

NEWSBRIEFS

Thanksgiving note

The *West Texas County Courier* will go to press early on Thanksgiving week due to printing schedules. All ad and news copy for that issue must be received in the Courier offices by Friday, Oct. 17 in order to appear in the Oct. 23 edition.

Doctoral program

UTEP has added a new doctoral program to its growing catalog of advanced degrees. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the university's proposed Ph.D. in chemistry program during its quarterly meeting Oct. 26 in Austin. "We are excited to begin enrolling students in the chemistry Ph.D., which will be UTEP's 14th doctoral program," said UTEP Provost Richard Jarvis. "We sincerely appreciate the support of the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the UT System Board of Regents in making this program a reality for our students." The chemistry Ph.D. program will prepare professional chemists for careers in industry and teaching and research at the university level. The addition of the chemistry Ph.D. will be a plus for UTEP's other science and engineering programs," Jarvis said.

Town Hall meetings

Canutillo Independent School District Board of Trustees and Administration will hold two Town Hall Meetings to discuss the District's Five-Year Plan and other important issues. The Town Hall meetings will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 15, at Alderete Middle School (801 Talbot Road), and Thursday, Nov. 16, at Canutillo Middle School (7311 Bosque Road). Information will be provided on the District's plans to meet future growth including academic achievement, family support, instructional materials and infrastructure, financial sustainability, staffing, and organizational accountability. Parents, community members, and District employees are invited to participate. For more information, call 877-3149 or 877-7476.

In other news

■ El Paso County Sheriff's Office detectives arrested Alfonso Alvillar, 42, of Fabens on Nov. 5 after an outcry was made by a young boy accusing Alvillar of what police called "inappropriate conduct." A detective's complaint affidavit said Alvillar, a security guard at Fabens Primary School, assaulted the boy in an office at the school during a basketball game on Sunday. He was charged with sexual assault and his bond is set at \$50,000. "These types of cases often lead to the possibility other children may have been victimized and have failed to report the incident out of fear," said Rick Glancey, Director of Public Affairs with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. "If a crime of

See BRIEFS, Page 5

We grow old not so much by living, but by losing interest in living.

— Quips & Quotes

Drug free is...



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

... THE WAY FOR ME — Natalia Lucio, a third grader at Borrego Elementary School in San Elizario shows that she is drug free during Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23-27. Campuses throughout San Elizario took part in anti drug activities all week long. The story can be found on page four.



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

LET'S TALK READING — Marie Cadena, far right with blue vest, and other Horizon Kiwanis Club members pose for a picture with TES 3rd grade students.

Kiwanis take literacy on the road to Tornillo Elementary

By Antonio Rosales
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Members of the Horizon City Kiwanis Club visited Tornillo Elementary School to talk about literacy with TES 3rd graders. The activity was coordinated by TES Principal, Severo Alcoset and TES Counselor, Antonio Rosales.

Marie Cadena, a member of the Horizon Kiwanis Club, addressed the 3rd grade students and discussed the Kiwanis Club, the importance of reading, and doing well in school. The Horizon Kiwanis Club promotes literacy throughout various schools in the county to encourage students to improve their reading skills and to experience the joys of reading. Other members of the Horizon Kiwanis Club brought boxes of books to be distributed to the 3rd grade students. Students will be able to take the books home to

add to or begin a home library. It is hoped they will then use the new reading materials to practice their reading skills at home, reading for fun by themselves or with family members.

Blanca Sanetra, a 3rd grade teacher at TES, was thrilled by the book donation, as books that students can take home and keep are always in high demand. "Having received these books from the Horizon Kiwanis Club will really benefit our students. It's wonderful that there are organizations out there that take an interest in helping students learn and succeed." These materials will also positively impact and assist 3rd grade students in preparing for the Reading TAKS Test.

Tornillo Elementary School considers literacy one of its top priorities. The book presentation and book giveaway was a huge success in terms of promoting literacy and it is anticipated that the activity could become a yearly event.

Horizon student's experience with NASA to carry on into future

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Horizon High School senior Brandi Gutierrez has spent the past year participating in the NASA High School Aerospace Scholars program.



Brandi Gutierrez

Brandi was nominated to be part of this prestigious program by Sen. Elliot Shapleigh. The High School Aerospace Scholars Program is an interactive on-line learning experience, high-lighted by a six-day internship where selected students study math, sci-

ence, engineering, or computer science by interacting with engineers at the NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC).

Once selected to participate, Brandi had to complete 10 web-based lessons during the school year to familiarize her with space exploration. The lessons were due every two weeks along with a final project. She also participated in on-line chats with mentors focusing on the Space Shuttle, International Space Station, the Moon, and Mars. She was selected to participate in the summer program based on the completion of the lessons, the quality of work and timeliness.

During the six-day summer session at Johnson Space Center, Brandi was chosen team leader by her fellow scholars and coordinated and completed a team project in Mars exploration. For the project, her team had to design a mission and set parameters. The team had to compete against other teams to construct a land rover and rocket with a parachute that would fly at least 300 feet high. Her team was successful, flying a rocket over 300 feet which disappeared into the sky.

"As team leader, I learned patience, trust, and how to say calm. I also learned (how to) work without a lot of sleep and still be accurate," said Brandi. During the program she and her fellow scholars took tours of the JSC facilities, were mentored by NASA engineers, participated in hands-on engineering activities and attended briefings by astronauts, engineers and other NASA experts.

As a High School Aerospace Scholar Alumnus, Brandi has continuing responsibilities — to maintain relationships with her team mentor and fellow scholars. She communicates with the program by visiting the website to share information about her future plans after graduation. She is also helping to recommend the program, recruit, and chat on-line with new scholars.

Brandi is a member of the Horizon High School National Honor Society and Math Team. She participates in Cross Country and Track for Horizon High School as well.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Virtually anything

There's not much we can't do from a distance these days. We've can talk to people in outer space and hold business conferences with people on the other side of the globe. We can cook dinner without even being in our kitchens via the various appliances that we pre-set before leaving home or activate via remote control. We check messages left at our homes or offices without ever going there. We send pictures of things we just looked at through our camera phones so that someone on one coast can see exactly what someone else on the other coast just looked at. And now we can hug our kids goodnight without even being in the room with them, from wherever we happen to be anywhere in the world. Say what? Well, it's not a done deal yet but it will be soon enough. Scientists in Singapore are researching various ways to transmit the sense of touch over the internet via electronic children's pajamas. They know it can be done because they've already made a wireless "vibration jacket" for pets that can be controlled by computer to give the animal the sense of being touched by its owner.

