



NEWSBRIEFS

No TAPR meeting in Tornillo ISD

Last week the *West Texas County Courier* ran a notice for meeting in Tornillo ISD. The notice should not have been published and there will be no TAPR meeting for the District on January 24, 2018. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the erroneous placement.

– Publisher

Stewardess turned flight attendant

Betty Nash had a special day recently at Reagan National Airport in D.C. She was honored by American Airlines for her service as a flight attendant, having stood the test of time, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. Betty began her career 60 years ago when they still called them stewardesses. She overcame the prejudices of ageism and sexism by holding out and watching things change for the better. By the way, she is still on the job at the young old age of 82.

– John Grimaldi

He had the munchies

He was hungry. It was late. The guy behind the counter was asleep. So, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens, the customer made his own bacon cheesesteak melt sandwich. It happened recently at a Waffle House restaurant in West Columbia, SC in the wee hours of the morning. The guy, who was a bit tipsy but who was not a thief, came back later the same day to pay for his meal.

– John Grimaldi

Suspect sought

A 37-year-old man is killed at the hands of a hit and run driver. Deputies from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office are asking for the public's help in finding the driver responsible for his death through the Crime Stoppers. Between the late night hours of Sunday, Dec. 31 and the early morning of Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 Eduardo Vasquez was crossing I-10 West and had made it the shoulder of the interstate. During this time, a maroon colored car that was traveling on I-10 West struck Vasquez. The driver of the vehicle

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A man's freedom to do ends when it begins to infringe on the freedom of another.

– Quips & Quotes

Castner protected from development

Monument status comes next

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – With the signing of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) this month, Castner Range – the 7,081 acres of land in Northeast El Paso on the eastern slopes of the Franklin Mountains – is no longer threatened by commercial development. But the provision is not good enough, according to local preservationists.

Beto O'Rourke, El Paso's United States congressman, called the enactment of the provision an environmental victory. O'Rourke placed the provision in this year's NDAA to protect the range from commercial enterprise, roads, use of vehicles, and the construction of buildings on the desert land. The provision also protects and conserves ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, cultural, historical, natural, educational and scientific resources within the designated land.

Castner Range, which was an artillery practice area for Fort Bliss through the 1960s, and still owned by the U.S. Department of Defense, features various plants and wildlife and is part of the Chihuahuan Desert ecosystem. Some of the plants include Mexican gold poppies, lechuguilla cactus, creosote bushes, whitehorn, tarbush, Spanish sword yucca, desert willow, Apache plume and little



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

GOLDEN CARPET – Preservation efforts for Caster Range have been underway since at least 1971. The recent passage of a provision in this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to safeguard the range from commercial development was applauded by environmental activists and conservation advocates throughout Texas.

leaf sumac, officials said.

However, the NDAA provision has only rekindled endeavors to get Castner Range national monument status despite falling short last year. And, a new fund has been created to aid the community's conservation efforts.

"Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition and Frontera Land Alliance, along with the El Paso Community Foundation, are really trying to take

advantage of a window of time where we could make a run for this community to tell the people in Washington, D.C., that we want Castner Range, which had been sitting here for 65 years without any activity on it, to become a national monument," El Paso Community Foundation President and CEO Eric Pearson stated during a recent press

See CASTNER, Page 4

Students reach higher in EPCC program

By Jim Heiney
Special to the Courier



– Photos courtesy EPCC

BIG EQUIPMENT – Jasper Alvarado worked on a project during lab in pursuit of his machinist certificate.

EL PASO COUNTY – Jasper Alvarado graduated in December 2017 with a Computer Numerical Controls (CNC) Machinist Certificate from El Paso Community College (EPCC). Alvarado was one of 2,234 students who graduated with a degree or certificate. What makes Jasper unique is that he is the first graduate of the EPCC program Project Higher.

Project Higher helps students with intellectual and developmental disabilities achieve their goals. "There are two goals in Project Higher. The first goal is for students to complete a level-one certificate," Rick Razo, M.Ed. Program Manager for Project Higher said. "The second goal is to find employment in their area of study." After the two-year program, students earn a level-one certificate in their field. In its upcoming third year, Project Higher will have a class of 21 students. Since its inception, students have earned 156 credit hours and a 3.5 grade point average.

Each student is assigned an Educational Coach to help in and out of the classroom. The coaches are from the Master's Rehabilitation Counseling Program

See EPCC, Page 2

Moments in Time

The History Channel

• On Jan. 29, 1843, William McKinley, who will become the 25th American president, is born in Niles, Ohio. McKinley served in the White House when the U.S. automotive industry was in its infancy, and he was the first president to ride in an automobile, a Stanley Steamer.

• On Jan. 30, 1933, with a shout of “Hi-yo, Silver! Away!” The Lone Ranger debuts on radio. The naive creators had the Indian scout Tonto speaking in a comical Indian patois, uttering ludicrous phrases like “You betchum!”

• On Jan. 31, 1872, Zane Grey, author of “Riders of the Purple Sage,” is born in Zanesville, Ohio. As a child, Grey sometimes got in fistfights with boys who teased him about his first name, Pearl. Grey later replaced it with his mother’s maiden name, Zane.

• On Feb. 1, 1884, the first portion of the Oxford English Dictionary is published. It took more than 40 years until the full dictionary was complete –

at over 400,000 words and phrases in 10 volumes – in April 1928.

