal humanely with animals — to uphold the values of spay and neutering so we won't have an over-population of animals, which in effect is a public health issue."



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Identity crisis

His eyes are blue, brilliant against a dark-skinned face. He has a slight under-bite and favors quality Western clothes, including a wide-brimmed black felt hat that covers a considerable thatch of thick black hair going silver in a hurry.

His primary heritage is Native American, so the heavy turquoise and silver jewelry that he makes with his own wide, thick hands can be marketed as authentic Indian. His creations are more abstract than traditional in design and they demand — and get — a hefty price at a major amusement park in California.

San Diego is his favorite city in his homestate. His wife has a good job, so she can't go along very often on his frequent trips down to Tijuana and other locations on buying trips.

His name is Art, but that's not really who he is.

When it comes right down to practical fact, none of us are who we think we are. In fact, there are situations people find themselves in — all over the globe, everyday — in which it doesn't matter at all who their parents were, what their vocation is, how much education they have or even where their favorite city is. Their identity is determined solely by the papers they carry.

It doesn't really cross my mind much because I'm seldom off my home turf, which, conveniently, stretches from sea to shining sea. There is an almost unlimited variety of climate, terrain, culture and experience available within the borders of a nation where all the identification I need is my driver's license, maybe a picture ID. Even without that, I could probably get by. There are people, non-citizens, who live and work here

for years without ever having "documentation."

Put another check in the blessings column for living in the United States of America.

But it's a cold and empty feeling to be a visitor in another nation — maybe one not so prosperous, or friendly, or trusting — and discover you don't have your documents, your papers, your identity.

Just ask Art.

He'll tell you that who you really are depends on who your papers say you are. If you don't have them, you're nobody.

His story goes something like a business trip down to Tijuana, Mexico; a day shopping in a crowded marketplace; an evening crossing back to the U.S. — and an empty hip pocket where his wallet used to be.

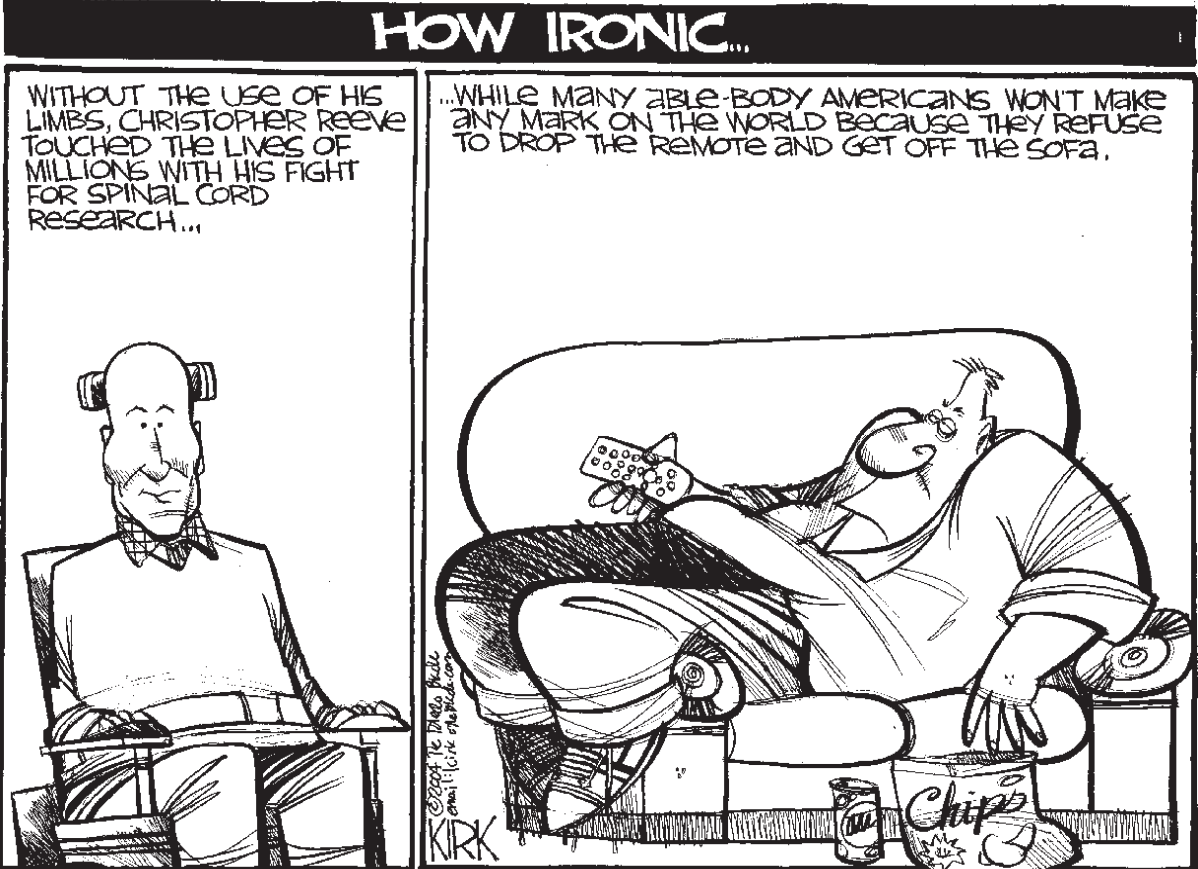
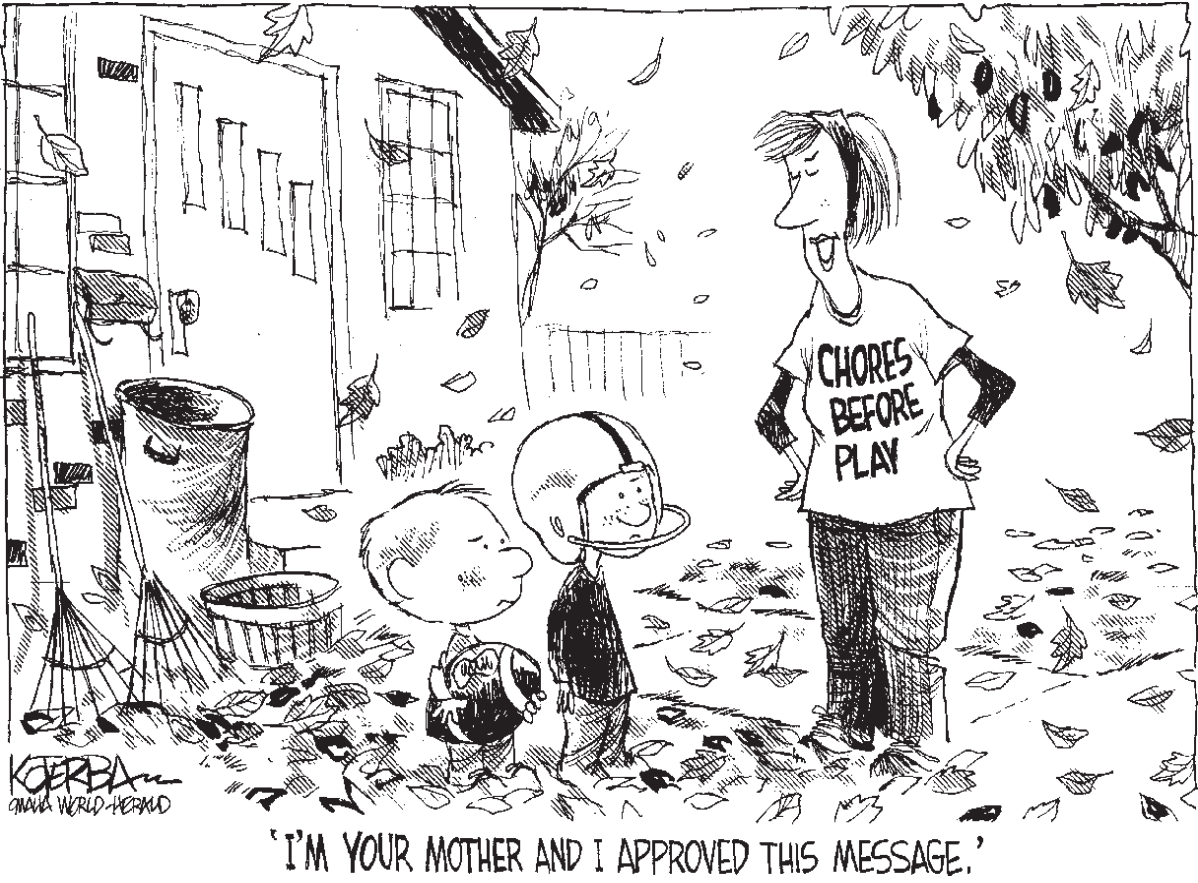
Now, Art's people were residents of what we now call the United States a long time before most of ours were — probably before those of the unfriendly official who, with a cold eye, looked over this stocky, swarthy, ready-looking man and told him that without an identity, he had to go sit over there. For hours.