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

Thank you for taking the time to write the article entitled *Messing with the Universe* which was printed in our local Brooklyn paper, the *Brooklyn Spectator* on Oct. 25, 2006.

You have expressed in great detail my own growing frustration and anger.

Such corruption, greed, and finger-pointing along with a lack of responsibility, courage and moral leadership. Oh, where is there a leader among us who has such passion and strength to make the first step and allow us to follow?

I'm thinking of our seasonal films, *It's a Wonderful Life* and

John Doe. Oh please, let the pendulum swing back to give us a chance to clean up the mess before it is too late for us all.

Thank you for crying out on our behalf.

Hopefully, the up-and-coming generations will see with new eyes what is going on and make better decisions.

Hopefully, they will choose to make friends in the world, to work together, to gain trust among all peoples, so that the deviants among us will become a highly visible minority which we work together to monitor and to contain.

Marie L. August
Poly Prep Country Day School
Brooklyn, New York

e-mail your thoughts to:
wtxcc@wtccourier.com

I recently watched the Adam Sandler movie *Click* in which a harried father is feeling overwhelmed by the responsibilities of balancing work, wife and family. He runs across a strange little man in a Bed, Bath and Beyond store — of all places — who offers him the ultimate tool, a “universal” remote control, which allows him to not only activate and deactivate every varied appliances in his life, but the people and events in his life as well.

It comes with mute, pause, fast-forward, etc.

Virtually anything.

The only problem with it is, he finds, it won't rewind, other than to view the events in his past — he doesn't get to do them over.

As one would expect, he begins to hurry through — even skip entirely — large sections of his life that he finds unpleasant or boring. This includes arguments with his wife, dinners with his aging parents and the tedious responsibilities of fatherhood.

Predictably, he finds himself at the end of his life having spent a great deal of it on “auto pilot” and having lost his wife to another man, his children's respect, his health, and he doesn't even remember that his own father is dead — it happened during one of his “fast-forward” episodes.

Just as predictably, it turns out that the strange little man in the BBB store is the angel of death, and that it has all been just a warning dream from which he awakens in time to rescue his marriage, his children and his life.

Too bad that many of us, not being residents of a Hollywood movie, won't get the same opportunity.

Even though we may be aware the danger exists, we are all, to one extent or another, too willing to take advantage of virtually whatever it is — drugs, alcohol, entertainment, television, parties — that will numb us from the consequences of failure to do the right thing.

We'll even convince ourselves that substituting an electronic touch or hug for the real thing is okay because we're either not there or don't want to bother. When the consequences come home to rest, few of us are willing to accept it is because we were only virtual participants in real relationships we now want to reactivate.

Thinking back on the million bedtime stories I yawned through, the trips to and from school I've driven, the suppers I cooked, the baths I administered and the heads of hair I combed, I'm ashamed of the moments when I felt put upon or had an attitude about having to do these mundane jobs. They were nothing, and I mean *nothing*, compared to the rewards of love and trust I've been given in return.

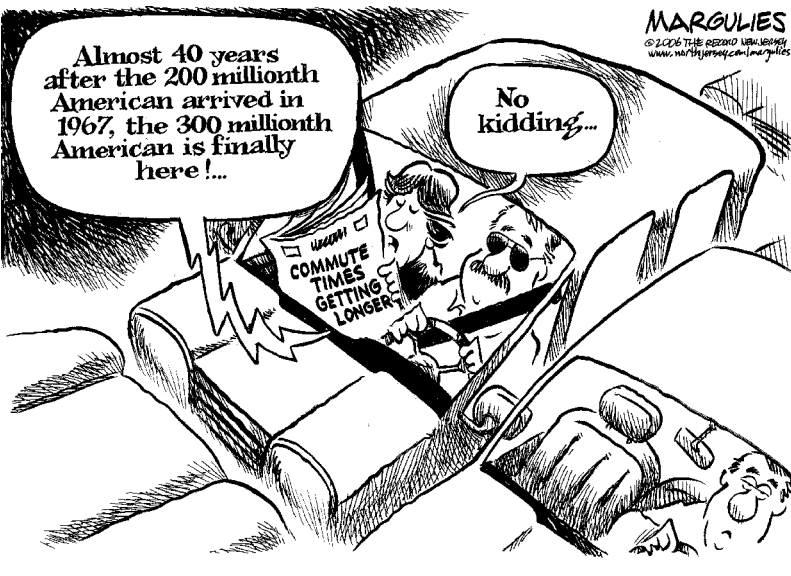
Shame on me for not doing more and doing it better.

So I hugged my youngest daughter goodnight the other night and I told her about this new invention I could wrap her up in, this electronic jacket that would give her a little squeeze activated from hundreds of miles away. “Wouldn't that be cool?” I said.

She just peered at me with her best have-you-lost-your-mind expression, cocked eyebrow and all.

“That would be gross,” she said. “I'd tear the thing off and throw it outside.”

I think those scientists are underestimating what our kids are willing to settle for — they won't accept just virtually anything.



Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore Nov. 6, 1801: Gail Borden, Texas patriot and creator of BORDEN'S CONDENSED MILK is born.

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Program simplifies learning English skills for SISD workers

By Jan Engels
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro ISD will launch a new program with their Food Service personnel on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at the Student Activity Center (SAC) 1257 Joe Battle. SISD Community Service will be coordinating the *Sed de Saber* (Thirst for Knowledge) Program with the Socorro Food

Service Department. Hispanics now make up the nation's largest and fastest growing demographic with a population of 38.8 million. Many of them have chosen to work in the food service industry. *Sed de Saber* was developed by LeapFrog Enterprises, a workforce development company with support from the Coca-Cola Company and the Multi-Cultural Food Service and Hospitality Alliance.