• On Feb. 2, 1962, the first U.S. Air Force plane is lost in South Vietnam. The C-123 aircraft crashed while spraying an Agent Orange-like defoliant on a Viet Cong ambush site.

• On Feb. 3, 1950, Klaus Fuchs, a German-born British scientist who helped develop the atomic bomb, is arrested in Great Britain for passing top-secret information about the bomb to the Soviet Union. The arrest of Fuchs led authorities to several other individuals, including Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were subsequently executed.

• OnFeb.4, 1789, George Washington, the commander of the Continental Army, is unanimously elected the first president of the United States by all 69 presidential electors. John Adams of Massachusetts, who received 34 votes, was elected vice president.

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Strange But True

By Samantha Weaver

• It was British author P.L. Travers, best known for her series of books about Mary Poppins, who made the following sage observation: “A writer is, after all, only half his book. The other half is the reader, and from the reader the writer learns.”

• You’ve probably been to a restaurant with a dessert called Death by Chocolate, but the real-life event is less appetizing. After falling into a vat of boiling chocolate in New Jersey, a man died before his co-workers were able to pull him out.

• Colgate toothpaste is good for more than just cleaning those pearly whites, evidently. Domestic scientists claim that it’s also great for cleaning piano keys and removing scratches from glass.

• It’s not known why there’s a New Jersey law banning the sale of cabbage on Sunday.

• The first Band-Aid brand bandage didn’t exactly look like the Band-Aids

we’re familiar with today. For instance, it was 3 inches wide and 18 inches long. A bit of overkill for a scraped elbow, I imagine.

• At weddings here in the United States, it is common for the bride to toss her bouquet to determine who will be the next to be married. At weddings in Finland the custom is a bit different, though the outcome is the same: There, the bride traditionally wears a golden crown, and at the reception she is blindfolded and spun around. Then all the single girls in attendance dance around her while the bride, still blindfolded, tries to place the crown on one of them. It’s believed that the lucky girl who ends up wearing the crown will be the next to wed.

Thought for the Day: “Where it is a duty to worship the sun, it is pretty sure to be a crime to examine the laws of heat.”

– John Morley

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EPCC

From Page 1

at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). The students are not only assisted in their schoolwork, but are coached in areas like study skills, time management and advocacy. “I learned to ask for help, not be shy and speak up for myself,” Alvarado said.

Alvarado would like to use his certificate in the area of computer-designed blue prints, but also continue his education. Jasper wants to get a degree in family counseling to help future students like himself.

EPCC provides academic programs and support services that are clear pathways to skill development, timely degree completion and gainful employment.



Jasper Alvarado

Briefs

From Page 1

did not stop to render any aid or called for assistance. The suspect fled the scene on I-10. Vasquez was found at approximately 9:30 a.m. Sheriff’s Investigators have learned that the vehicle involved is a 2013 to 2016 Hyundai Elantra. Vasquez died at the scene from his injuries. The vehicle involved will have damage to the front of the vehicle including a broken windshield. Anyone with any information on the vehicle or driver involved is asked to call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-8477 (TIPS), or on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word “CRIME1” (no space and include the quotation marks) plus your

tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may qualify for a cash reward.

– Javier Sambrano

Annoyed with commuting

The frustrations of commuting to work in heavy traffic apparently forced a driver in China recently to take matters into his own hands, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. Security cameras caught him repainting the arrows on the road in a way that would allow him to avoid the traffic on his way to work. He told a reporter from a local newspaper: “I saw that the straight lane was always packed with cars, while the lane that turns left has a lot of space. I thought changing the signs would make my commute smoother.”

– John Grimaldi

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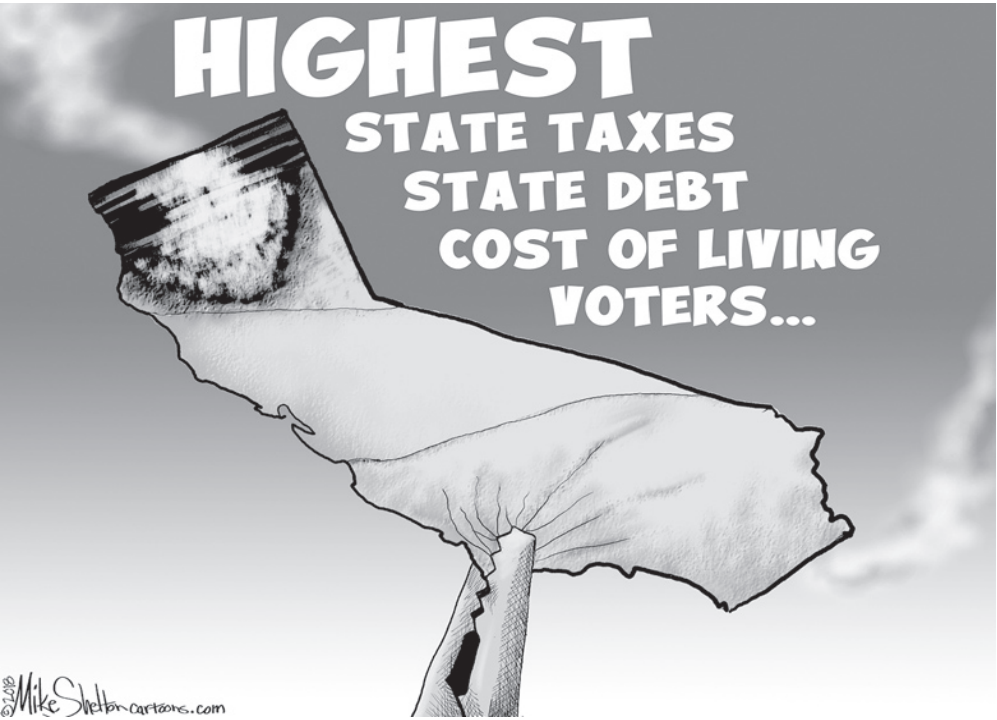
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View from here

By Dan Weber

Free speech is a guaranteed right

The Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to conservatives too

America’s schools foster intolerance. They’ve become places where students are taught not to seek out the truth or the thoughts and opinions of others who disagree with them.

