

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 51

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

DECEMBER 19, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

Schulte in Laredo

Former Socorro ISD Superintendent Don P. Schulte has accepted a position with the Laredo, Texas Independent School District as executive director for human resources. He resigned SISD's top job in early August this year, a job he had held since 1997. Dennis Cantu, president of the Laredo ISD said Schulte "brings an impressive portfolio of experience and ideas" to the Laredo school district. Socorro remains without a permanent superintendent though a search is underway.

EPCC trustee vacancy

As Inocente Quintanilla prepares to assume his duties as State Representative for District 75, the El Paso Community College board of trustees finds itself with a vacancy since Quintanilla will no longer be able to function as trustee. Interested persons have until Thursday, Dec. 19 at 5 p.m. to deliver an application, letter of interest and resume to 9050 Viscount, Room A181. Applications are available at that location. Applicants must reside in District 7 of the EPCC service area.

In other news

■ The 2002 Outstanding Mountain View High School Lobo Student Council delivered heaters, jackets, canned goods, clothing, and gifts to 51 needy families in the East Montana Colonias on Saturday, Dec. 14. The students have been collecting these items for over a month. On Friday, Dec. 13 at 2:30 p.m. the Lobos conducted a Lobo "CAN" pep rally. Students were asked to bring in three canned goods in exchange for a ticket to attend the pep rally. The students needed to bring in over 700 cans to fulfill their commitment to the 51 families. The students met at the Lobo Student Council room at 8:00 a.m. to begin delivering the items to the families.

■ Several young people from the area have recently completed basic training in San Diego to become Marines. The course included 12 weeks of intensive physical and mental challenges. They include:

- Marine Corps Pvt. Fernando R. Vasquez, son of Rita Rodriguez of Fabens. He graduated in 2002 from Tornillo High School.
- Marine Corps Pfc. Robert C. Carreon, son of Bertha Gonzalez and Lorenzo Carreon of Horizon.
- Marine Corps Pvt. Edgar J. Tarango, son of Maria L. Tarango of Horizon. He is a 2002 graduate of Mountain View High School.
- Marine Corps Pvt. Oscar Garcia, son of Guadalupe and Erasmo Garcia of Fabens. He graduated from Tornillo High School in 2002.
- Marine Corps Pvt. Michael A. Villasana, son of Ruth and Luis Villasana of Socorro.

See BRIEFS, Page 7

A balanced budget is when the month and the money run out together.

— Quips and Quotes



TEACHING MASTERS — Shown from left is Martha Velarde, Lupe Hernandez, and Mary Ann Paez following their graduation ceremonies at UTEP.

Socorro teachers graduate with help from partnership

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Four Socorro ISD employees were graduated with master's degrees from UTEP on Dec. 14, thanks to a special partnership between the school district, the United States Department of Education and the University.

Alberto Smith, Sierra Vista Elementary School was eligible for graduation - but missed the ceremony due to military training. Martha Velarde of Sierra Vista Elementary School; Mary Ann Paez, Robert R. Rojas Elementary School and Lupe Hernandez, of Socorro Middle School, were on hand for the ceremony.

The quintet will each receive the UTEP's "Master of Education as Instructional Specialist in Bilingual Education" degree.

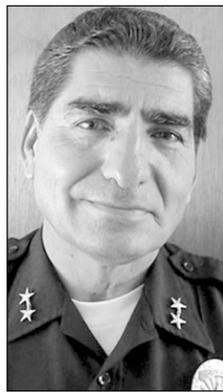
The District obtained the \$1.3 million "Sin Fronteras" grant two and a half years ago for the language program at Ernesto Serna School. The grant provided money for teachers and paraprofessional employees to return to college for higher degrees.

Diplomas were presented Dec. 14 during the graduation ceremonies. "We are very proud of these teachers," said Serna principal Ignacio Solis, "and we plan to have about five more graduates in UTEP's spring graduation."

Horizon City to begin regulating security systems

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

HORIZON CITY — Horizon City Police Chief Antonio Aguilar and City Attorney Robert Duran addressed the Horizon City Town Council during the regularly scheduled meeting on Dec. 10 regarding a proposed new ordinance for the purpose of regulating security alarm systems for residents and businesses.



Antonio Aguilar

Chief Aguilar informed Council that the Police Department receives an average of at least two false alarms per day for security alarms at residences and businesses.