The *Sed de Saber* program teaches employees English language skills to help them advance in the workplace and to improve the overall quality of their lives. Several large corporations such as: Chiles, Wynn Enterprises and National Pizza Companies use the program with their employees. *Sed de Saber* is a fun, interactive program that teaches English through the use of story-telling, voice recording, games and review exercises re-

lated to the food service industry and everyday life skills. The series presents its interactive content through real life scenarios such as reading a schedule, talking to customers, opening a bank account and explanation of social customs and common practices. The *Sed de Saber* curriculum follows methods developed by the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills. Each participant in the program,

which is voluntary, will receive a Quantum LeapPad to take home with them while they are enrolled in the program. Employees will need about four to six months to complete the entire program. Many of Socorro ISD Food Service personnel are excited about the program and have expressed a desire to participate. For further information contact Martha Serna, Director of Community Services at 915-937-1714.

Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

New law will help protect armed forces from predatory loan practices

No matter where you stand on the political spectrum, we all agree that our troops are our national heroes and they deserve respect for the sacrifices they make to keep us safe at home. But some choose to ignore this fact. Did you know that there are unscrupulous people, so intent on their own greed that they will prey on our service men and women in times of financial hardship? Unfortunately, our troops are the perfect prey for these predatory lenders who charge an average of 390 percent interest on a loan. Predatory lending is not just financially devastating. Troops who are targeted by predatory lenders may lose or fail to achieve the necessary security clearances needed to fulfill their duties. The stress resulting from these financial difficulties also affects their morale. In a combat environment, when our troops are on the frontlines and must rely on their tactical instincts and precision teamwork, they cannot be further endangered by worrying if they will be evicted from their homes. "Payday loans" are high interest loans usually due within 24 hours after the recipient's next paycheck.

You should beware of triple digit interest rates and short loan terms as well as single balloon payments. Payday lenders are often quick to loan to people regardless of their credit history and charge even higher fees when a borrower cannot afford to pay by the due date. Predatory lending hurts our troops and weakens our military defenses. In a report released by the Department of Defense last August, we learned that within three miles of Fort Hood, there are a minimum of 18 payday lenders and 13 of those are within one mile of base. This is clear evidence that these lenders are targeting our men and women in uniform. Troops who seek these high interest loans to get through a financial shortfall end up in an endless cycle of debt. While the military promotes responsible personal financial responsibility and provides counseling and education, it is simply not sufficient. In September, Congress passed the Defense Authorization bill. This important legislation places annual interest rate cap on loans to members of our military and their families. This new law is consistent with the

recent recommendations by the Department of Defense. It will help to safeguard our men and women in the military who risk their lives to protect us by offering national protection from abusive lenders including predatory payday lenders. The measure establishes a federal ceiling at 36 percent APR and does not prohibit states from adopting legislation with a lower limit. Prior to the passage of this legislation, no federal law existed preventing predatory lenders from targeting active duty service members. In some cases, members of our Armed Forces were being charged more than 800 percent APR on a loan. This is intolerable and reprehensible. Our troops are fighting on the front lines of the War on Terror. They risk their lives to ensure our freedom. Their families worry about their safety every day. They should not be burdened by corrupt, predatory lenders as well. I am proud to have supported legislation to prevent this unprincipled practice and will continue to work to support our troops both at home and away.



Checking out the cow



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

Students were keeping a close watch on the cow, Shirley, and her calf Lola, before she was placed into a pen for the annual Cow Plop contest. The event was part of last month's W.D. Surratt Elementary Annual Chili Cook-Off, sponsored by the school PTO which raised \$2500 for the PTO. The winners of the Cook-Off, Judy Paneral and Jennifer Eveler's kindergarten class, were awarded with a pizza party for the whole class. Justin Nelson won a \$150 Wal Mart gift card by choosing the correct designated square of the pen where Shirley placed the highly anticipated winning Cow Plop. Students in all grade levels entertained the crowd by performing country western line dances. "Our PTO has great faculty and staff support and great parent involvement," said Mary Reiff, PTO president. The funds raised by the W.D. Surratt PTO will help support the school library by purchasing additional books, help fund field trips, and supplement grant scholarships to Clint High School graduates.

— Contributed by Laura Cade



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Commemorating National Diabetes Awareness Month

Diabetes is more than a national epidemic; it also hits home here on the border. Most recent statistics show El Paso's diabetes population is over 85,000, and that is those who are aware of their condition. More than half of diabetics are unaware they are even affected by the disease. According the El Paso Diabetes Association, approximately 17 percent of El Paso's elementary students and 22.2 percent of middle school students are overweight. Hispanics are 1.5 times more likely than non-Hispanics to suffer from diabetes. Diabetes is one of the nation's most common, devastating, fatal and costly diseases. It does not discriminate against age, gender, or ethnicity; therefore, anyone could develop this disease at some point in his or her life. Diabetes is currently incurable, and the American Diabetes Association recently stated that as every year passes, there is an eight percent in-

crease in those affected. The best way to prevent or control diabetes is by proper nutrition, daily physical activity, screening, and the most importantly education. In order to prevent any type Diabetes among our children, we first need to start early by educating them at a very young age. Teaching our children to make healthy eating choices starts at home and it continues through out the day at school. I feel very strongly that proper nutrition habits should be practiced and that schools should set the example for young children. It is because of this that I am a cosponsor of H.R. 5167, the Child Nutrition Promotion and School Lunch Protection Act, which would improve the health of school-aged children by ensuring nutritional food is served in the school cafeterias. Recently, Former President Bill Clinton announced his initiative with the American Heart Association and five major snack food producers to

replace unhealthy snacks in our schools vending machines with better and healthier choices. Five snack food producers including PepsiCo, Mars Inc, and Kraft Food Inc. have pledged to replace Doritos and doughnuts with healthier products in school vending machines. Now, Campbell Soup Company and Dannon Company have also joined the effort to make their products healthier by limiting the number of calories, saturated fat. I applaud President Clinton for his continued work to help prevent diabetes at a young age. A large number of our youth are being diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes, a form that is normally prevalent at an older age. The combination of foods that are high in fat and sugar along with poor eating habits are linked to obesity and Type 2 Diabetes among our children. Together we can stand and fight this epidemic by improving our way of life through prevention, early detection, and awareness.

www.wtccourier.com

Town of Anthony PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 during the Regular Town Council Meeting at Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following proposed ordinance(s), second reading:

1) Ordinance No. 438. An ordinance to establish the Juvenile Case Manager Fee and Providing an Effective Enforcement Date for the Fee, for the Town of Anthony, Texas.

Ordinances are too extensive to print. Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the Town Clerk at the above address. Those that are unable to attend may submit their written comments to the Town of Anthony, P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, Texas 79821. Persons in need of assistance to attend are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk at 886-3944.