He finally got an interview with a customs official who told him he would check out his story — for \$128. Art didn't have \$128. Well, too bad, the man said. He couldn't reach any officials to verify Art's story after hours, anyway. Come back tomorrow when you have the money.

Art spent the night on the streets of Tijuana. He says that would not have necessarily been an unpleasant prospect except he was dead broke. He said he had plenty to think about that night.

Finally, a shopkeeper took pity on him and let him use his phone to call

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WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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Honoring our veterans

The yearly celebration of Veterans Day is not only about honoring the men and women who have heroically served our country, it is about renewing our commitment to their well-being and quality of life. Many of our veterans are physically disabled or economically disadvantaged and many young soldiers are returning with life-altering wounds from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. It is necessary that we provide quality health care, benefits, employment opportunities, and job retraining for these courageous men and women.

As a Vietnam veteran, I bring my firsthand knowledge of military and combat situations — and of being a veteran — to Congress, where I am a member of the House Armed Services Committee. This committee assignment provides a good opportunity to represent the El Paso region's nearly 85,000 veterans and

all other veterans across the country.

In last week's annual Veterans Town Hall here in El Paso, which featured local and federal experts on veterans issues, panelists expressed concern about the strains incoming troop levels will have on our local veterans health care delivery system.

About 3,800 new troops will be stationed at Fort Bliss in 2006 and even more troops could potentially come to Fort Bliss as a result of next year's realignment of military bases across the country. While this is extremely positive news for El Paso and Fort Bliss, it does demand careful consideration so that we as a community are prepared to provide for both our existing and new populations.

Fortunately, our community has been readying itself for quite some time for a potential influx of soldiers to ensure continued care and services for our veterans and non-military residents. I worked to ensure that land was secured for a State Veterans Nursing Home in El Paso. William

Beaumont Army Medical Center and the El Paso Veterans Affairs Health Care Center are both expanding and a new state-of-the-art laboratory recently opened at the medical center.

In Congress, I am working to ensure that our active duty, Reserves and National Guard veterans who are returning from Iraq and Afghanistan have access to the health care, employment opportunities and job retraining they need to transition to civilian life. I am also working to ensure that all veterans — regardless of disability rating — have access to their full disability pay and retirement benefits.

It is important to remember that the freedoms we enjoy here in the United States are protected through the hard work and personal sacrifice of the millions of men and women who make up our armed forces. Both our veterans and our current soldiers serve with dedication and honor. They deserve the support of a grateful nation on Veterans Day and everyday.



"IT'S TOO BAD VIAGRA WON'T PREVENT THE FLU... THERE SURE SEEMS TO BE PLENTY OF IT AVAILABLE ..."

Clint school district deals with tragic death of Clint High student

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

CLINT — Immediately following the tragic accident on Nov. 3 at Clint High School which resulted in the death of senior Cristobal Cano, school district and campus officials met with the trauma team to address the needs of the students and staff on Nov. 4, 2004.

About 15 counselors were assembled to meet with students and staff and will continue to do so through Nov. 5.

The trauma team drafted a letter to be sent home with the students informing parents of the accident in which Cano was run over by an automobile driven by another student and asking that the families monitor the behavior of their children during this time of grieving. The letter was also mailed home.

A statement was developed by the trauma team to be read by all teachers to students at the beginning of first period class on the morning of Nov. 4 to inform the student body of the accident.

Clint ISD is currently looking at

all events which led up to this unfortunate accident to prevent another occurrence. The District is reviewing its vehicle-on-campus rules, as well as student safety regulations. Any areas found deficient will be addressed immediately.

Appropriate behavior and safety in and around school parking lots and roads will also be discussed with high school students in Clint ISD.

"It is because of incidents such as these that we encourage students who drive to act responsibly," says Olivia Campos, Asst. Superintendent for Clint ISD.

Veterans' new ID cards help battle identity theft

WASHINGTON DC — With identity theft as the major fraud reported by Americans in 2003, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has designed a new identity card for veterans that will safeguard confidential information.

"The new identification card ensures veterans' personal information is protected," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "It also helps prevent the theft of important benefits and services from veterans that they earned by their service to our country."

The card, formally known as the Veterans Identity Card (VIC), will have veterans' photos on the front and identify them as enrollees in the VA's health care system.

Encrypted on a magnetic tape on the back of the card will be the veteran's Social Security number, date of birth and a control number. The magnetic strip also records whether the veteran has a service-connected disability.

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the nation. The Federal Trade Commission listed

identity theft as the number one fraud reported by consumers in 2003. Requests from veterans and their congressional representatives were instrumental in bringing about these latest changes.

Veterans should request the new card at their local medical center. Processing will take five to seven days once eligibility is verified. VA hopes to complete the conversion to the new, safer card by mid-November. The existing cards will remain valid until veterans receive their new cards.

A real decent car deal

By Rick Shrum
Courier Staff Writer

I have a friend, now in his seventh decade, who is a walking price index of years gone by. Though he no longer drives — poor vision — he delights in telling me how much cars and other things used to cost. He tells me about the time he bought a couple '57 Chevies for about \$2,500 each — new. I don't think Fred ever paid over four grand for a set of wheels. He says new car prices scare him to death.

My mother has pointed out to me on several occasions that her first house in Houston cost less than a new car. In fact, it cost around \$11,000 — less than many good used and most new cars do today.

In part, it's stories like these that added to my frustration when I learned that my '99 Suburban had a wee bit more road wear to it when I purchased it than was on the vehicle's reported history. In fact, it had been t-boned on the driver's side.