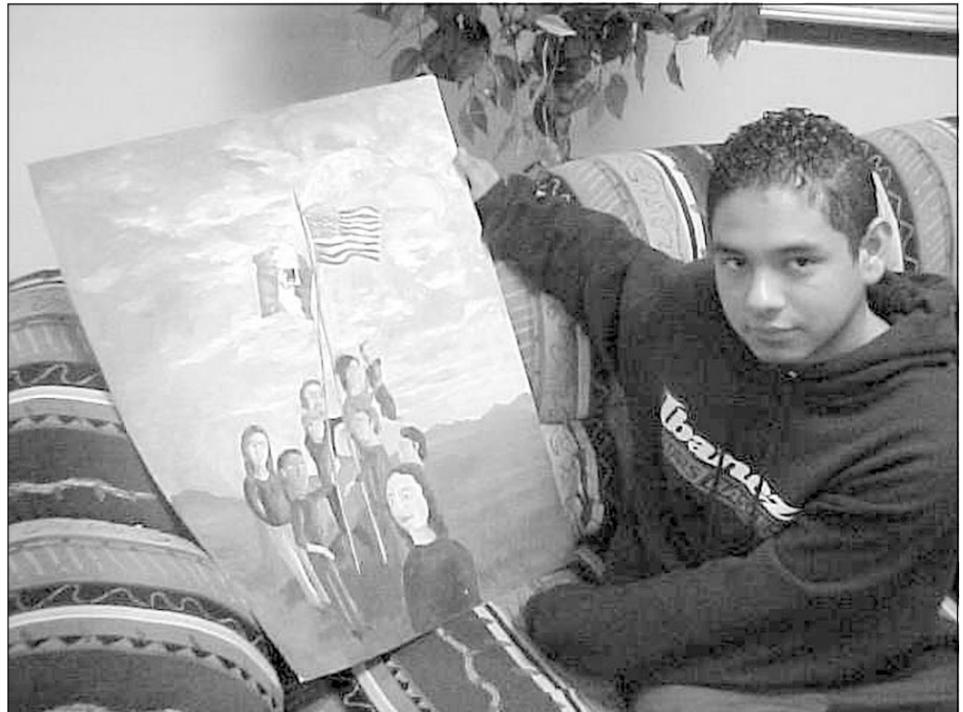
These alarms require police manpower which could be utilized elsewhere. Chief Aguilar said these false alarms are costly to the City of Horizon. This ordinance would require anyone wanting to operate a security alarm at a residence or business to acquire a permit.

The ordinance would regulate these false alarms by fining anyone who receives more than four false alarms in a 12-month period. Each Horizon City resident and/or business would be required to acquire a permit before the alarm system can be operated. In case of five or more false alarms, the permit holder would have his/her alarm permit revoked and would need to reapply for a new permit and not have any outstanding fines regarding his alarm system.

Fees for fines, permits and reinstatement are still being negotiated.

In other business, City Council received a recommendation from Planning & Zoning

See HORIZON, Page 4



— Photo courtesy of SEISD

ASPIRING ARTIST — Alex Medrano with one of his paintings depicting a spirit of national unity following the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

Work of youthful San Elizario student to grace district's holiday greeting

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — Against a dark background, a hand gently holds a shiny Christmas tree ornament that reflects the familiar image of the San Elizario Mission church.

This artwork, created by Alex Medrano, won the annual Christmas card design contest in the San Elizario Independent School District. The San Elizario High School senior was honored for his artistic achievement at the Dec. 11 meeting of the board of trustees of the SEISD.

Whether with crayon, water color, acrylics or just pen and paper, Medrano says he has "felt a need to express myself...as far back as I can remember."

He explains, "It is an outlet for my thoughts and feelings. It is a form of artistic meditation." About 10 hours a week, he estimates, are spent in some form of "artistic meditation." However, he says it only took him about three hours

to do the award-winning Christmas card. "I saw it in my mind."

Another expression of his artistic ability was seen in a contest earlier this year to capture a spirit of national unity following the terrorist attacks of 9/11. He expresses unity in a broader, international sense. In the center of the painting are the flags of the United States and Mexico with people of both countries standing together. After looking at the painting for moment, the image of an eagle's head emerges as a part of the swirling clouds overhead.

The painting has been on display in the central administration office.

The fruits of his talents and other artistic meditation are also seen in the high school yearbook. Danielle DeFrank, journalism teacher and yearbook advisor, praises Medrano.

The praise is not only for the quality of his work, but for the fact that he is dependable and meets production deadlines. She points out that

See ARTIST, Page 3



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

It can't happen here

I'm sure glad I live in El Paso County. We can get up every morning secure in the knowledge that our politicians will do their best to represent their constituents with honesty and integrity.

Under-the-table double-dealings don't happen here.

In other places around the state and the world, people seek elected office for the wrong reasons. They want to be in positions of power, make deals for personal gain, line their pockets, improve their status.

But that can't happen here.