Myriam P. Uribe
Town Clerk

SEISD celebrates Red Ribbon Week in festive style

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Thousands of students were wearing the color red and participating in a number of fun activities to celebrate Red Ribbon Week in San Elizario, Oct. 23-27, 2006.

Borrego Elementary kicked off the week’s festivities in grand fashion, beginning with a parade around the school, allowing the students to display their creative talents. First graders showed they were on the right track in staying drug free by constructing their own choo-choo train, which proudly stated, “The Rams choo choo choose to be drug free!”

Third graders at the campus showed the audience exactly what happens when you use drugs by marching with a mock coffin. “There is no future with drugs,” they chanted. And in one of the most creative parade floats ever seen at the campus, second graders constructed a 15-20 foot long Ram, which took roughly 10 kids to fill much like a Chinese dragon costume. “Welcome to a drug-free school” was written

alongside the beautifully built float.

The entire parade ended in the school cafeteria, where students were met by the sounds of the Garcia Enriquez Middle School band and cheerleaders.

While Borrego Elementary teamed up with the middle school, it was Sambrano Elementary that teamed up with San Elizario High School, as both band and cheerleaders helped show Sambrano students what spirit is all about by serenading the crowd to the old Bruce Channel classic “Hey Baby.” Meanwhile, another classic with a powerful message was sung by the entire crowd, Fleetwood Mac’s “Don’t Stop Thinking About Tomorrow,” which helped remind students that there is no tomorrow with drugs.

Loya Primary began the week with Halloween safety presentations to all classes, conducted by school counselor Ceci Santiesteban and social worker Sylvia Graves. The school has a week of presentations scheduled for its students, including visits from the U.S. Border Patrol and a presentation by Patches the Clown. But the big day for the school came

on Saturday, October 28, when Loya held its Annual Make A Difference Day Health Fair and Fall Festival.

Alarcon Elementary School’s activities centered around fun themes and activities for the students to participate in all week long, including, a day in which students wore their clothes inside out, had sack races at the playground during lunch recess, and a banner decorating contests.

Garcia Enriquez Middle School celebrated Red Ribbon Week by having all students sign a drug free pledge as well as having them participate in balloon lift-offs, banner and door decorating contests, and a “Dare to stay away from drugs” dance on Oct. 26, a day all students wore red to school. According to Linda Rodriguez, principal at GEMS, an anti drug fair took place on Friday and allowed parents to stop in, get important drug free information from the school, play games and win prizes.

At EXCELL Academy, a number of important presentations were given, according to Maria Baxley, counselor, including a drug-free pledge, various educational classes, and door decorating, essay, and political cartoon contests.

San Elizario High School had a whole week of themed anti-drug activities, according to Student Activities Manager Cookie Laffler. On Monday, students wore apparel matching anti-drug themes like sunglasses, caps, socks and more.

Although the week boasted plenty of anti drug presentations and activities for students in San Elizario, staying drug free is an activity that should happen 365 days a year for everyone in the community, and SEISD is doing its part to make sure that the students know that.



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

BE VERY AFRAID — Students from Mrs. Saucedo’s 4th grade class were scaring off drugs during the Red Ribbon Week Parade.

Tornillo wants to keep students drug free


By Rudy Barreda
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO — The Tornillo Elementary School and Intermediate School joined together to celebrate Red Ribbon Week with activities that were coordinated by TES/TIS Counselor Antonio Rosales.

The week began by teachers sharing the history behind RRW with their students. During a visit from the El Paso County Sheriff’s Department, Deputy Rodriguez advised students of the legal consequences of using drugs.

Throughout the week there were various activities. There was a door decoration and art contest where both teachers and students could share their best drug-free message. Red Ribbons and stickers were also distributed to all students and staff. McGruff the Crime Dog also visited classrooms to share his drug-free message with students and the 5th graders were given a drug-free presentation through the D.A.R.E. program where drug abuse prevention is the main priority.

The week ended with a parade where all students participated and yelled out their pledges to remain drug free. A balloon release at the end of the parade signified the commitment of the students to remain drug free, not just for this week, but for the rest of their lives.



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Tornillo Independent School District

Youth Basketball League

LEAGUE INFORMATION: A skills clinic will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 for 3RD through 6TH grades; and on Saturday, Dec. 9 for K thru 2ND grades. Games will begin on Saturday, Dec. 16.

FOR: All Students Grades K thru 6TH
COST: \$12

SIGN UP: Fill out a registration form for your child with the League Directors in the Intermediate School Gym. Times and dates are:

Saturday, November 4th 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, November 8th 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 9th 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 18th 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Contact Information: Coach Benson at 764-2040 ext. 283 or 637-8451.

ONE TEAM - ONE GOAL

SENIOR NIGHT


UTEP VOLLEYBALL

VS. TULANE

11/10 7PM

MEMORIAL GYM

GET IN FREE WITH A UTEP BASKETBALL STUB



EUSA

ALL MILITARY \$ 1

POST GAME MEET AND GREET

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

VS. ST. MARY'S

11/11 7:05PM

DON HASKINS CENTER

FOR TICKET INFO CALL 747-5234

Students are the best illustration of all on Reading Day at Childress Elementary

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Bill Childress Elementary School students, staff and teachers dressed up in costumes depicting their favorite book characters as part of Reading Day



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

REALLY BIG LIZARD — Bill Childress Elementary students dressed as a Chinese dragon for Reading Day. Shown from left are Amanda Garcia, Sonia Cisneros, teacher’s assistant; Noemy Macias, teacher; Priscilla Torres, Adrian Castro, Stephanie Martinez, Angel Ortiz, Jorge Ozuna, Simon Marmolejo, Isaac Carranza, Joshua Dorantes, Ricardo Muñoz, Ruby Garcia, Alexis Burgueño, and Sonja Kurlowicz.

Billy Hernandez killed in auto accident near Farwell, Texas

FARWELL, TEXAS — Billy Hernandez, 14, son of Catherine Brown of El Paso County and Joe Hernandez of Farwell, Texas was killed in a tragic automobile accident on Oct. 3, 2006.

Born March 27, 1992, Billy had been a freshman at Farwell High School for one day, previously attending Lockwood and Cameo Elementary schools and Gattis Junior High in Clovis, N.M.

“He lived a lot in his short life,” his mother wrote. “He loved riding motorcycles, he loved skateboarding and he loved playing basketball.”