The car was purchased used. It looked great. The Car-Fax came back clean. Leather interior, AM/FM/CD/Tape, dual A/C and on and on. A good friend, manager of the used car department at another major dealership, advised me to grab it at \$20,000 even if it was on a competitor's lot. And for two years it drove like the dream my family thought it was.

The repair job was superb. The paint too. Had the back door on the driver's side not been cosmetically damaged in the course of time, we probably would have never known.

I suppose it really wouldn't matter whether this happened twenty years ago or just last month — which it did. It's quite a dilemma when two years goes by before you find out about this, or any, kind of a problem with a used car purchase. I mean, if push comes to shove, what's to keep the dealership from denying any responsibility or straight out accusing you of causing the damage.

Well, the Don Quixote in me thought, "What have I got to lose?" I called Al Heredia, the used car manager, over at Sunland Park Pontiac-Buick-GMC. I sometimes think I'd like to know what he looked like when I told the problem and what I thought should be done. Then, again... maybe not.

Over the course of an hour or so of give and take on our respective positions Al and I came to an amicable

arrangement. (No, he did not know I published a paper — and it probably wouldn't have mattered.) Sunland Park would come as close as they could to putting me in a comparable vehicle at my current payments.

Needless to say, it was not without snags. For starters, where do you find a super clean '99 Suburban? You don't. And it's not easy to make the money work either. Depending on the terms negotiated for a vehicle traded in to the dealer, it may have too much paper value to work for an arrangement like this.

Consider that my '99 is now a scrapper — it's going straight to auction with little probability of recouping the very generous maximum blue-book-plus trade-in Sunland Park gave me. Also, the figures for my '99 and the other vehicle's value must add up to satisfy the number crunchers in financing and at the IRS.

Cutting to the chase — the '03 GMC Yukon XL still has factory warranty left. The upgrades are noticeable, though I do miss the leather seats. But we can now haul nine with everyone in a seat belt. One big plus — the dual zone air. My wife likes a warmer climate than I do. The ride and sound system are grand. And the payments stayed the same.

Should they have done this? You bet. Did they make a little in the deal. Sure. But they worked for it and met all the initial parameters of a verbal agreement without any lawyers. Had they sold the car at market value they would have made many thousands more.

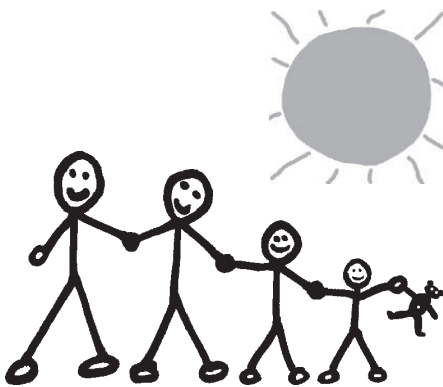
Could I have done better? Maybe. With lawyers. And several years to hash it out in court. And it would still only be maybe. We'd put 45,000 miles on the 'Burby along with wear and tear to include an unrepaired dented fender. She was up to 111,000.

Sales rep Carlos Todd showed us every option on the lot in addition to hearing our tale of woe. Al too. Owner Hector Rico, who has numerous endorsements hanging on the walls in the dealership, ponied up extra discounts and cash to make the numbers work. My family has already forgotten the '99 except to point out how the '03 has something it lacked. They're happy campers.

To the guys at Sunland Park: Thanks for dealing square and making things right. I'll be doing business with ya'll again.

(And no, the Sunland Park gang didn't know I was going to write anything, good or bad, about this deal.)

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Project had whole families involved

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Margarito Duran, sixth grade teacher at Bill Childress Elementary School in the Canutillo Independent School District, has his students using their imagination to complete their social studies homework assignments. After completing a lesson on the planet Earth recently, Duran instructed his students to create a three-dimensional model of the solar system for homework; the catch was that he did not tell them how to do it. He simply instructed them to use whatever materials they could find at home, and that if they needed help he told them to ask family members for assistance. The students had a week to complete the project.

“The students worked at home on

the assignment, got family members involved, and I was very happy with the projects because they showed a lot of creativity,” said Duran.

“I used corn oil, pop corn, Jello powder, and I found just about everything at home. I came up with the idea on the internet,” said Cassandra Guzman, whose solar system planets were made of multi-colored popcorn balls. “I learned a lot about the solar system, and I learned that Jello can be used for coloring popcorn,” she said.

Andrea De Anda said that her mother helped her. She used Styrofoam, wire, and paint to design her project. “I learned that the planets are of different colors, and I learned the distance of each planet from Earth,” De Anda said.

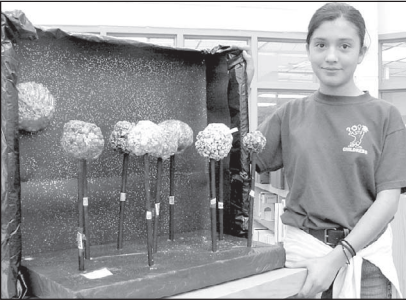
Steven Chavira had his uncle help him build a box and paint it. His cousin helped him type on the computer the information he needed for his solar system display. “I just had to buy some cardboard



Steven Chavira peeks into his solar system.

planets,” Chavira said. “I really enjoyed making it, and I learned how to put the planets in the right order,” he said.

“The principle thing about this type of assignment is to encourage students to use their imagination, to be creative. This is just another way to engage students and their families in an educational effort,” Duran commented.



Cassandra Guzman proudly displays her solar system made of popcorn.



Andrea De Anda holds up her Styrofoam solar system.

Wings Across Texas fly into Tornillo on educational excursion

By D. Joe Williams
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO — Thanks to the generous support of the National Institute of Environmental Health Services (Peer Project), The Health Resources and Services Administration (Safe Water Project), and Texas Instruction, Jon Hunter has flown around the state making 195 presentations to science students for the last several years. Last month, Dr. Hunter flew to Tornillo and gave two presentations at Tornillo Junior High School.

At the Tuesday, Oct. 19 presentation, Hunter guided students as they conducted experiments on water quality, then on Thursday, Oct. 21, Hunter presented on the “testing of food and water for enterobacteriaceae.” Students engaged in a question and answer session, and competed in a contest using “E-Instruction.” They also conducted experiments regarding bacteria samples found in different areas of the school cafeteria.

Winning students in the competitions were: Tracy Valdez,



A LITTLE E-STRUCTION — Tornillo Junior High students Pedro Mendoza and Edgar Lazcano work on a science experiment lead by Dr. Jon Hunter

Elizabeth Martinez, Veronica Terrazas, David Alvarez, Ben Valencia and Manny Reyes. Prizes were calculators and Texas A & M t-shirts. Texas A & M also donated an incubator and some test materials to Tornillo Junior High School for use in experiments in microbiology.

Tornillo Junior High Science teachers D. Joe Williams and Ernie Monte invite these scientists to their campus annually.

Parent conference at UTEP expected to be productive and well-attended

EL PASO COUNTY — Over 700 parents from school districts in the El Paso area are expected to attend the 7th Annual Regional Parent Engagement Conference on Saturday, Nov. 13 at the UTEP. The Parent Conference is organized and sponsored by the members of a parent involvement committee that includes Region 19 Education Service Center, the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, the region’s school districts and other parent involvement organizations.