Could it?

Around here our local elected officials don't work to undermine people in important positions until they eventually run him or her out of a job so they can put another person in that will further their goals.

They would never resort to using the news media to report unsavory information about people who don't agree with them or publish half-truths about a certain issue to make someone else look bad.

They don't confer with one another over the phone or in private discussions to arrange votes before they come to public meetings.

No sir, they all follow the rules to the letter because they have the public's best interest at heart.

They raised their right hand and promised to uphold and enforce the laws of the community, the state, and the nation — and they meant it.

Didn't they?

Around here it would be unheard of for elected officials to arrange public works projects for their own personal gain.

They would never agree to use

their vote to procure a powerful position for another elected official who sits on another board with the power to arrange a water-sewer project on their personal property.

They would never try to arrange the writing of a city document to provide for their personal goals or prepare a public works project to make sure the street they live on gets paved.

The folks who sit on our water boards are always mindful of the public trust. They aren't interested in personal status or tapping into the travel and entertainment account, and would never make deals with developers.

Would they?

Mishandling public funds won't happen here because, of course, many of our elected officials are Hispanic, and they know how hard it is for their Hispanic constituency to pay their tax bill every year.

They remember their roots and how far their minority people have come, so they would never abuse their positions of power. To do otherwise would hurt their conscience too much.

Wouldn't it?

It would be unthinkable for elected officials to use intimidation and manipulation of their employees or other powerless people in the community to achieve their ends. They would never use their positions unfairly to benefit their family or friends.

And they always support other elected officials and respect their areas of service. They are especially supportive if that official is a smart lady who has the ability to make

See PERSPECTIVE, Page 4



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABIENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNILLO

PUBLISHED:
Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.

COPYRIGHT:
Entire contents © 2002 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the *West Texas County Courier* may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:
Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The *Courier* reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

AD DEADLINE:
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES
\$5 for 15 words, \$10 for 35 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The *Courier* reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

DISPLAY RATES:
Open rate — \$16 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The *Courier* reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
52 issues for \$30. Delivery via 1st class mail.

ADDRESS:
15344 Werling Court
Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235
Fax: 852-0123
E-mail:
wtccc@wtccourier.com

Publisher
Rick Shrum

Business Manager
Francis D. Shrum

Contributors
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Arleen Beard

Homesteader
Est. 1973
News, Inc.

For Sanity's Sake

By Taprina Milburn

Protector

It's getting dark, and my children and I are walking back to our car after a day of Christmas shopping. My kids know that I feel insecure being alone with them at night in an area of town I'm not so familiar with.

"I'll protect you," my 7-year-old son says to his sister and me as he grips my hand tighter.

I smile; no doubt that if he were 100 pounds heavier and 3 feet taller, my boy would be my champion.

I'm proud to be raising a gentleman.

What really makes my heart feel as if it will burst with pride is how often this son of mine talks about, "When I grow up to be a dad ..."

"When I'm a dad I want eight children. And I'm going to have a big van so that I can drive my eight children and wife around. Can my kids come spend the night with you?"

"All eight?" I ask.

We try to remember each night to pray for his future spouse — that she's growing up in a family that serves God and cherishes each other. (And that she also wants eight children.)

"When I grow up to be a dad I'll teach my kids things, and I'm going to work hard so that I can build a house on a farm. I want my kids to have a lot of animals to play with."

He's thought this through.

What's apparent to me in raising this boy of mine is

what seems like an innate desire to provide and protect. I can't say that I've necessarily nurtured these qualities in him, although, I know that he's seen them in his father, grandparents and other significant men involved in our lives.

I'm thankful for all the gentlemen role models in my gentleman-in-training's life.

Those men who remember to take out the trash and open doors for women, who aren't afraid to be known as men who acknowledge their dependence on God. Men who demonstrate how it's important to temper the need to provide for their kids with the need to play with their kids, and who dote on their wives. And men who stick it out during difficult times and who make an effort to be gentle, polite and kind.

When I became the mother of a son and a daughter and watched their developing personalities, I had to put aside my belief that men and women are designed exactly the same. Although I still believe in raising both my children to be strong and independent humans who can perform similar tasks and who can intellectually wrap their minds around the same problems and come up with equally beneficial solutions, I know today that there are some God-given traits, or roles, intrinsic to each sex that emerge on their own. I guess as a parent it's my job to recognize and affirm those traits.

"I know I can protect you," my son continues, "because when I wrestle with Dad I always win."

Though I continued to look over my shoulder that night with my kids, I'm sure I was beaming, as was my son, in his developing role as protector.

(c) 2002 King Features Synd., Inc.