Survivors include his parents; his grandparents, Frank Sosa and Linda Brown of El Paso, Jose and Felicidad Hernandez of El Paso, Ben Brown of Steelville, Mo., and Doug and Mary Carter of Midland, Texas.

He is also survived by a sister, Sandy Hernandez of Farwell; four brothers, Scott and Danny Hernandez of Farwell and Jesse Hernandez and Ben Brown of El Paso. His youngest brother, Angel Hernandez, was born on Oct. 23, 2006.



Billy Hernandez

renowned author of children’s books, who had visited Childress ES recently.

“The purpose behind having the entire campus dress up on Halloween in story book characters was to promote reading on our campus,” said Jerrie Wilson, librarian and co-

ordinator of the event at BCE.

BCE teacher Noemy Macias’s entire class participated by developing their costume from the book *Moonbeams, Dumplings & Dragon Boats*, a book of traditional Chinese stories, recipes, and activities written by Nina Simonds, Leslie Swartz, and The

Children’s Museum. The class’s costume was a Chinese parade dragon. The elaborate dragon’s body and all 15 pien-fu ceremonial costumes worn by the students, Sonia Cisneros and Soja Kurlowicz, teacher assistants and Macias were handmade by Cisneros’s mother.

Briefs

From Page 1

violence occurred, the affects on the victim, both physically and psychologically, can be long lasting. All too often, without direct intervention by authorities, a perpetrator will continue violating more victims. Anyone with information regarding the possible inappropriate behavior of the person arrested, no matter how minor one may view the incident, is encouraged to report the crime without delay. They can call our office at 546-2280 or 546-2291,” he said.

- Albert Ocegueda, an employee of Socorro ISD, has been placed on administrative leave as of Friday, Nov. 3, immediately after the district was notified of allegations of “inappropriate conduct” with a student, according to a news release from the district on Nov. 7. “Ocegueda will remain on paid administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation,” the release said. “The district is continuing to cooperate with El Paso Police Crimes Against Children detectives in their investigation of this matter. In the meantime, the district will be providing counseling for students and parents.”
- The Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) will hold

its Fall Regional Meeting, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 10, at Canutillo High School (6675 South Desert Boulevard). Local area high school students interested in teaching as a career will participate in workshops to develop leadership skills and hear guest speakers share their experiences in education. The conference’s special guest will be Alejandro Arguello, TAFE state director. “We are fortunate to have Mr. Arguello visit the Southwest. It will be a great opportunity for our local TAFE members to meet him,” said Angelina Bencomo, Canutillo High School TAFE sponsor. For more information, call 877-7846.

■ The Mountain View High School Lobo Competing Cheer Squad is hosting a Cheer Camp on Saturday, Nov. 11, for boys and girls ages 4 through 8th grade. The cost is \$20 and campers receive a t-shirt. The Cheer Squad is raising funds to go to the National Competition in Orlando, Florida. For more information contact Coach Chavez at 926-5141 at Mountain View High School.

■ First Baptist Church of Horizon City will be hosting Compassion Canada’s Hip Hop artist Manafest at 17018 Darrington Dr. in Horizon City on Friday Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and the concert is free. For more information call the church at 852-3027 or visit their website at

www.fbchorizon.org.

■ Sgt. Major Yasuyuki Goki from the Japanese Self-Defense Force (JSDF) recently made a visit to Socorro High School during his tour of duty as one of about 650 students studying at the Sgt. Majors Academy at Ft. Bliss. Sgt. Major Goki made a presentation to the NJROTC of SHS on Oct. 26. At the age of 40, the Sgt. Major has already been in the Japanese military organization, formed after the end of WWII, for 25 years. Though the Japanese military wing does not engage in actual armed conflict, Sgt. Major Goki had previously been stationed in Iraq as part of the peace-keeping mission there.

■ Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School honored Veterans Day with an assembly on Nov. 8, with Spec. Raphael Hernando III as guest speaker. A middle school named in honor of Hernando will open in the summer of 2007 as part of a combo school with Sgt. Robert Ituarte Elementary.

■ The annual windbreak tree sale, sponsored by the El Paso County office of Texas Cooperative Extension and the Texas Forest Service, is again open to the public, with seedlings of trees recommended for the El Paso area being offered for \$49 to \$58. Deadline to order is Jan. 24, by calling 851-2515. Trees will be distributed the second week of February.

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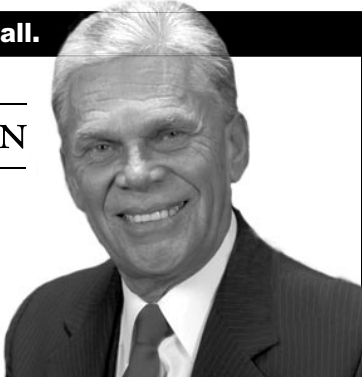
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Miner's season not what fans, players expected

Let's review before blaming, sacking coaches

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

It wasn't supposed to be this way. The natural progression was supposed to take them to a level El Paso has never seen before — ever.

It was supposed to be the ultimate culmination of the dramatic three-year transformation of Gary Nord's guys, from lackluster losers to wonderful winners. But instead, this season has been a nostalgic peek back at UTEP Miners football yesteryear.

Players like Jordan Palmer, Johnnie Lee Higgins Jr., Reagan Schneider, Chris Marrow, Troy Collavo, Josh Chamois and Joe Fleskoski, who were members of UTEP's last losing season, were supposed to go out in championship style.

Instead, by the looks of things, there will be no championship. There will be no Top-25 ranking. There will be no bowl game. And it appears that there will not even be a winning season.

The Miners 2006 will always be remembered as half a season. It seems as if the team can compete with anyone in the nation — but for only half the game. During the other half, the Miners would be hard pressed to keep up with high schoolers at Coronado or Montwood.

The mystery of why UTEP can look so good in one half of the game and so lousy the next half, has remained

unanswered.

In the Miners' 37-31 homecoming loss to Rice last Saturday, they reversed their trend of performing poorly after half-time by playing a spirited second half of football. Unfortunately, the Miners were as bad in the first half as they've been in years trailing 30-10 heading into intermission.

But in listening to frantic UTEP football fans, who are no doubt calling the sports talk shows from suicidal ledges high above the street, I must take issue with their assessment of the problem.