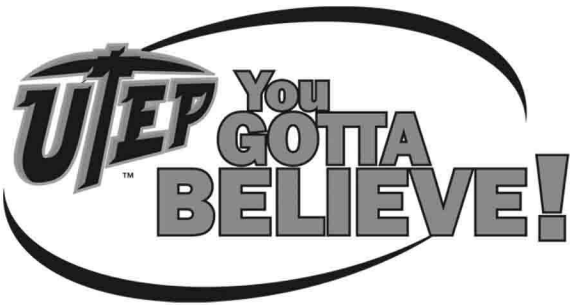
The full-day conference, titled “Core Values: No Family Left Behind,” is a opportunity for parents and educators to examine the educational needs of children. Participants can attend two keynote sessions as well as breakout sessions in the morning

and afternoon. Sessions will address literacy, effective parenting, college preparation, culture, wellness, drug and violence prevention, special education and more. Pre-registration is highly recommended and further information can be obtained by calling Region 19 at 780-5349.

The event will feature keynote addresses from Dr. Robert Duron, Socorro ISD Superintendent and Myrna Castrejon, a national speaker on parent involvement. Participants

will also be greeted by Dr. Diana Natalicio, UTEP President, Dr. Jimmy Vasquez, Executive Director for Region 19 Education Service Center, and Dr. Alicia Parra, Deputy Director of the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence.

Student groups from UTEP and Clint ISD will volunteer to assist presenters and parents during the conference. Socorro ISD music and dance groups will provide entertainment.



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Clint ISD students ‘Make a Difference’

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Student groups from Clint ISD participated in community projects as part of Make a Difference Day on Saturday, Oct. 23, an event created by *USA Weekend Magazine* as a national celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. It occurs annually on the 4th Saturday of October.

• The National Honor Society and Student Council from Clint High School and Clint Junior High School cleaned up the highway. More than 35 students arrived promptly and worked hard for several hours in the morning along Alameda in Clint to pick up trash and debris left by passersby. The group gathered over ten large bags of trash which included many election signs and bottles. “I was glad and surprised to see how many students showed up. It’s good to see people come out to help clean up Clint,” says Jennie Nelson, Clint High School National Honor Society President. Clint High School NHS and Student Council participate annually in the event by holding a highway clean up. This year’s event was organized by Senior James Gonzalez.

NHS Sponsors Annette Loomis and Helen Rojas and Clint High School parent Hilda James also participated.

• About 64 students from the Mountain View High School Lobo Student Council, Cheer Team, National Honor Society, and the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) bought fabric and worked together from Oct. 12-18 to sew and stuff bears. The students delivered most of the bears to the El Paso Child Crisis Center. The remaining bears will be delivered to the Candlelighters of the El Paso Area. Those bears will be placed in a duffle bag that is given to families who discover that their child has cancer. “It was an awesome feeling to see the little faces light up when we gave them the bears. It especially felt great, because my hands had created this gift that we gave them and I put a lot of love into it,” said Junior Cynthia Moncayo, a Student Council Senator and Cheer Team member. The group registered their project with the Make A Difference Day Data Bank for recognition and awards. Sponsors of the Lobo student organizations are: Elva Chavez and Tury Chavira, Student Council and Cheer Team; Iris Jimenez, NHS; Jacqueline Taylor, FCCLA.

Habits

From Page 1

school year gets a bicycle.

There is also the Healthy Tip of the Week in which the kids research a health topic emphasizing good health practices. This is presented regularly by the kids themselves on their own in-house TV network. In driving home the point of the Healthy Tip of the Week, you might have also seen a giant tube of toothpaste walking the halls.

Rodriguez sees the change toward healthier living in the school, but she is not satisfied.

“Change still needs to happen. This is just the beginning.”

Briefs

From Page 1

become a dentist. A volunteer in numerous entities, including EPCC and Socorro ISD, she earned the Teenage Volunteer of the Year award at Hueco Elementary and represented the school in district competition. She is the daughter of James M. Harris and Ruth A. Harris.

■ Needy Mission Valley children will benefit from the Salvador Sanchez Middle School’s Fall Festival, scheduled for 1-6 p.m., Nov. 20. The festival will be staged at the campus, 321 North Rio Vista Road. Sponsors are planning booths for games and food, plus a motorcycle show. Vendor tables may be rented for \$10 each. Entry fee for the motorcycle show is a new toy and the motorcycle show winner will be presented with a trophy from Super Lolly Motorsports. For more information, call Marlena Smith, 937-5216.

■ Canutillo Independent School District will hold a goal-setting meeting at each of the six school campuses through Nov.. The goal-setting meetings are scheduled from 6 to 7 p.m.:

- Wednesday, Nov. 10, at Canutillo Elementary School;
- Thursday, Nov. 11, at Jose H. Damian Elementary School;
- Tuesday, Nov. 16, at Canutillo Middle School;
- Wednesday, Nov. 17, at Canutillo High School; and
- Thursday, Nov. 18, at Deanna Davenport Elementary School.

The series of meetings are designed to give parents, community residents, businesspersons, and school personnel an opportunity to identify the future educational needs for the district. Bill Childress Elementary School held its goal-setting meeting Nov. 4. For information, call 877-7379.

■ The Anthony school district is the only El Paso area district currently that is offering certification to its high school students in Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), which qualifies them for employment calling for the computer skills that are most widely used in the business world for word processing and visual pre-

San Elizario honors vets with 8th Annual event

By Guadalupe Silva
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Residents of San Elizario will honor their veterans, both those who gave their lives for their country and those who came back alive, on Veteran’s Day, Thursday Nov. 11.

With a population of 11,046 as of the 2000 U.S. Census, the small town in El Paso County has sent a disproportionate number of its young people to serve in the nation’s Armed Forces. More than half its adult population has served at one time or another in different branches of the service, according to Commissioner Miguel Terán, an avid supporter of

the Veteran’s Day celebration in his hometown and a Vietnam veteran.

Carmen Cruz, who started the San Elizario Veterans Day celebrations in memory of her veteran husband and son, described the ceremonies as homage to all San Elizario veterans, to all veterans in the country and to all active military personnel. The eighth annual flag and candle ceremony will start at 11 a.m. Thursday in the town’s cemetery at the corner of Thompson and Socorro Road. It will be followed by a parade to the Veteran’s Memorial Placita, where the tributes will continue.

This year’s ceremonies will give a special recognition to Pfc. Nicolas C. Lujan, who served in the U.S. Army during World War II, in the 1st Medi-

cal Battalion in Europe. While serving in France and Germany, he lost his brother Pedro Lujan and his closest friend Jose Garcia in battle.

In recognition of his bravery and sacrifice, Lujan was awarded two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart. To this day, Lujan has difficulty talking about his years at war. “It’s not easy losing your brother, best friend and other comrades,” Lujan said. “But life must go on, even with your painful memories.”

Also honored during the ceremony will be Lance Corporal Michael Steven Torres, an El Pasoan who died July 5 this year in the battlefields of Iraq, and Sgt. Isela Rubalcava, who was killed by mortar attack in Mosul, Iraq. She is the first woman from El Paso to die in the Iraqi war.