HOW LOBBYING WORKS

©MMI batemania.com
scott@batemania.com
BATEMANIA

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



What happens when Santa doesn't come?

When I was growing up, my parents didn't have a lot of money. I was nearly twelve before I realized that not all moms and dads hold down two or three jobs a piece.

I know my parents must have dreaded Christmas. When you're little, everybody's quick to tell you that Santa Claus brings toys only to good little boys and girls. If you don't get much under the tree on Christmas morning, you must have done something to get on the wrong side of Santa.

A tree was a luxury we couldn't always afford at Christmas. But, until the year I turned 10, there were always presents.

That year, 1964, things were harder than usual. By then our family had grown to include five children, including me. My dad would stay up late at night, adding, subtracting, and dividing the bills in a crazy kind of math that never gave him the answers he wanted. About two weeks before

Christmas, my mom took me aside. "Henry," she said, "you're the oldest, so you should know what's happening. It looks like we're not going to be able to buy any presents this year. I need you to help your brothers and sisters understand." I nodded, but inside I was worried. How do you tell a five year old that Santa won't be coming this year?

The next two weeks went faster than I would have wanted. Suddenly, it was Christmas Eve. That evening, my mom made her famous tamales and bunellas. Dad read the Christmas story, and we sang a few songs. But I noticed my brothers and sisters weren't as excited as usual. They'd been warned days before that there were lots of kids in the world, and the North Pole toy factory was having a hard time making all of the toys.

The next morning, as I was just waking up, I heard my brother Nate shout. I ran into the next room. There, in the corner, was a Christmas tree,

standing about four feet tall with shiny red, blue and yellow balls on it. But that wasn't what surprised me the most. Under the tree were presents! There were new coats, games, and dolls for my sisters. Somehow, my parents had found the money for Santa to come. My throat tightened as I thought about the extra shifts mom must have taken, and the nights when dad could barely sleep before heading off to the next job.

Now, 37 Christmases later, my son and daughter have never gone to sleep on Christmas Eve afraid that Santa's forgotten them. But that doesn't mean we haven't tried to show them what it's like for other children who aren't as lucky as they are. Every year, Project ABC (Any Baby Can) here in San Antonio matches us with a family that doesn't have enough money to give their kids the Christmas they deserve. The

Artist

From Page 1

Tom Lea as well as Picasso.

The 18-year-old high school senior says he grew up with classical music and attributes his achievements to music which "lifts my spirits. I always grew up with music." He particularly likes the works of Mozart.

Artistic endeavors are not the only things that occupy his time. He is a B student, taking pre-AP (Advanced Placement) and AP classes, says his counselor Irma Rodriguez.

"He is very humble and very bright," she says. "He is not one to flaunt his talent. He is a good student."

Rodriguez says Medrano uses three words to describe himself — "creative, understanding and compassionate."

Medrano's future career path is not entirely clear. He says he's considering going to UT El Paso after graduation where he might pursue studies to become a teacher — an art teacher. Counselor Rodriguez says he's also looking at going to UT-Dallas or the Art Institute in Dallas.

others have artistic talent, but often lack Medrano's dependability and self-discipline to deliver on time. He has provided a variety of pen and ink artwork for the yearbook this year and last year, including the development of major section pages for the publication. He lettered in yearbook, DeFrank adds.

His work will also be seen in a T-shirt. He took first-place in a contest for designing a logo that will be used as fund-raising effort for the United Eagles Scholarship Fund.

Medrano is drawn to the great masters in painting as well as music as he expresses his own artistic talents.

He looks up to works of Michelangelo, Leonardo daVinci and Rembrandt for the way in which they portrayed the human being "in a spiritual way." To that list he adds the late El Paso artist

City of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Regular Planning and Zoning Meeting on Monday, December 30, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding proposed rezoning of the following property:

- 1) Rezoning of the southern portion of Block 78, Section 43, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railway Company Surveys. Said parcel contains 231.1097 acres currently zoned M-1, Industrial to R-9, Single Family Residential.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City at the above address.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 12/19/02

Thrifty Car Rental

Serving Far East El Paso I-10 at Horizon Exit

- Low Rates
- Insurance Replacements
- Warranty Replacements
- Free Pick-Up & Drop-Off
- Rate Programs Available

1367 Horizon Blvd. (Premier Freightliner Sales Building)
(915) 852-7171

Horizon City Community Chapel

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Yth. Group 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night
Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Dean Pinney, Pastor

Spanish Services

Estudio Dominical 9:45 a.m.
Servicios en Español ... 10:45 a.m.
Estudio en Español
Biblico Jueves 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Pablo Gonzalez, Assoc. Pastor

Sunday Morning Nursery Available

Non-Denominational
14802 Duanesburg • 852-3154

families that Project ABC helps all have children with expensive medical problems. One year, our family was matched with a family that had a boy my son's age who had muscular dystrophy. Our family goes out and buys presents we think the children (and their parents) will like. We also bring them everyday things like canned food or pots and pans.