Rather, our schools – particularly our colleges and universities – have become hotbeds of “hard left fascism,” as Chicago Tribune columnist John Kass put it in an opinion article last spring.

The notion that a progressive, leftist culture is firmly entrenched in our schools came to the fore yet again recently when a Rhodes scholar complained that the prestigious scholarship program is biased against conservative viewpoints. Dan Lubrich, who represents the Rhodes Scholars for Intellectual Diversity, a group advocating for free speech and different viewpoints, went public with a letter he wrote to the Rhodes trust. In it, he accused the program of seeking to silence conservative opinion.

The group, itself, states plainly in its online mission statement that the management of the Rhodes scholarship trustees openly oppose diversity of opinion. “Dissent is all too frequently not countered with facts and reasoned arguments, but with baseless accusations, ad hominem fallacies and outright insults. Rhodes Scholars for Intellectual Diversity aims to stand firm against the danger of an intellectual mono-culture which this entails.”

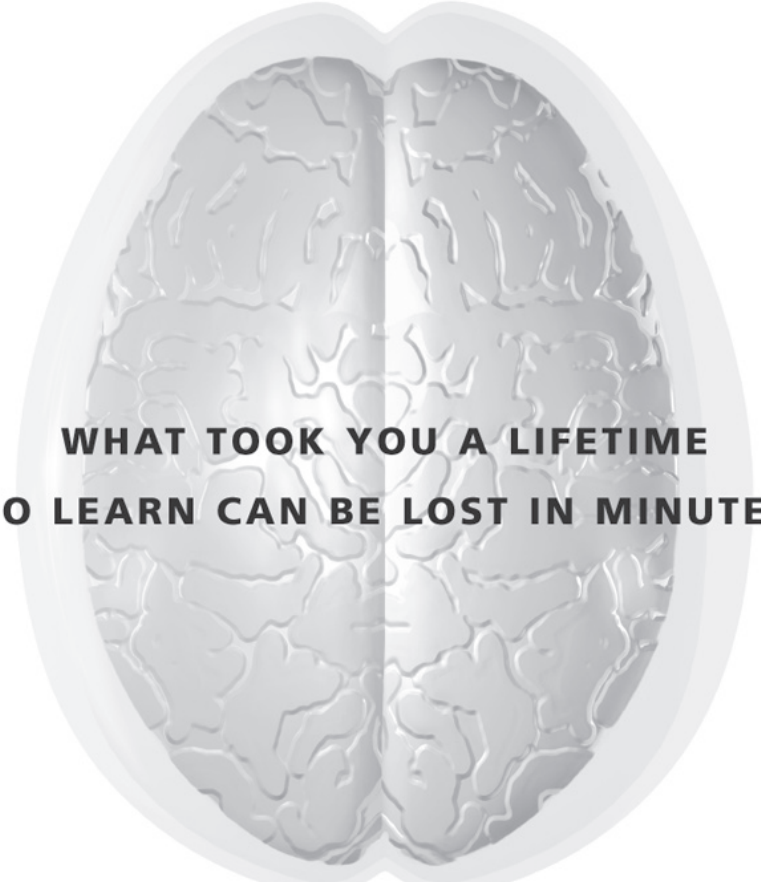
One recent report, based on a study by the Higher Education Research Institute, shows that liberal professors on our college campuses outnumber conservatives by about five to one.

The virus of leftist bigotry, meanwhile, is spreading. Across the country, institutions of higher learning are prohibiting anyone with a conservative view from lecturing on campus. And, in those instances where a conservative is invited to speak, they are likely to be met with violent opposition.

“It’s there in front of you, the thuggish mobs of the left killing free speech at American universities. The thugs call themselves antifa, for anti-fascists. They beat people up and break things and set fires and intimidate. These are not anti-fascists. These are fascists. This is what fascists do,” Kass wrote in his column.

As bad as the violence is, the suppression of free speech has potentially disastrous

See SPEECH, Page 4




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Fabens HS seniors receive scholarships