I hear fan, after fan, blaming the Miners' coaching staff for the team's demise. Some say Mike Price is too nice a guy. Some are saying Eric Price has no business calling the offensive plays. Some are calling for the head of defensive coordinator Tim Hundley.

I say a whole bunch of Miners fans have the memory and attention span of a sugar-rushed five-year-old.

Let me say this to the angry fans of El Paso. Sometimes, believe it or not, you have to hold the players accountable. They run, and tackle, and throw, and block, and kick, and catch and perform every other football duty on the field — not the coaches.

It's funny, over the last two years I didn't hear a single person say Mike Price was too nice, or Eric Price couldn't call the right offensive play or that Tim Hundley wasn't a defensive genius.

Remember, Hundley was the guy Michigan State wanted

to head up their defense.

El Paso, you seem to have forgotten what things were like before Price arrived at UTEP. This team couldn't compete in games, let alone win any. Remember UTEP going 6-30 the three years before Mike Price?

Remarkably, since Price's arrival, the Miner team has made appearances in the Top-25 polls, has played in two straight bowl games, has drawn game attendance at record levels and the team is receiving national attention for its success and not for any record-setting losses.

And when was the last time any of that happened?

Have the Miners been terribly disappointing this year? Of course they have. But after four decades of the worst football imaginable, El Paso fans have got to recognize what they have here.

The best of UTEP football is a couple years away when the athletes Mike Price has recruited ease their way into the starting lineup.

I envision a team that has an offensive line that blocks, enabling the runners to gain yards, with defenders who can actually tackle.

Until then, UTEP fans will have to learn to live with this bad season. Stop acting like little kids blaming everyone in sight and be thankful that we have one of the better coaches in the country in our backyard. That's Mike Price (20-13) at UTEP.

Or maybe you'd like to go back to the days of Gary Nord (14-34), David Lee (11-41-1), Bill Michael (4-43), Bill Yung (7-39), Charlie Bailey (19-53-1), Gil Bartosh (6-28) or Tommy Hudspeth (1-14).



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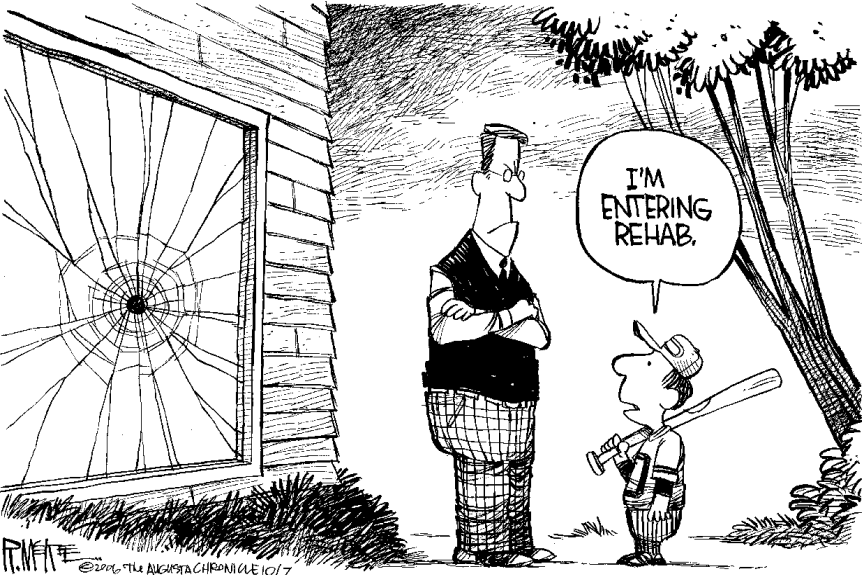
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Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-11/09/06

GARAGE SALE

Canutillo Heights Estates 2nd Annual Garage Sale, Saturday, Nov. 11, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. OVER 12 FAMILIES! (Use I-10 Transmountain Exit, off Los Mochis and South Desert Roads). 11/9

HELP WANTED

The San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society has an opening for Operations Director at Los Portales Mu-

seum. Bi-lingual, part-time, Tuesday thru Sunday, four hours daily, plus some meetings. Duties: grant writing, public interaction, computer skills, etc. Contact Martha Garciaa, 851-1682. 11/23

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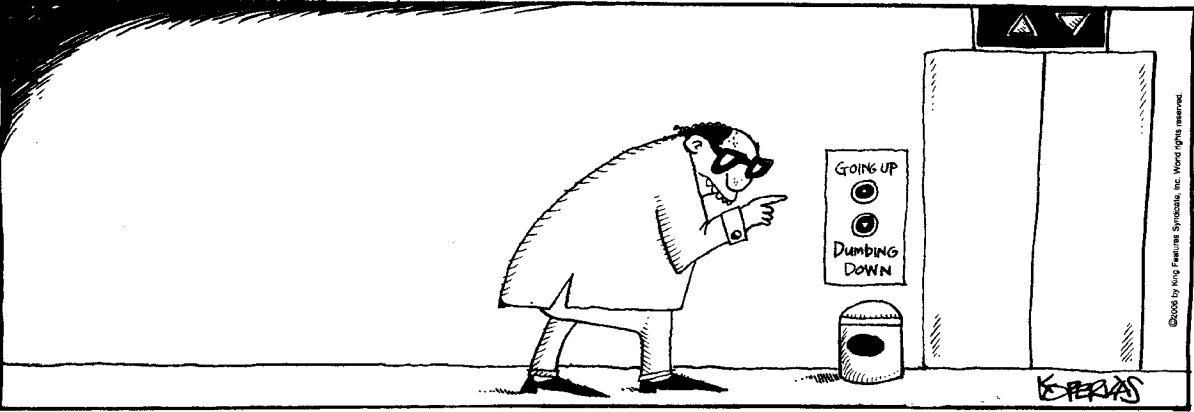
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OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



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Here’s to better-looking government

By Don Flood

According to an article in The Washington Post, Democrats enjoy a clear — or perhaps clear-skinned — advantage in this year’s elections: They’re better-looking.

Finally, the Democrats are getting that “vision thing” down — or at least their candidates are more appealing to our vision.

Whatever. It’s pretty much the same thing.

Because let’s face it, it’s time to clean house.

I don’t mean to higgledy-piggledy throw everybody out of Congress. That would be unfair — just the ugly ones.