We're not the only family who plays Santa. Today, there are dozens of charities that try to make sure that "all" good girls and boys have a Merry Christmas. They do it not because of some rule or regulation the government has passed. They do it because they care about their fellow Americans. They are what Christmas and our country are all about.

Deadline looms for nominations to the El Paso Animal Hall of Fame

EL PASO COUNTY — Nominations are being sought for the Year 2003 El Paso Animal Hall of Fame inductee, which will be celebrated during National Pet Week next May at the El Paso Veterinary Medical Association's (EPVMA) 18th Annual Veterinary Community Awards Banquet.

The entry deadline is Dec. 31,

2002. Application forms are available from participating veterinary hospitals, Valley Feed Pet Food Centers and animal service organizations, or by calling (915) 584-3459 for an application.

Categories include:

- Hero - an animal that has performed an incredible act of bravery or saved a human life
- Companion - an animal that has provided a special benefit to its community of human companions
- Professional - a remarkable specially trained assistance, performance or an education animal.

Inductees are selected by a panel consisting of members from the EPVMA, animal organizations and the public.

Dwelling naturally in the desert or on a soft sofa, El Paso's animals have enriched lifestyles by sharing

their lives, their talents and their love — that's why the EPVMA created the El Paso Animal Hall of Fame in 1998 to recognize the contributions of El Paso's animals, according to organizers.

The premiere recipient, Mona the Elephant, was chosen for her 40-plus years as El Paso's mascot of goodwill at the El Paso Zoo.

1999's recipient, posthumously, was Charley, mascot of the David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center, elected in for his years of dedication, love and service to the Center's students, staff and clients.

Clancey the Boxer was elected in 2000 for risking his own life to save his beloved owner from an attacking mountain lion.

Pearl the Horse was chosen in 2001 for his patience and hard work serving special needs children and adults

with Therapeutic Horsemanship of El Paso.

In 2002, the EPVMA posthumously recognized Justice, a 75-pound Golden Retriever. As a U.S. Customs Service Narcotic Detector Dog, Justice spent seven years working with U.S. Customs Service Canine Enforcement inspectors at El Paso ports of entry and cargo lots.

"Big or small, short or tall. Wild or domestic, furred or feathered. They deserve to be recognized and celebrated," said Dr. Jim Koschmann, chairman of the El Paso Animal Hall of Fame Committee.

For more information about nominating an animal for consideration of inclusion in the El Paso Animal Hall of Fame, or for an official application, call (915) 584-3459.

Horizon

From Page 1

on the rezoning for the Southwest corner of Eastlake Boulevard at the intersection of Darrington Road from R-2 Residential to C-1 Commercial. There was considerable discussion regarding the proposed business interested in the rezoning.

It was established Diamond Shamrock is interested in building a convenience store at the designated site, but some issues still need to be addressed. City Council approved the recommendation but tabled the first reading due to needing additional information from the persons requesting the rezoning.

City Council approved the contract with El Paso City-County Health Department regarding the enforcement of City Ordinances.

HAIR SLINGERS
 Unisex Family Hair Cuts
 • Cuts starting at \$6
 • Professional cuts
 • Salon Services/Tanning
 • Bi-lingual
 • Appointment or Walk-In
852-1655
 13899 Horizon Blvd. & Darrington

SINCE 1975

IronSkillet

AMERICA'S CHOICE FOR HOMESTYLE COOKING

Christmas Feast

Wednesday, December 25 • 11^{AM} to 10^{PM}

Roast Turkey • Glazed Ham • Top Sirloin
 Meat Loaf • Fried Chicken • Mashed Potatoes
 Gravy • Cornbread Dressing • Candied Yams
 Corn on the Cob • Green Beans • Cranberry Sauce
 Hot Bread • Soup and Salad Bar • Pumpkin Pie

Adults \$8⁹⁹ • Children \$4⁹⁹

Merry Christmas

Open 24 hours — Full family menus plus
 spectacular buffet and salad bar. I-10 at Ho-
 rizon Blvd., 859-1906.

PETRO
 Stopping Centers
 The Quality Difference

Perspective

From Page 2

major improvements in a municipality that has long been stymied by in-fighting, power plays and inefficiency.

They can see the value in her efforts to bring the town's government in line with state regulations regarding ordinances, personnel policies and law enforcement.