The memorial at the Plazita this

year will be dedicated to all San Elizario veterans fallen during World War II. Commissioner Miguel Terán, Carmen Cruz and the veteran’s families will unveil a bronze plaque in their honor.

Cruz, who is the chairwoman, Ramon Holguin and Ben Sanchez, all of them members of the San Elizario Genealogical and Historical Society, coordinate the annual San Elizario Veteran’s ceremony and parade. Sanchez, curator of Los Portales, the Society’s museum in San Elizario is the keeper of the flame and of the special section on the town’s veterans.

The Society and El Paso County are co-sponsors of the San Elizario Veteran’s Day ceremonies, which include the parade and activities at the Memorial Plaza.

sentation. Spreadsheet and database management will soon be added to the curriculum, according to Oralía Moseley. She said students can take the certification test free on-line. Information: 886-6659.

■ Tornillo ISD is planning their annual Christmas party and invites area businesses and vendors to participate. Donation of products, gift certificate or other valuable items for use as door prizes also provides valuable advertising opportunities within the district. To participate, contact Terry Campillo at 764-2366, ext. 235.

■ Justine Farmer, Americas High School volleyball sensation, was expected to sign a letter of intent with the University of Houston this week during a ceremony at the school on Nov. 10.

■ An Old Fashion Christmas Fair will be held at Clint Methodist Church, Friday, Nov. 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Handcrafted Christmas items, breads and baked goods, candies and more will be offered. Enjoy a day in the country — follow signs from I-10 and Clint exit to the historic church at 201 McKinney Street. Information: Julie Jones at 851-2702 or 851-6622.

■ The 2nd Annual Rio Norte Retirement Community’s Craft Fair, to benefit local rescue missions, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 13, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at 1941 Saul Kleinfeld. Open to the public, vendors are still welcome. Call 856-6655 for information.

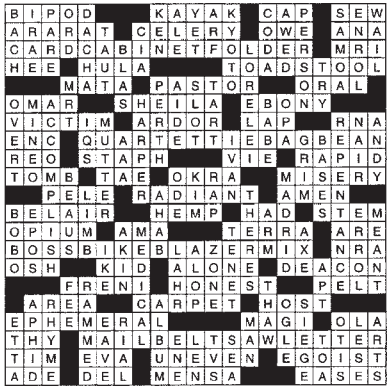
■ About 120 students from Robert R. Rojas Elementary were awarded completion certificates for their participation in the GREAT program (Gang Resistance, Education and Training) which reinforces values against drug abuse and violence. The program was led by SISD Police Officer Efrén Pulido.

■ U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents seized three quarters of a ton of marijuana in two separate incidents on Oct. 19 in the Ft. Hancock area. One seizure netted a driver and 1,043 pounds of marijuana valued at about \$834,512, in the back of a white, extended cab pickup. The second produced 654.8 pounds of marijuana, valued at

about \$53,504, loaded in a 2003 Ford Explorer. Two subjects were arrested after the abandoned the vehicle and attempted to flee on foot.

■ Buddy Garcia of Austin has been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry as the Border Commerce Coordinator to serve for a term at the pleasure of the governor. The coordinator examines trade issues with Mexico and Canada as well as addresses transportation and border crossing issues, water and wastewater concerns and electric power sales from Texas to Mexico. Garcia is currently the senate liaison for the Governor’s Office, where he coordinates between senators, senate staff members and the governor. He also serves as special assistant to the governor on Texas and Mexico border affairs, managing budget, policy and planning for all border issues and collaborating with the Secretary of State’s Office on related issues. Previously, Garcia was legislative director for Sen. Eddie Lucio and then served as border policy advisor to Gov. Perry when he was lieutenant governor. Garcia, a native of Brownsville, has a bachelor’s degree in political science from Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State University.

■ About \$9.3 million is being granted to 127 programs focused on reducing crime and improving the juvenile and criminal justice systems, according to an announcement by Gov. Rick Perry last week. These grants are awarded under the state Criminal Justice Planning Fund (421) and are distributed statewide. Statewide programs include a grant to the Office of the Attorney General in the amount of \$523,437 to provide aggressive prosecution of crimes involving illegal firearm possession under federal statutes and an award to Texas CASA, Inc., in the amount of \$508,000 to provide programs that serve abused and neglected children in 175 Texas counties. These Criminal Justice Planning Fund grants, distributed by the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division (CJD), are granted to such recipients as independent school districts, non-profit organizations, hospitals, universities, colleges, community supervision and corrections departments, and councils of government.



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TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Nov.12,1883: At a special meeting of cowmen, speakers urged acceptance of fences. The era of free ranging and roaming cowboys is over.



Sprewell should try feeding his family with an everyday job

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Now that the 2004 presidential election is over, we can get back to the important work at hand.

The work of finishing the war in Iraq, the work of leaving no child behind, the work of overhauling the social security system, and the work of improving the budget.

In fact, the most important of all may be the budget.

And speaking of those many poor United States citizens on a fixed income trying desperately to make ends meet, the tragedy has now reached cataclysmic proportions.

Seems that even those of us who at one time were considered well off are now beginning to feel the financial pinch.

Of course, I'm speaking about the plight of Minnesota Timberwolves guard Latrell Sprewell. Sprewell, one of the best players of our era, is yet another innocent victim of these

turbulent times.

Able to choke the life out of his opponent, on and off the court, Sprewell is now spending as much time at the free throw line as he is trying to stay ahead of the poverty line.

You see, Sprewell has asked the T-Wolves for a new contract.

And the indifferent, no good, self-important, money-grubbing, tax-evading, scandal-ridden, chain-smoking, book-burning, cattle-rustling, tobacco-chewing, over-eating, litter-bugging, SUV-driving, Bush-backing Minnesota Timberwolves owners said no.

How can they be so unfeeling? How do they sleep at night? How do they function knowing that they've denied one of the best ever at his profession?

I don't know about you, but I find it very difficult to sleep myself knowing that Latrell is out there possibly wandering the streets with his paltry \$14.6-million contract.

No, that's not spread over several years — that \$14.6-million is for *this year* alone.

I can hardly contain my emotions. Oh, the in-

humanity! How in the world have we sunk so low as to do this to our fellow man? I remember when there was a time that we would extend our hand to a man in need, but now we just turn our back on the ones who need us the most.

It sickens me.

Why, just a couple weeks ago Sprewell — who described the new three-year, \$30-million contract offered to him by the T-Wolves as “insulting” — said it all in just one sentence: “I've got my family to feed.”

If that doesn't bring a tear to your eye, nothing will.

How the Timberwolves expect this man to feed his family on just tens of millions of dollars a year is beyond me.

What happened to the idea of helping your fellow man? What happened to reaching out to a friend in need?

I mean, they're asking for Sprewell to get by on \$14.6-million this year and then a measly \$10-million a year for the next three years.

I think everyone knows that a million dollars doesn't go as far as it used to. I, myself,

won't even consider buying a lottery ticket until the amount goes well over \$20-million. I mean, I've got to feed my family, too, you know.

What is Sprewell's lifestyle going to be reduced to? Why, he may be forced to cut back and take the *middle-sized* limo to the arena. At least he can have them drop him off at the back alley so no one will see his embarrassment.