By Denise Peña
Special to the Courier

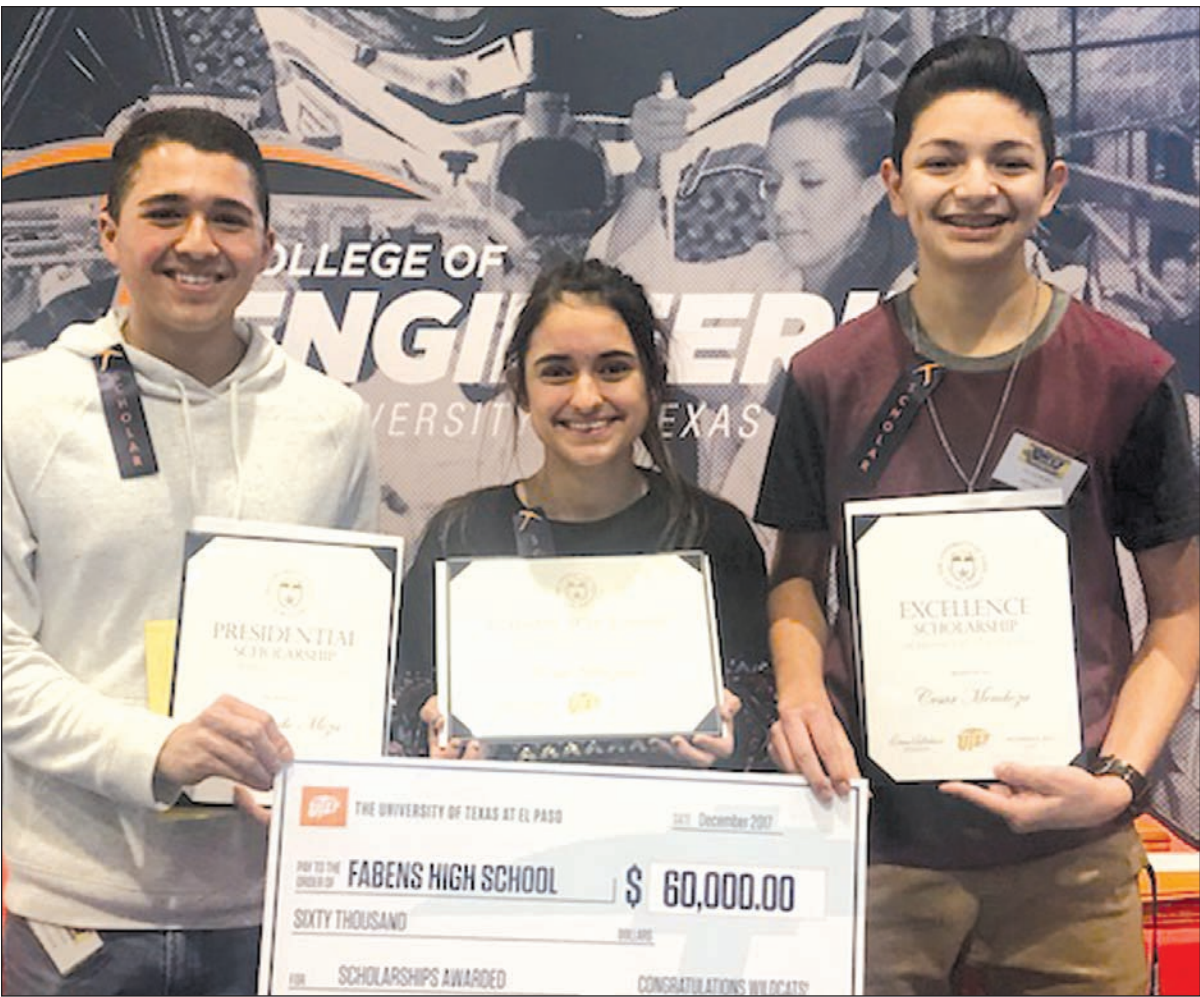
FABENS – Three Fabens High School seniors were awarded scholarships from the University of Texas-El Paso (UTEP) at an Explore UTEP expo held Monday, December 11 in the Fabens Wildcat Den gymnasium. Scholarships awards are for 4 years. Armando Meza was awarded \$8,000 a year, Cesar Mendoza was awarded \$6,000 a year and Noemi Valenzuela was awarded \$1,000 a year.

Armando Meza also got a housing plan with his scholarship and plans to study biophysics. “I didn’t know we were going to be awarded our scholarships in front of everyone,” he said. “It made me feel proud and grateful.”

For Cesar Mendoza, the scholarship is a validation. “I feel like my hard work has paid off,” he said. “All the late nights I spent studying and finishing homework have been worth getting the chance to go to college without worrying about how to pay for it.”

– Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

STUDY MONEY – From left, Armando Meza, Noemi Valenzuela and Cesar Mendoza show off their scholarship letters and a \$60,000 check.



Castner

From Page 1

conference to announce the fund.

“We had a nice small victory with the language that protects Castner Range with the National Defense Authorization Act, but that doesn’t make it a national monument,” Pearson said. “It doesn’t provide people with access to it. What it does is prevent it from being developed.”

Pearson added, “So we are going to have to ramp up our efforts by doing a letter-writing campaign, get a website up, and get people motivated to support Castner Range and make their voices heard in Washington, D.C. After that, we are going to have to raise the money to help develop the site, put trails in, and make it accessible to the community. It is very important to get the community involved to help raise the money and do the letter-writing campaign to make our voices heard.”

The newly-created Fund for Castner Range currently has about \$75,000 gathered through donations from community members, Pearson related. Organizers stated that they hope that as the efforts move forward, more donations will be made to aid in building trails and other amenities once Castner Range earns national monument status.



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

PRETTY PLANT – The poppies are a yearly attraction for El Pasoans and visitors to Castner Range. A Poppy Fest is held each year to showcase the importance of the mountain region. Last April’s Poppy Fest was the 11th for the annual event.