If they don't understand what she is doing, they always go to her and ask, and listen respectfully while she explains the situation.

Don't they?

Around here, our legal representatives are just as honest and community-service oriented as our elected officials. Our city attorneys hold the public trust very dear. They are always careful to be informed on the issues their clients face, and they research the law to find what is truly in the best interest of the public entity they represent.

These attorneys would never engage in political maneuvering to gain clients, influence votes, arrange deals or trade favors.

No sir, they are solid men of the law who hold their responsibilities in high regard.

Right?

I'm sure glad that I live in El Paso County where the folks who run things are so honest and above-board. I can sleep easy at night knowing that our local governments are in such good hands.

Can't I?

Classified Ads

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

HORIZON DESIGN CONSULTANTS will hold two studio classes this spring entitled Graphic Design: Creating a Dialogue. Part One will be March 18-22; Part Two April 1-5. This is a 30-hour foundational level course introducing concepts and techniques used by graphic artists to create effective visual works. For more information call 852-4817.

FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY

ATTENTION VETERANS: Mortgage 7% or higher? You may be eligible for 5.5 to 6%. No credit check, no appraisal, no hassle. Application completed at home. Information: Neil Jones Amerigroup Mortgage Corporation Rated #1 by VA 915-494-3660 Member American Legion Post 598 12/12-12/26

OPPORTUNITIES

Alcoholics Anonymous Group Paso Del Norte meets at 8501 Kingsway in Westway, Monday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Call 886-4948 for information.

Alcohólicos Anónimos Grupo Paso Del Norte sesiones lunes a sábado, a 8-9 de la tarde, 8501 Kingsway, Westway. 886-4948 para información.

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous Group 8 de Enero meets at 15360 Horizon Blvd. in Horizon City on Mondays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Visitemos. Alcohólicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 15360 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, sesiones lunes a sábado a 8 de la tarde. Información: 859-0484.

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring"

JIFFY GLASS REPAIR

Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your home or office: R.V. Dick Harshberger 915-852-9082

BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Domestic and Foreign 852-3523 1558 Oxbow, Horizon City

HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079

- Electric roter service for sewers and drains
 - Appliance installation
 - Many other plumbing services
- Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

AL'S PLACE, INC.

Household or Commercial Storage and Yard Space Fenced and Lighted Security System No Deposit 418 Kenazo, Horizon City 852-3949

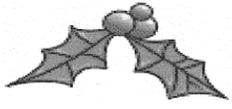
SELF-HELP

Museum of Art

EXPERIENCE LIFE WITH ESTILO

Estilo. Style. San Antonio pulsates with it. From historic architecture to cultural flare, the greatest challenge you'll face is taking it all in. That's why staying in Balcones Heights makes sense. At the crossroads of San Antonio, we put it all within reach. Call 1.866.CORAZON or visit www.heartofsa.com for info, discounts and reservations.

The Heart of San Antonio
 balcones heights



A Holiday Greeting from



Congressman Henry Bonilla

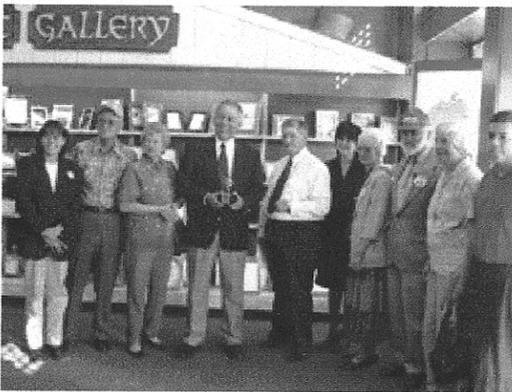


Dear Friends,

I hope that this holiday season brings you and yours all the joy on earth.

It has been my honor to represent you for the last ten years and I look forward to another successful year in 2003.

All the best,



Paid for by Texans for Henry Bonilla

WWW.HENRYBONILLA.COM

Jill DeYoung Treasurer

Time will tell if Jordan Palmer is a chip off the ol' Heisman block

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

At last, some good news for UTEP football coach Gary Nord and the entire program. It isn't often that the football Miners get some great national news but it couldn't have come at a better time.

What is the great national news,

you ask?

Well, in case you missed it, Southern California's Carson Palmer won the Heisman Trophy last weekend. Fantastic news for the Miners!

What? Oh, the relationship between the Heisman Trophy winner and the UTEP Miners is brother Jordan Palmer. Little brother Jordan is everybody's pick to be UTEP's quarterback of the future.

The red-shirt freshman is the favorite to become the Miners' field leader for the next four years. That means that every time Palmer plays for the Miners, any news he makes will be that of the "Heisman Trophy winner's brother."