I can't tell you how sorry I feel for Latrell Sprewell and his family. How would you like it if you could afford to eat caviar just five times a week or if you had to cut your butler and maid staff from 14 to 12.

I know times are hard and the economy is unstable but can't the NBA or even the United States government do something special for such a special human being?

Maybe President Bush can initiate some kind of “No-NBA-Player-Left-Behind” act.

Well, my rant is over. Hopefully Sprewell will find a way to keep his family off the streets.

Now, where was I? Oh yeah, I was going to get something to eat — where is that can of Spam?

Canutillo's 7th grade football team captures district

By Joe Bueno
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — The beginning of every school year not only means new teachers, new classrooms, and new friends; it also marks the beginning of the *football* season.

The 2004 Canutillo Middle School seventh grade football season began with a new coaching staff. The three coaches, who are also teachers at the middle school, are Angel Olivas, Christopher Scott, and Joe Bueno.

Even though the team lost its first two games against Ysleta Middle School and Ranchland Hills, the team never lost its focus and fought hard until the last second. This was the beginning of a successful and undefeated district season.

Sept. 18 marked the turning point for the team. The offense started executing the plays and their hard work turned into offensive points. The defensive unit came together and carried out their assignments successfully. They defeated Clint Middle School 44-12 and never looked back, carrying that winning momentum for its next three games. The Eagles defeated

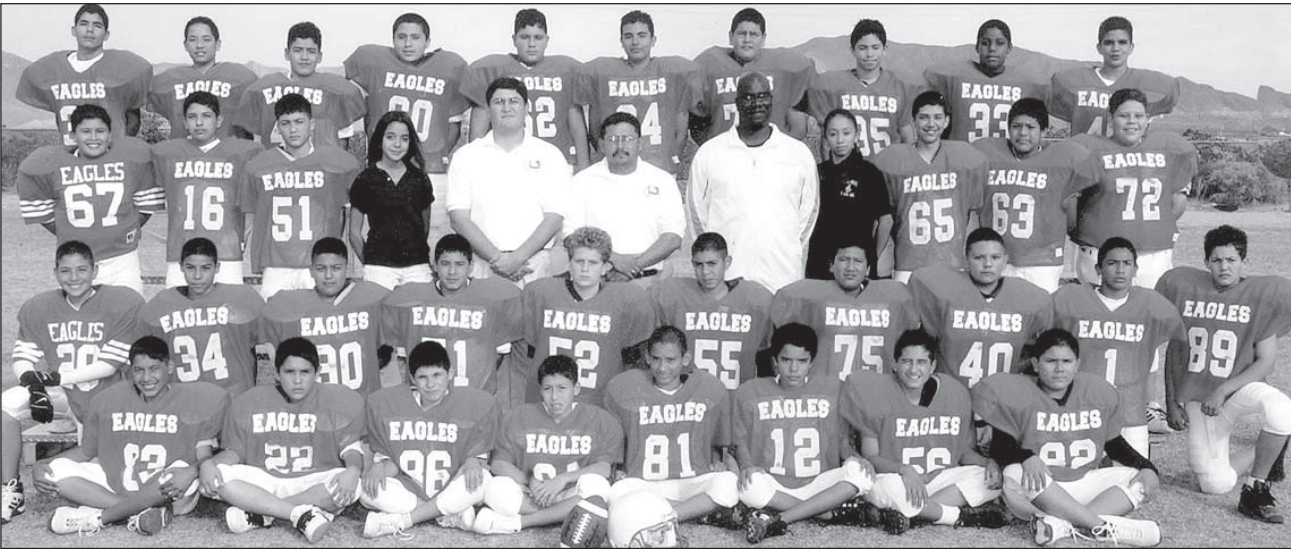
San Elizario 30-18, East Montana 14-6, and dismantled Horizon 42-16.

The next match up on Canutillo's schedule would pit the only two undefeated teams in the district — Fabens Wildcats versus Canutillo Eagles for the district championship. After 10 weeks of hard work and grueling practices the Eagles had a chance to prove to themselves who the champions really were.

Fabens took an early lead in the first quarter but by then, the Eagles offense and defense were

executing the plays flawlessly, taking back the lead in the middle of the first quarter, and end-

ing victorious 28-14. Fabens was a tough opponent and both teams battled to the end.



DISTRICT CHAMPS — Canutillo Middle School Seventh Grade Football Team, front row from left, Esteban Vargas, Adam Viella, Abel Vargas, Mario Casas, Chris Vale, Daniel, Dovali, Cannon Duby, and Danny Gutierrez; second row from left, Oscar Cenicerros, John De La Rosa, George Meza, Juan Velasco, R.J. Fraire, Jonathan Chaires, Esteban De La Cruz, Tony Varela, Sammy Gutierrez, and Steven Minton; third row from left, Joel Rodriguez, Cody Barrajas, Gilbert Quintana, Manager Darlene Calvo, Assist. Coach Angel Olivas, Head Coach Joe Bueno, Assist. Coach Christopher Scott, Manager Denise Hernandez, Carlos Loya, Amador Herrera, and Andrew Hernandez; back row from left, Abraham Maldonado, Joshua Reyes, Felix Pacheco, Emmanuel Reyes, M.C. Cowley, Norberto Martinez, Adam Cooper, Christian Canales, Shawn Castro, and Angel Calvo. Not shown are Managers Ana Gomez and Jessica Romero.

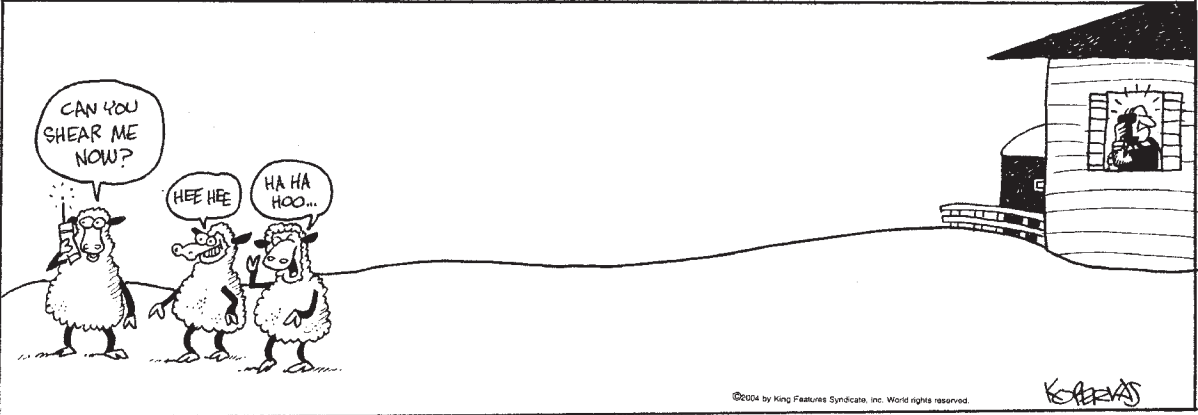
King Super Crossword

ADD-ONS					65 Gumbo thickener					128 Irregular					33 Job opening					85 Curative				
ACROSS					68 Stephen King					129 I specialist?					34 Biting					86 Article of faith				
1 Two-legged stand					book					130 Humorist George					36 Public					87 Bunyan's whacker				
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11 Mortarboard					74 Congregational					Bunch?					40 Novelist Lee					92 Crooked				
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59 Disinfectant target					116 Slangy suffix					79 Prepare for														
60 Compete					119 Yesterday's your					combat														
61 Quick-footed					120 CHAIN CHAIN					81 Comic Leon														
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Comix