During the recent news conference – that was held at Castner Range – O’Rourke said, “We have so much to offer that we are so proud of and that is so important to the fundamental understanding of America. These 7,000-plus acres that are in front of us today that, thanks to the community, we are going to preserve and ultimately open up for more Americans and folks who travel across the world to see.”

Local preservation organization members have been trying to save Castner Range since the early 1970s. Last year, O’Rourke and community leaders attempted to get Castner Range designated as a national monument but were unsuccessful.

For more information on the efforts to make Castner Range a national monument, organizers have two websites that interested individuals may visit: the Community Foundation’s website at epcf.org and the movement’s website, at castnerrangenationalmonument.org.

Speech


From Page 3

long-term implications for the nation. Groups such as antifa have an agenda – to take down our government. And, if our liberal educators – wittingly or unwittingly – do not stand up for the rights of those who disagree with their views, our kids will have a grim future to look forward to.

One antifa unit in Texas, the Red Guards Austin, makes no bones about the intent of their movement: to bring down our duly elected government and replace it with a Communist regime.

We must be aware of these threats against our freedom and not hesitate to stand up for our rights when necessary.

Dan Weber is president of the Association of Mature American Citizens (<http://www.amac.us>), a senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today.



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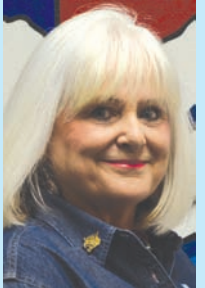
When someone types capital letters an awful lot I guess you might call him a shifty person.

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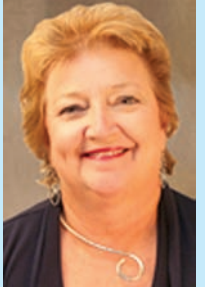


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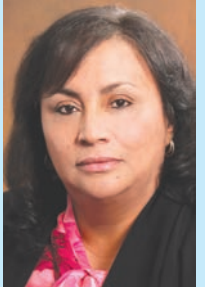
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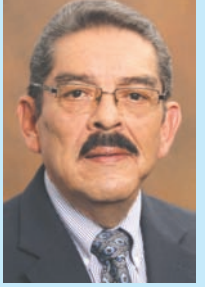
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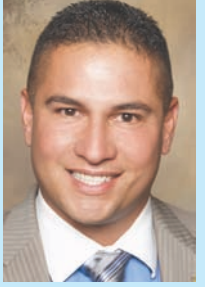
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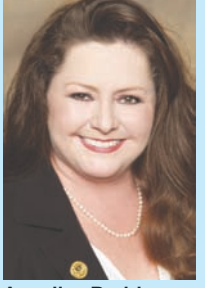
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Superintendents

Thank You For Serving

Get a grip: Some fans in the stands are out of hand

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There’s a belief around the country among many sports fans that once anyone buys a ticket, they are allowed to do pretty much whatever they want (short of going on the field and strangling an opposing player). And by doing anything they want, I really mean shouting out whatever they want.

Everyone is in agreement that you can’t throw anything on the court or fight with your fellow fans in the stands, but many of them feel that “sticks and stones may break somebody’s bones, but filthy words are totally acceptable – even encouraged.”

But is that necessarily the case?

For the most part, fans are pretty creative with their comments at opposing players and coaches. They’re especially imaginative when it comes to the referees, officials or judges.

But most of them keep control of their sanity and limit their comments to “c’mon ref,” “what are you, blind,” or the

simplicity of the time-honored “boo.”

Then there are the fans that go completely insane and scream out the kinds of obscenities that would make Lenny Bruce blush.

And these fans will not only shout out some of the most vile phrases known to mankind, they’ll throw out racial slurs and deliver comments that question an athlete’s real manhood – if you know what I mean.

Here’s the kicker, though the vulgar comments are directed at the guys, or girls, on the field, many times there are young fans in the vicinity of the offending moron.

Some fans could care less who hears them, or whether anyone else feels uncomfortable around them.

But where is the line?

A couple weeks ago at a UTEP basketball game, an official who must have been having a bad day, gave Miners’ coach Phil Johnson a couple of back-to-back technical fouls and tossed him from the game for questioning one of his calls.

Of course the fans booed the ref relentlessly after that and, sitting at courtside, I could see he was getting more

frustrated as the game went on.

There are a couple of fans that always sit directly behind me who keep press row in stitches with their hilarious taunts during the game.

Later in that same game, one of those fans yelled out his typical, “you’re horrible ref, just horrible!”

The referee went over to one of the arena officials and had the fan escorted out of the Don Haskins Center.

Needless to say, all of us sat there amazed that the fan was thrown out for what most of us thought was a non-infraction.

Let me also say for the record that all of us agreed with his comment.

Anyway, it isn’t just officials who are tired of the insults.

Last week, Golden State’s Klay Thompson dove to the ground behind the basket area and was barraged with expletives by a fan sitting there.

Thompson pointed out the fan to arena personnel and they had the fan thrown out of the game. I’m not sure if his beer was allowed to go with him.

In my humble opinion, there are many fans that go to games with good intentions

but quickly go over the edge when alcohol is added to the equation.

You hear about fans fighting in the stands and in the parking lots. Sometimes even weapons are involved. We’ve even heard about fans getting so drunk that they somehow fall over a railing to their death.

Let’s be honest, if you can’t get home from a sporting event alive there’s something really wrong going on.

Do I personally ever cuss at the top of my lungs watching a game? Yes, I certainly have. But that is confined to my living room couch when I have the house to myself.