I’m not naive. I realize we can’t expect our politicians to be honest, thoughtful and trustworthy, but I guess I’m still idealistic enough to believe they should be good-looking.

Let’s take a look, for example, at Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert. On second thought, let’s not.

I don’t like to kick a man when he’s down — OK, maybe sometimes — but Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert is a homely man.

This became all too obvious during the Rep. Mark Foley scandal.

Day after day, in newspapers and Web sites, I’d see close-ups of Hastert’s face, screwed up into painful contortions as he tried to explain his part in the Foley scandal. It didn’t make for a pleasant breakfast.

Hastert, often described as a “bear” of a man — not something we can expect the bears to be pleased about — has a face that’s problematic even for radio, much less television. The FCC should bar him from making televised press conferences.

Or, if it was absolutely necessary, he should wear a bag over his head.

The Post referred to one race in Tennessee, where Republican Bob Corker is running against Rep. Harold E. Ford Jr., described as “lean and stylish.”

The story quotes Corker as saying he knows he’s not as good-looking and then says, “He hopes his business experience will compensate.”

Is this guy kidding? Hey Corker, if that’s your real name, did good grades get you a date with the homecoming queen?

Of course not. It’s obvious you’re not dealing with reality. Now, that in itself isn’t a handicap — nobody expects Congresspeople, of all people, to deal with reality — but they should be expected to be good-looking.

Our Founding Fathers understood this.

Alexander Hamilton, writing in No. 9 of the Federalist Papers, said, “People hit with the ugly stick have no business running for Congress.”

Sadly, we’ve forgotten that sage advice.

I also had a problem with a quote from Rep. Rahm Emanuel, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (and who strongly denies recruiting candidates from “Girls Gone Wild” videos).

Emanuel said, “There’s a fine line and you can’t cross it,” meaning you can’t be too good-looking or people won’t take you seriously.

Rep. Emanuel needs to get a grip. We’re facing real problems in this country. We need real good-looking people to lead us so that people will pay attention.

There’s an old saying that people get the government they deserve.

I’d like to think we deserve Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

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King Super Crossword

PERFORMANCE REVIEW ACROSS

1 Sarah _ Jewett

5 Melville monomaniac

9 Michelangelo subject

14 Mecca men

19 "The Seventh _" ('56 film)

20 Fount

21 _ acid

22 Craze

23 WORK IS FIRST

PRIORITY

25 DELEGATES WELL

27 Plant pest

28 Pianist Lupu

30 Anderson's "High _"

31 "I told you so!"

32 Alaskan port

34 Wine valley

38 "Blue _" ('63 hit)

41 NEEDS LITTLE

DIRECTION

46 Opposite of aweather

47 London lavatory

48 Anglo-Saxon laborer

49 Jabber away

51 Catherine of "7th Heaven"

55 Most fashionable

58 Produces a cryptogram

60 Islamic deity

61 Swiss sharpshooter

62 _ War (racehorse)

63 Crossworder's need

66 Tempest _ teapot

67 Bull or boar

69 Author Umberto

71 " _ Nidre"

72 Once again

73 GOOD

COMMUNICATION

SKILLS

78 Oktoberfest offering

80 Past

81 Cologne cry

82 Snaky swimmers

83 Blunder

84 Ritter or Houston

87 Olympic hawk

89 Kansas city

92 Colorado or Connecticut

94 Dickens character

96 Dennis, for one

98 Barnyard birds

99 Burn a bit

100 Actress Vima

102 Advanced deg.

103 Tolstoy's " _ Karenina"

105 HAS LEADER-SHIP QUALITIES

109 Pull on a rope

111 Tend the sauce

112 Actress Perlman

113 " _ the season..."

114 _ glance

116 Singer Laine

119 Fester or Sam

123 CAREER-MINDED

129 AGGRESSIVE

131 Shakespearean sprite

132 Surround a Seurat

133 Mythical vessel

134 Give off

135 " _ Night in Georgia" ('70 hit)

136 De Valera of Ireland

137 Snack

138 One of the Kennedys

DOWN

1 Dept. of Labor div.

2 Harvest

3 Old auto

4 Weather factor

5 Leatherworker's tool

6 Legatee

7 _ Romeo

8 Ran in the wash

9 Pop

10 Latin I word

11 Compete

12 Part of MIT

13 "Mellow Yellow" fellow

14 Qty.

15 Sound from the stands

16 Aromatic plant

17 French psychologist

18 Wise guy?

24 Fragrance

26 Hurler Hershiser

29 Sturm _ Drang

33 Encounter

35 Flying start?

36 Inhibited one

37 Ed of "JFK"

39 "The Merry Widow" composer

40 Conceal

41 Out of sorts

42 Zodiac animal

43 A bit of Bach

44 Draft status

45 Cheesemaker's need

50 Honshu metropolis

52 Hold fast

53 Lucci role

54 Clarinetist Artie

56 Playwright Rice

57 Eastern European

59 Actor James

62 Highway sign

64 Does some cobbling

65 Actress Sommer

68 Rachel's sister

70 _ -Locka, FL

72 Williams of "Happy Days"

73 Novocaine target

74 Maestro Georg

75 "Beat it!"

76 Roller-coaster feeling

77 Tennis pro Nastase

78 "Wozzeck" composer

79 "Clinton's Ditch"

84 Senator Lott

85 Some skirts

86 Trepidation

88 Runner Zatopek

90 Composer Schiffrin

91 Bill of Rights grp.

93 Son of Isaac

95 He's abominable

96 Ho Chi _

97 "Kookie" Byrnes

99 Southwestern capital

101 Lamour's wardrobe

104 Tidy

106 Parenthesis shape

107 Pas de _

108 Poet Sidney

109 Pageant prop

110 Computer acronym

113 It'll give you a lift

115 " _-Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)

117 Bank offering

118 Spanish river

120 Crooner Perry

121 San _ Obispo, CA

122 Ferrara first family

124 Berry or Olin

125 Crafty

126 Impact sound

127 First name in comedy

128 Stimp'y's pal

130 Aah's partner

Answer Page 6

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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: My wife worked for a number of years but became a full-time homemaker after our children were born. We noticed in her most recent Social Security Statement that she is only three work credits shy of qualifying for Social Security retirement benefits. Can we voluntarily contribute the \$970 per quarter in earnings that are required for Social Security so that she will have retirement benefits coverage?