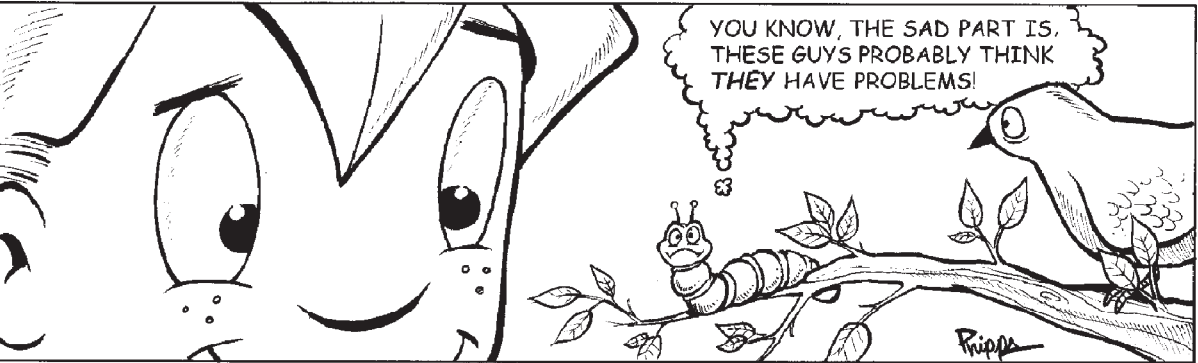
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



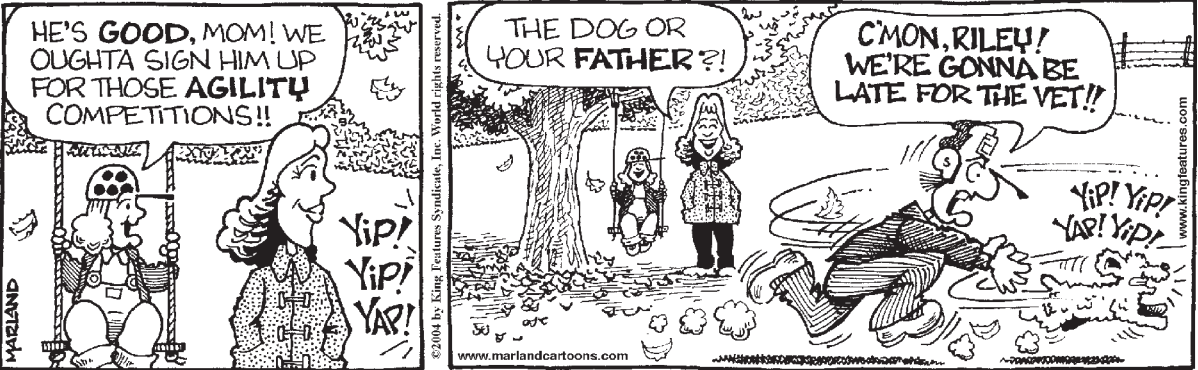
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



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Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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CSP NO. 199-1207-0550

DISTRICT DNS SYSTEM
CSP NO. 199-1207-0551

DISTRICT ISA FIREWALL SYSTEM
CSP NO. 199-1207-0552

DISTRICT RAS SYSTEM
CSP NO. 199-1207-0553

TAPE DRIVE UPGRADE FOR DISTRICT CONSOLIDATED MANAGEMENT
CSP NO. 199-1207-0554

MS SERVER CAL 2003 DEVICE CAL
CSP NO. 199-1207-0555

STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN)
CSP NO. 199-1207-0556

ADDITIONAL DATA DROPS IN CLASSROOM
CSP NO. 199-1207-0557

DISTRICT E-MAIL SYSTEM
CSP NO. 199-1207-0558

Proposals will be received at Busi-

ness Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. WTCC-11/11/04

PUBLIC NOTICE

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at South west Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - JM00IT8483398I270, 2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse, 2-door, no license plates WTCC-11/11/04

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF CLINT CLINT, TEXAS

The Town of Clint, Texas is accepting resumes from interested applicants for the position of Town Clerk. Resumes will be accepted now until Nov. 19, 2004, at 4 p.m. and should be delivered to the Clint Town Hall at 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, Texas 79836. Office management and grant writing experience preferred. Salary is negotiable. The Town of Clint is an equal opportunity employer. For additional information please call 851-3146. WTCC-11/11/04

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Shatner explores new world of recording

By Don Flood
Britney Spears recently announced the sad news that she's taking a break from her career as a pop star, so she can "chill."
(That's a bit like Dan Quayle announcing he's taking a break from his career as a politician. He's been chilling since '92.)
But fret not, music fans, the door closes one on recording artist and another beams down to take her place: William Shatner is back!
That's right, Shatner has released his first album in more than 35 years!
The cover alone should earn this man a Grammy nomination.
There is Shatner, with his head in his hands, looking like he's about to throw up. (Perhaps he just listened to his album for the first time.)
Black and white, with a single, bare light bulb providing the only light, the cover projects the gritty, lonely feel of a '60s jazz album.
You half expect Shatner to be sitting there with a needle in his arm. It's that bleak.
And, why not? The album title says it all: "Has Been."
Not that he is a has been. He's fashioned a remarkable career, but not all is sunny in the life of the artist known as Shatner.
Just listen to these lyrics of gut-busting revelation:
"Just because you've seen me on your TV / Doesn't mean I'm any more enlightened than you."
And here I believed all those Priceline ads!
I don't know about you, but I thought Kirk — I mean, Shatner — knew all the secrets of the universe, at least those worth knowing, such as attracting the hottest babes on other planets.

But no, he's just like you and me, except he can afford more studio time.
Shatner's first album, in 1968, was less than a commercial and critical success, despite the rampant drug use at that time.
He even showed up on an album, "Golden Throats: The Great Celebrity Sing-Off," that contains some of the most extraordinary recordings of all time, including (and none of these is made up):

- "Proud Mary," sung by Leonard Nimoy. (What is it with these "Star Trek" guys?)
- "House of the Rising Sun," by Andy Griffith. (Wonder what Mayberry thought.)
- "If I Had a Hammer," again by Nimoy. (If only he'd changed it to "If I Had a Phaser," I think I would have believed it more.)

But the winner of "Golden Throats" weirdest recording award — even ahead of Shatner's own "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" — is Jack Webb, who became famous as the hard-boiled detective on "Dragnet."
For those too young to remember Webb's vocal qualities, try to imagine a cement mixer — no, a cement mixer with a severe chest cold, puffing on a cigarette — singing "Try a Little Tenderness."
Well, Webb is nowhere near *that* good, but it does give you an idea of where he stands in history of music.
But despite his earlier album, Shatner still believes his mission is to boldly go where no recording artist has gone before.
And who knows, maybe his attempt will give Britney the confidence to make her comeback.