Out in public I have a little more respect for myself and others around me.

And that’s all fans have to do around the other humans. Have some respect.

It really isn’t that hard.

Yell and scream and shout all you want, just do it without using vulgar language or personal attacks.

Believe me, fans around you are making more of a judgment about you than who ever you’re yelling at.

Remember, “*fan*” is short for “*fanatical*,” – not “*profanity*” or “*infantile*.”

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Saban the Great

The word “greatest of all time” gets bandied about a lot these days, and rarely is it true (see: Tiger Woods, LeBron James). However, in certain cases, it is either emphatically true (Tom Brady) or definitely worth discussing. Nick Saban, Alabama’s dynastic coach, is well-worth discussing.

The discussion doesn’t stray outside of the state of Alabama. For before Saban won his five championships (six overall), there was Paul “Bear” Bryant

and his six championships at Alabama. Bryant has a stadium, museum, drive and a hall named after him in Tuscaloosa, and Saban’s got a statue of himself out front. But can the two really be compared?

Bear Bryant was a trailblazer. He, in part, probably did more than anyone to advance the game of college football during his decades’ long career. Now known more for his torturous, inhumane training camps than his record of 323-85-17, Bryant

won championships in 1961, 1964, 1965, 1973, 1978 and 1979. Modern day historians also would like to say he won another two national championships – one at Kentucky in 1950 and Alabama in 1966.

Saban has won 11 SEC titles and has a scorching-hot record of 218-62-1. Alabama’s recruiting classes have been phenomenal, and with the Clemson rivalry tilting toward ‘Bama, it’s not a stretch to think that they can win a few more. The Bowl Championship Series favors Alabama. Anytime they are picked in the top four you have to make Alabama the favorite, and not due to the talent on the field

... the in-game coaching of Saban is nothing short of spectacular.

Saban has guts. He called for an onside kick at the beginning of the fourth quarter a few years back that sent Clemson reeling, leading to a dramatic win. This year, in the championship, his benching of QB Jalen Hurts at the half in favor of Tua Tagovaila, the hard-throwing freshman hot-shot out of Hawaii, will go down in history as one of the greatest coaching decisions of all-time.

But is he the greatest? Saban doesn’t think so.

“I think Coach Bryant is probably the best coach of all time because of the longevity of his tenure as a coach and the way he changed,” Saban said

after the title game. “I mean, he won championships running the wishbone. He won them with Joe Namath dropping back throwing when people never, ever did it. I just think that, for his time, he impacted the game and had more success than anybody ever could.”

Popular rumor has Saban returning to the NFL to coach the New York Giants, but the smart money says he will stay at Alabama and manufacture even more championships. Either way. It’s going to be great to watch.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sports writer who lives in New Jersey. (c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