Just think of it. Jordan Palmer is the brother of a Heisman Trophy recipient. And Jordan Palmer is a college quarterback, and everyone

in the country will wonder if little bro can duplicate the success of big bro.

Whenever Jordan plays well for UTEP, that "Heisman brother" talk will start up again and the Miners will enjoy the publicity.

Don't believe me? Read an excerpt from last Saturday's CNN/Sports Illustrated website: "His two brothers also were at the ceremony. One brother, Jordan, is a redshirt freshman quarterback at UTEP. "This is the most prestigious award in all of sports," Jordan said. "People can say the NFL MVP is a big deal, but I can't name last year's MVP. I can name the last six Heisman Trophy winners, and it's awesome my brother's going to be that guy."

Cool stuff, huh? Still not convinced? This is out of the same day's Sporting News, "Palmer and his fiancée, Shaelyn Fernandes, met as freshmen at USC, and their wedding is in July. Carson's two brothers were also at the ceremony. One of them, Jordan, is a red-shirt freshman quarterback at UTEP."

This is going to be the norm as long as Jordan Palmer produces — and I believe he will.

Let's face it, Miner fans, we now have a celebrity in our midst and we should capitalize on it. It's time for the Miners to change their reputation and it all will start with the Heisman Trophy winner's little brother — Jordan Palmer.

Father time claims another

It was sad to see the once mighty warrior Evander Holyfield get schooled in the ring by the light-hitting Chris Byrd last Saturday.

It was painful to watch Holyfield struggling in the squared circle. Holyfield looked slow and about 10 years older than his already ancient 40.

Evander has had a wonderful career but he should have called it quits about five years ago and believe it or not, after the fight, Holyfield pro-

claimed, "I will be back."

I WILL BE BACK!? He was never even there Saturday night. Call it quits Evander. Wake up and smell the punching bag.

Every great boxer has to hang up the gloves at some time and Holyfield is apparently too stubborn to stop embarrassing himself.

I know the truth can hurt, but when you take 154 sharp jabs to the face on a given night, the truth can suddenly feel a lot less painful.

Bad week for NBA whistleblowers

I've always said that NBA referees have the easiest job in the United States because they don't do anything. And whenever they do, it's usually incorrect.

Every NBA game is the same. The referees miss call after call and NBA players, coaches and fans are getting tired of it.

Miami Heat coach Pat Riley spent last weekend complaining about how the refs have it in for him and his team. Right or wrong, it's good to see a coach call out these incompetent.

Boston Celtics announcer Tommy Heinson said during a recent telecast that after the game he was going to personally go up to the refs and tell them what he really thought of them, and it wasn't going to be cheerful.

Then, fans got so incensed at the end of last week's Utah-Sacramento game, they threw water bottles, food and mini-basketballs at the refs as they fled for their lives after the game.

I'm not saying that I condone what the fans of the Utah Jazz did but I don't blame them for feeling cheated.

All Riley, Heinson and the Utah fans want is competence. They want for the zebras to be fair and, for goodness sake, just get it right, especially at the end of the game. Let the players win or lose it.

Remember, the best referees are never even noticed — the worst ones become human targets.



Men's Basketball

• **Saturday, Dec. 21**
vs. Tennessee State
Tickets start at only \$6.00*

* Does not include ticket surcharge

Call 747-6150 for great rates on tickets for groups of 25 or more.



Women's Basketball

• **Wednesday, Dec. 18**
vs. Texas A&M - Corpus Christi
Adults \$5.00 • Children \$2.00

* all games are played in the Don Haskins Center at 7:05 PM

For ticket information call: 747-5234

King Super Crossword

WISHFUL THINKING ACROSS

- 1 Velvety burrower
- 5 Welcome item?
- 8 Belfry sound
- 12 Most rational
- 18 In the course of
- 19 Actor Auberjonois
- 20 Betting setting
- 21 "Electric _" ('83 hit)
- 22 Sitarist Shankar
- 23 TV's "The _ of Night"
- 24 Toast topper
- 25 Elastic band
- 26 My doctor told me ...
- 30 Chip's chum
- 31 Made one's mark
- 32 Cry of disgust
- 33 Salivate
- 36 Slangy sib
- 37 Burn
- 39 AAA handout
- 42 My dentist told me ...
- 48 Ending for "auction"
- 49 Pitch in
- 50 Wrath
- 51 Stationed
- 52 It's out of this world
- 55 Clouts a cad
- 57 Milk measurement
- 58 Arthur or Pons
- 61 Cockpit fig.