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Identity

From Page 2

his wife. He says she wasn't too happy about having to miss work to come bail him out of Mexico. And even after they got paid, it took all day for the customs officials to verify that Art was really Art and decide to let him come home.

He says he knows that he was lucky — for him it was just something that happened one day. He isn't someone who could easily be taken advantage of on a dark street in Mexico. He had resources to call on, despite the inconvenience, and someone on the other side to make them

available to him. He says he hates to think how it is for people in the underworld of our globe who live as virtual slaves with no understanding of the value of their personal identity because where they are, it has none.

And he wonders what the future is going to be like. He wonders about the effects that 9/11 and terrorism have had on the trust and friendliness factor in our nation, and how things will be when something terrible happens again on our soil — and it will.

Like the Jews in Germany at the outset of W.W.II, we are a people accustomed to a solid, stable society and we may not recognize it when the thin line between civility and chaos begins to blur.

Talk about an identity crisis.

† AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: I have been working for a school district for 25 years and as I am getting closer to retirement, I want to find out how my retirement from Texas Retirement System is going to impact any benefits I can receive on my husband's record. I understand the loop hole provision recently changed. Where do I stand?

A: Legislation did change the "Last Day of Employment Exemption" from one day to five years. This means that if you are expecting to

receive a pension from Texas Retirement System, two-thirds of that pension will be applied against any spousal benefits paid under social security. Remember the exemption is still there but it now requires that you must be in a position that pays into both Social Security and Texas Retirement System during the last 60 continuous months (5 years) of your career. Legislators incorporated another exemption to the new rule; for those individuals who filed for social security benefits prior to April 1,

2004, they will still be subject to the pre existing rule, that is, they must pay into Social Security and Texas Retirement System on the last day of their careers with the schools but under the new law; they are allowed to work the last day anytime in the future. The new legislation also incorporated another factor which comes into play when we consider the five years; if individual's last day of employment occurs between June 30, 2004 and March 2, 2009, any employment they had in a school district that paid into both Social Security and Texas Retirement System before the date of the new law enact-

ment, will be considered towards the five years as long as they work the last month of their employment careers with one of the dual retirement system school districts.

Q: I was married for about seven years before my husband and I divorced three years ago. Now, I have learned that my former husband has died. Can I get Social Security benefits based on his work record?

A: Generally, you have to be married for more than 10 years in order to collect divorced widow's benefits on his work record. You also must be at

least age 60, (or any age if taking care of your ex-husband's child who is entitled to a child's benefit and is age 16 or younger or who is disabled) unmarried and not due higher benefits on your own Social Security record.

For more information visit your local security office, see www.ssa.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
A gusty breeze with times of clouds and sun.	Some clouds and chilly.	Mainly cloudy and cold; breezy in the afternoon.	Mostly cloudy, windy and cold with rain possible.	Times of sun and clouds.	Mostly sunny.	A good deal of sunshine.	Sunny to partly cloudy.
▲ 62°	▼ 34°	▲ 54° ▼ 32°	▲ 50° ▼ 36°	▲ 56° ▼ 36°	▲ 58° ▼ 36°	▲ 60° ▼ 38°	▲ 62° ▼ 38°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

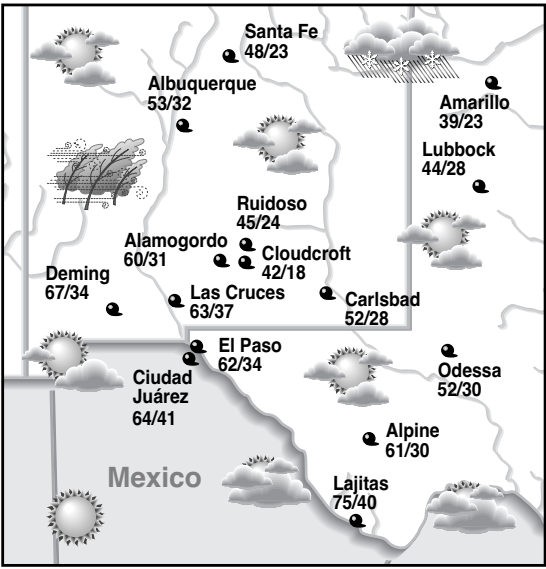
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	5	Moderate
Friday	3	Low
Saturday	3	Low
Sunday	4	Low
Monday	5	Moderate
Tuesday	5	Moderate
Wednesday	5	Moderate

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	64	35
Canutillo	64	35
Clint	62	33
E. Montana	63	34
Fabens	62	33
Horizon	65	34
San Elizario	62	31
Socorro	62	33
Tornillo	62	33
Vinton	64	35

Shown is Thursday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday's highs and Thursday night's lows.



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Low/W	Fri. Hi/Low/W	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W	Mon. Hi/Low/W
Albuquerque	53/32/pc	41/30/sh	38/26/sn	40/29/c	46/26/c
Atlanta	60/50/r	58/38/sh	54/38/pc	58/40/s	60/42/r
Atlantic City	60/44/s	52/29/r	43/27/pc	48/29/pc	52/30/s
Austin/San Antonio	69/40/sh	57/35/pc	54/38/pc	56/43/sh	59/42/c
Baltimore	60/42/s	50/29/r	46/28/pc	50/32/pc	53/31/pc
Boston	56/42/s	47/31/r	40/28/pc	46/38/pc	51/38/r
Chicago	44/22/sn	44/24/pc	48/28/s	52/32/s	54/32/s
Dallas/Ft. Worth	58/37/r	52/35/pc	53/39/pc	53/38/r	53/38/c
Denver	34/17/sf	45/21/pc	47/23/pc	40/22/c	38/18/c
Flagstaff	50/28/pc	42/28/sn	42/26/sn	40/21/sn	37/16/sn
Houston	70/46/sh	56/40/sh	58/42/pc	58/48/c	60/52/r
Kansas City	42/21/pc	43/26/s	50/30/s	48/29/c	44/28/c
Las Vegas	64/50/sh	62/48/sh	64/46/pc	61/46/pc	59/44/pc
Miami	82/68/sh	82/68/sh	82/66/sh	80/66/sh	80/66/sh
Minneapolis	38/18/s	39/24/s	45/28/s	48/31/pc	50/28/c
New Orleans	81/58/t	65/48/sh	62/48/s	66/50/t	66/52/t
New York City	58/42/s	49/34/r	45/32/pc	46/39/pc	52/39/pc
Philadelphia	60/44/s	50/33/r	46/31/pc	50/36/s	51/36/s
Phoenix	74/55/s	69/50/pc	67/48/sh	68/46/pc	65/45/r
Portland	54/40/s	54/42/pc	52/42/sh	50/38/pc	54/40/c
San Francisco	62/54/sh	64/52/pc	62/52/pc	64/48/pc	60/44/pc
Seattle	54/42/s	52/42/pc	50/42/sh	50/40/pc	49/35/pc
Tucson	75/48/s	70/46/pc	64/40/sh	64/40/pc	66/38/pc
Washington, DC	60/42/s	50/32/r	46/32/s	48/37/s	56/36/pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

AGRICULTURE

Gusty winds will be found across the region on Thursday. While winds will average 10-20 mph from the east-northeast, there may be gusts over 30 mph. Plenty of clouds are expected on Thursday and Friday. These clouds may bring some rain on Saturday.

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