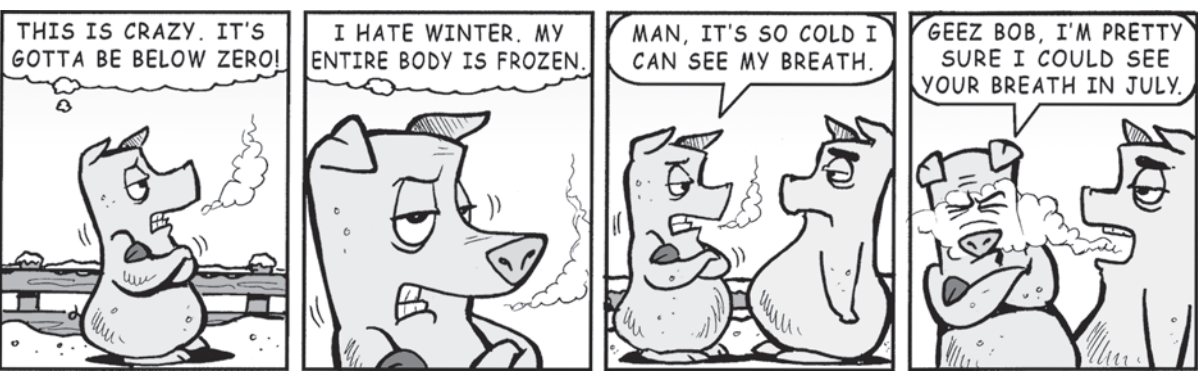


Comix

OUT ON A LIMBBy Gary Kopervas



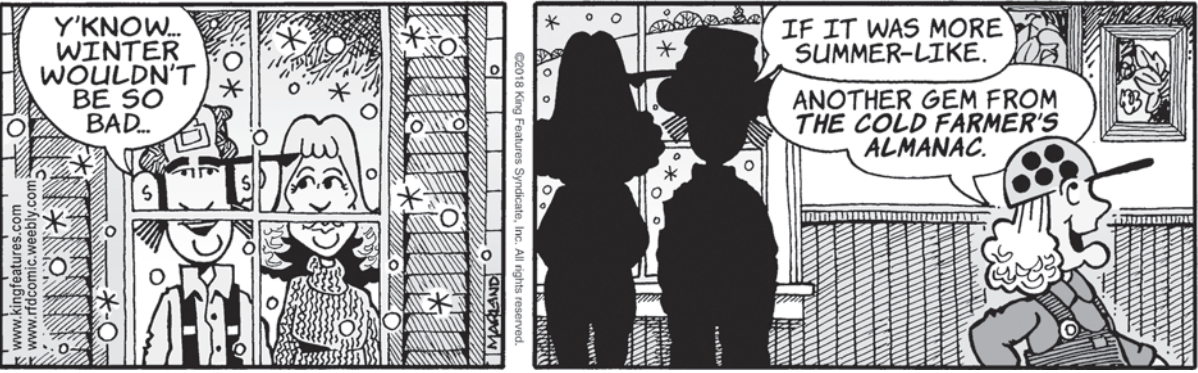
AMBER WAVESBy Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATSBy Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good healthBy Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a 65-year-old male who has developed a lack of sensation in the lateral front half of my right thigh. The numbness involves strictly the skin. There is no loss of strength, function or balance in my leg. My gait is normal, although I find that if I go on a long walk, the skin will begin to “tingle.” When I went to an orthopedic surgeon, he suspected that the condition could be caused by a disc problem. Although an X-ray did show some stenosis, it was not definitive. I suspect I caused the problem by years of sleeping on my right side in a curled-up position, resulting in entrapment of the nerve. The orthopedist, however, says he generally sees this condition only in obese people, which I am not. How likely is it that my condition is of spinal origin rather than an entrapped nerve? If the condition can resolve itself gradually by avoiding activities that contribute to the problem, what does “gradually” mean? Do stretching exercises help relieve the entrapment? – J.C.B.

What you are describing is meralgia paresthetica, the compression of the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve, which can be compressed as it passes under the inguinal ligament, exactly as you described. Your orthopedist is correct that this condition is more common in the overweight or obese; however, I have seen it in both people who are losing weight and people of normal, stable weight. It is more common in conjunction with diabetes, and it has been reported after long-distance walking and cycling.

your numbness, it is very likely to be meralgia paresthetica and not spinal in origin. It does usually resolve, but it does so over the course of months, typically. Stretching would seem to make sense, but as far as I know, it hasn’t been shown to work.

If it isn’t getting better, an injection into the nerve usually is effective. This is commonly done by an anesthesiologist or a pain-management specialist.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Can you please give me some information on Ehlers-Danlos syndrome? My daughter and two granddaughters have it. – E.E.H.

Ehlers-Danlos syndrome is actually a group of uncommon genetic disorders, with very stretchy skin, flexible joints and tissue fragility as common features. There are six different kinds of Ehlers-Danlos, and each is different in regard to what tissues and organs it most affects. Most are caused by mutations in genes for collagen and related structural proteins. They can be inherited or not (in which case they are new mutations).

Flexible joints (often but wrongly called “double-jointed”) and excessively stretchy skin are almost universal in EDS. The excess joint movement can cause dislocations and chronic joint pain resembling fibromyalgia. Other commonly associated conditions include prolapse of the mitral valve, hernias and, in the vascular type of EDS, aneurisms.

The prognosis in EDS

Because of the area involved in

See HEALTH, Page 8

Super Crossword

- 9 B.C.
ACROSS

1 Opera start

5 “Yes, yes, Juan!”

9 Take _ (taste some)

13 Cheeky type

19 Road, in German

20 Foretoken

21 Lovett of country

22 No longer

26 Frito Lay chip

27 December mall hirees

28 Teeny

29 Greeting sent by a cosmetics company?

31 “Agnus _”

32 Cache

34 Southeast Kansas city

35 Where lots of mail deliverers scuba-dive?

40 Not at all high

44 Most robust

45 Kazan of film directing

46 Hilo “hello”

47 In days past

48 “Lo-o-ovely!”

49 Set crossword hints to music?

53 Prefix with pathology

56 The Big Apple, briefly

58 Fissile rock

59 Midday sleep

60 Divide by type

62 Contract out

66 TV title alien

67 Water whirl

68 Required maintenance items?

73 Face cover

76 From _ Z

77 Big fair

78 Character

82 “Scat!”

83 Prologue

85 Upsilon’s follower

88 Qdoba treats

89 Inelegant five-member band?

94 66-Across et al.

96 Salt’s “Help!”

97 Muslim palace area

98 Haul around

99 Number of magazine subscribers, e.g.

102 Writer Haley

103 Long to look at a periodic table?

107 Feng _

108 Poetry Muse

109 White-haired

110 Library cubicle in which Chablis is served?

116 Jackie O.’s “O”

117 New York state prison

120 Is wild for

121 Writes hacky computer programs?

124 Chemist’s “I”

125 Nursing school subj.

126 Bit of help

127 In awe

128 Naval units

129 Car-lot sticker abbr.

130 Barley brews

131 Guru’s discipline

DOWN

1 Essentials

2 “Fame” star Irene

3 Very loud

4 Alternatively

5 _chef

6 Unruly kid

7 Fit for sailing

8 Ready to be driven

9 Puglist

10 Muhammad

11 Harmony

12 “The Dick Van Dyke Show” surname

13 Ballet dancer

14 “Sitting on _...” (“Mrs. Robinson” lyric)

15 Blood bank fluids

16 Nero’s 404

17 Quintillionth: Prefix

18 “Crazy” bird

24 Aristide’s land

25 Eagles’ nests

30 Female deer

32 Is sporting

33 Hoagie shop

35 Its capital is Accra

36 Is very angry

37 Co. kahuna

38 _ Tin Tin

39 Tatty cloths

40 Exclusively

41 Ran across

42 In the future

43 Harsh-toned

46 Top gun

50 Spicy cuisine

51 Stop moving

52 Pixieish

54 Stone

55 _ pro nobis

57 Amigo of Fidel

61 Sedative drug, informally

63 Berg stuff

64 Stout of mysteries

65 Seer’s skill

67 This, to Pedro

69 Dying rebuke

70 “Me neither”