A: No. People cannot get additional Social Security credits by voluntarily contributing money to Social Security. They can earn credits only by working in a job or business covered under Social Security. However, even if your wife does not have her own Social Security coverage she will probably be eligible to receive Social Security benefits based on your work record.

Q: I have been receiving Social Security disability benefits for the past two years. A family friend tells me that I have to be re-evaluated every few years in order to make sure that I am still disabled. Is this true?

A: Yes. Social Security periodically reviews the continuing eligibility of people who receive Social Security benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) because of a disability. Generally, Social Security reviews the claims of people whose disabilities are not considered to be permanent at least every 3 years. The claims of people with disabilities considered to be permanent are reviewed at least once every 5 to 7 years.

Q: I was married to my ex-husband for 14 years and I have been told that he now has serious health problems from which he is not expected to recover. What Social Security benefits would our two children, now ages 11 and 8, be eligible for if he dies?

A: Assuming that your ex-husband worked and paid Social Security taxes, survivors benefits would be paid to his unmarried children who are younger than 18 — or up to age 19 if they are attending elementary or secondary school full time.









Q: I will be 65 in September and get about \$265 a month from Social Security. Am I eligible for anything else, such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments?

A: Based on your age, you may be eligible for SSI, a need-based program, once you turn 65. Your eligibility will depend on whether you have other income and resources, such as Veterans benefits, family income, stocks and bonds, etc., in addition to your Social Security benefits

For information visit your local office, see www.ssa.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

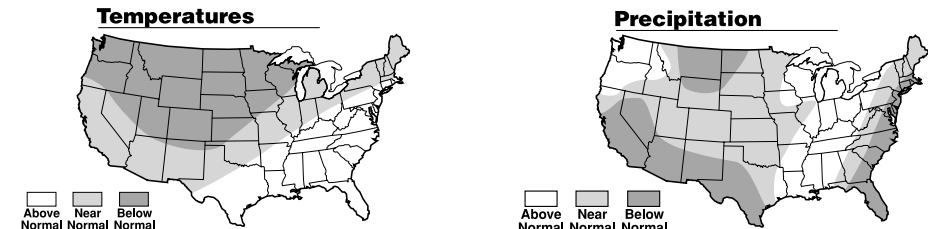
7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

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Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
							
Sunny and pleasantly warm	Clear	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Sunny to partly cloudy	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Several hours of sun	Sunny	Plenty of sunshine
80°	50°	74° 44°	67° 42°	72° 44°	66° 40°	67° 42°	70° 43°
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WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK



IN THE SKY

Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Last	New
Thu.	6:28 a.m.	5:10 p.m.	Thu.	8:56 p.m.	11:01 a.m.		
Fri.	6:29 a.m.	5:09 p.m.	Fri.	9:59 p.m.	11:48 a.m.	11/12	11/20
Sat.	6:30 a.m.	5:09 p.m.	Sat.	11:00 p.m.	12:27 p.m.	First	Full
Sun.	6:31 a.m.	5:08 p.m.	Sun.	11:58 p.m.	1:00 p.m.		
Mon.	6:32 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	Mon.	none	1:28 p.m.	11/27	12/4
Tues.	6:33 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	Tues.	12:54 a.m.	1:54 p.m.		
Wed.	6:34 a.m.	5:06 p.m.	Wed.	1:48 a.m.	2:18 p.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

REGIONAL CITIES

	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
City	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	87	59	s	76	45	s	68	46	s	73	50	s
Albuquerque, NM	70	43	s	62	33	s	59	34	s	61	39	pc
Amarillo, TX	85	43	s	58	32	pc	58	36	s	66	34	pc
Austin, TX	87	66	s	84	56	c	70	45	s	75	58	s
Brownsville, TX	90	73	pc	91	72	pc	84	61	c	83	70	pc
Dodge City, KS	72	42	s	50	28	r	56	35	s	57	32	pc
Jackson, MS	79	57	s	80	59	c	69	50	t	67	48	s
Laredo, TX	92	70	s	91	65	pc	76	59	pc	80	65	pc
Little Rock, AR	78	60	s	77	58	c	65	43	pc	65	44	pc
Lubbock, TX	86	48	s	68	37	s	68	38	s	71	38	s
Memphis, TN	76	60	s	76	59	c	64	46	sh	65	47	pc
Midland, TX	87	53	s	73	39	pc	68	43	s	72	47	s
Pueblo, CO	72	36	s	50	21	pc	58	23	pc	57	26	pc
Roswell, NM	85	46	s	72	37	s	67	38	s	74	40	s
St. Louis, MO	73	57	s	71	51	c	53	39	c	57	41	pc
San Antonio, TX	88	68	s	83	60	pc	73	49	pc	76	60	s
Texarkana, AR	83	65	s	82	59	c	67	45	pc	65	49	s
Waco, TX	85	70	s	82	55	pc	68	46	s	74	57	s
Wichita, KS	73	52	s	57	36	r	54	37	pc	60	37	pc

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

U.S. CITIES

	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
City	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Atlanta	73	53	s	75	56	pc	71	53	t	70	48	pc
Boston	66	47	c	55	41	s	56	47	pc	59	45	r
Chicago	64	45	s	59	46	r	52	34	c	50	35	pc
Denver	63	33	pc	45	24	r	55	26	pc	51	28	pc
Detroit	64	40	pc	56	46	c	56	41	r	50	36	pc
Houston	86	67	s	83	64	pc	76	54	pc	76	58	pc
Indianapolis	65	51	pc	68	53	pc	61	42	c	53	40	pc
Kansas City	68	51	s	58	40	r	54	35	pc	54	36	pc
Los Angeles	69	52	pc	72	52	s	74	54	s	70	56	pc
Miami	81	67	s	83	71	s	84	70	pc	84	70	c
Minneapolis	55	33	pc	41	28	sn	43	25	pc	43	29	pc
New Orleans	81	66	s	81	64	pc	78	59	t	74	61	s
New York City	68	50	c	58	47	s	60	52	pc	60	48	r
Omaha	65	44	s	52	31	r	51	30	pc	51	32	pc
Phoenix	84	58	pc	80	51	pc	79	54	pc	80	56	s
San Francisco	63	47	s	63	50	pc	63	51	pc	62	54	c
Seattle	48	41	pc	50	42	r	49	41	r	48	40	c
Washington	68	50	pc	68	48	s	68	52	pc	62	46	r

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