71 Sponge up

72 Scarf down

73 Coffee flavor

74 Auditory

75 Rubberneck

79 West Coast coll. in La Jolla

80 Hen’s perch

81 Swirly letters

83 Suffix with 90-

84 Being aired, in a way

86 Like religious dissenters

87 Writer Calvino

90 Gender

91 Tip of a sock

92 Suffix with major

93 Azadi Tower locale

95 Holy Fr. woman

100 Ham it up

101 City-circling route

103 Goes after

104 1921 Karel Capek play

105 Stability-improving auto part

106 Vocalist Kitt

107 Hound’s trail

110 Homeless kid

111 Sacred cow

112 Center point

113 The “E” of HOMES

114 Practically forever

115 Jet name

117 Gets the total

118 Stop up

119 Kelp, e.g.

122 Brand of motor oil

123 A single

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18	
19					20					21					22						
23				24						25					26						
27							28				29				30						
			31				32				33			34							
35	36					37					38	39					40	41	42	43	
44										45						46					
47						48				49				50	51	52					
53				54	55		56		57				58						59		
60						61			62	63	64	65		66				67			
			68			69	70						71				72				
73	74	75			76				77							78			79	80	81
82					83				84				85	86	87		88				
89				90						91	92	93		94		95			96		
97									98					99			100	101			
102						103	104	105					106								
				107						108						109					
110	111	112	113						114	115		116				117				118	119
120									121			122				123					
124									125					126				127			
128									129					130				131			

Moore Texas

by Roger Moore

Mesquite Beans... loved by cows but don't use them as a sub for green beans at supper.



GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	-		x		21
+		+		+	
	+		x		32
x		x		+	
	x		-		21
30		18		24	

1 2 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

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Answer Page 4

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		9	7					6
4	8				6	9		
		3		2		5	7	
	1		6				9	
		6			5			1
8			1	9		3		
6					8		2	
	4	2	3					8
5				1		6	4	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
Answer Page 4 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Cash for relocations

While Department of Veterans Affairs chief David Shulkin is doing a good job, there is one place he needs to focus his laser gaze: relocations and the cash paid out to those who move within the VA... and those who pocket the money.

A recent VA Office of the Inspector General report details – on many pages, covering many years – how one VA employee managed to get piles of money in a relocation that he never made.

Let's call him Dr. A. Years ago, Dr. A applied for a VA job clear across the country. He was paid nearly \$20,000 for Temporary Quarters allowance. His boss approved the change of position. Furthermore, Dr. A's salary was dramatically increased because different geographical regions have varying base salaries depending on the cost of living.

But Dr. A didn't move. He stayed where he was, at the heftier salary, and telecommuted. Basically, he

phoned it in. He did put in two days a week at his home location, while, on paper, living on the other coast. This went on for over three years.

When the jig was finally up, Dr. A claimed not to know he'd been given nearly \$20,000 in relocation money (all of it within one month). His wife thought it was his annual bonus.

Technically he was assigned to the other coast, where he also supposedly lived. How then could he claim travel money for traveling to his own home? During the time he was living on one coast and claiming to live on the other, Dr. A also made dozens of trips on the government dime. The VAOIG, as of this writing, has handed it back to the VA with recommendations.

Dr. A owes the government a lot of money. Unfortunately, he's likely not the only VA employee cashing in this way.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: F equals T

UEIC WDLIDCI FVGIW

BOGHFOA AIFPFW OC OUYTA

ADF, H ZTIWW VDT LHZEF

BOAA EHL O WEHYFV GIPWDC.

Answer Page 4

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FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

WHA

♥TANTLE

WRS LI

PEHA

♥TECSHA

PPA

WECL

CHITE

♥IPH

PRITUN

♥COIPT

♥ISPL

Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

NEW! 30 Fear Knot puzzles \$3.50 • Six Volumes • Order at rbmamall.com

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Here's a Tip

By JoAnn Derson

- January Sales Items: Get great deals on leftover holiday decorations and cards, appliances and furniture, as well as linens, towels and other "white sale" items.
- Keep a few fabric-softener sheets in the linen closet. It will keep the towels smelling fresh. If you have lots of extra bedsheets, it keeps them fresh-smelling, too.
- "Whenever I have a casserole pan that has baked-on, hard-to-remove bits left behind, I fill it with water, add a little dish soap and stick it back in the warm oven. I let it sit for several hours – even overnight – and the gunk just slides off the next day. Elbow grease is getting harder and harder to come by these days, so I try not to waste it."
– I.S. in Pennsylvania
- "Have a budding artist? Mine has just gone through a crayon-on-the-wall period. I tried all kinds of things to get it off, and then a neighbor told me to use a damp rag dipped in baking soda. It's great, and the crayon came right off."
– G.L. in Massachusetts
- "If you live alone, always take your cellphone with you when you go outside or in the garage; in case of an accident, you can contact someone."
– K.P., via e-mail

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

Health

From Page 7

depends to a great extent on the subtype. I would suggest that you go with your daughter and granddaughters to their doctor (if they agree) to learn more about their particular type.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. To view and order health pamphlets, visit www.rbmamall.com, or write to Good Health, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2018 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.