- 62 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
- 63 Bishop of Rome
- 65 Summer top
- 68 My mechanic told me ...
- 73 Thousand _, CA
- 74 Jeremy Fisher, for one
- 75 Scand. nation
- 76 _ Tome
- 77 Giovanni or Rickles
- 78 Rotisserie part
- 80 Jeeves' profession
- 82 Sitcom set in Nantucket
- 84 Shun
- 86 Quick snack
- 87 Hold the title
- 88 " _ Gotta Be Me" ('69 hit)
- 91 My accountant told me ...
- 98 Smidgen
- 99 Med. test
- 100 Bald bird
- 101 Cold-war accord
- 103 Pub order
- 104 Comic Sahl
- 106 My son's teacher told me ...
- 114 Pester
- 116 Dickens villain
- 117 Turgenev's birthplace
- 118 Screenwriter

- James
 - 119 Verdi opera
 - 120 Ages
 - 121 "Good gracious!"
 - 122 Liberate
 - 123 "Children should _ ..."
 - 124 Bump
 - 125 Dover's st.
 - 126 Semester
- DOWN**
- 1 Shopping center
 - 2 Actor Epps
 - 3 Roman historian
 - 4 Correct a text
 - 5 Olympic award
 - 6 Harmon or Dickinson
 - 7 Rock hound?
 - 8 Claim
 - 9 Sniggled
 - 10 From the top
 - 11 Bow part
 - 12 Southwestern sticker
 - 13 _-garde
 - 14 "Revenge of the _" ('84 film)
 - 15 Middle Earth denizens
 - 16 Author Grafton
 - 17 Dist.
 - 19 Entertain lavishly
 - 27 Bouquet
 - 28 Geometry term
 - 29 Spout like Cicero
 - 33 Turn blue?

- 34 Caviar
- 35 Yours and mine
- 36 Turf
- 37 Food fish
- 38 Urges
- 39 Sandwich spread
- 40 Sleeve contents?
- 41 Third degree?
- 43 Element
- 44 Speak with a forked tongue
- 45 Roth _
- 46 Kimono closer
- 47 Devilfish
- 53 Good buddy
- 54 High up
- 55 Make a muumuu
- 56 Singer Cleo
- 57 Pie nut
- 58 Jacket info
- 59 Letter from Athens
- 60 Invites on a date
- 62 Henley happening
- 64 Model's job
- 66 _ Dinh Diem
- 67 He's a doll
- 69 "A Dandy in _" ('68 film)
- 70 Communist council
- 71 Plant disease
- 72 Grab all the goodies
- 79 Ms. Lupino
- 81 Wahine's wreath
- 82 1914-18 letters
- 83 Perform in "Parsifal"

- 84 Backer
- 85 _ populi
- 86 Gravy ingredient
- 87 Assoc.
- 89 Cubic meas.
- 90 Lady of the lea
- 92 "Without You" singer
- 93 Backslide
- 94 Got by, with "out"
- 95 Announce
- 96 Birmingham bye-bye
- 101 Marshy lowland
- 102 Usher's beat
- 103 Winning
- 104 Highway sign
- 105 Ron of "Superfly"
- 106 Infuriates
- 107 Impatient interrogative
- 108 Architect Saarinen
- 109 _ the line (obeyed)
- 110 Huck's craft
- 111 Brute
- 112 _-do-well
- 113 Appear to be
- 114 Elf
- 115 Gobbled up

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					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	

Answer Page 7

Be on the lookout for falling cows

By Don Flood

News item from the Associated Press: "Drivers in farming regions know to be on the lookout for animals that stray onto the road, but even the most cautious seldom scan the heavens for livestock."

"A 36-year-old woman should have been doing that Thursday when a cow strayed from a hillside pasture to the top of a tunnel entrance and then fell onto her car. The woman was hospitalized with minor chest and foot injuries. The cow died after being hit when it fell 15 feet just as the car was leaving the tunnel."

Just as the car was leaving the tunnel.

Isn't that just a little too convenient?

Why can't officials just tell us the truth? This woman was attacked by a Kamikaze Cow!

While we can take some comfort that this first cow attack occurred in Austria, we shouldn't let that distract us from the fact that we, as a nation, are woefully unprepared for a full-scale Falling Cow Emergency.

One theory, the so-called Mad Cow Scenario, holds that this attack was the work of a lone cow, acting completely on its own.

Experts in bovine military history, however, have pointed out a major flaw: How could a single cow know the exact instant to jump?

They point instead to the Three Cow Theory.

In this scenario, one cow was stationed at the entrance of the tunnel, the second — or attack cow — above the exit and a third at a grassy knoll beyond the exit, which offered both a clear view of the scene and an alibi in case the cow was detected. ("I was just eating some grass, Officer.")

Using a sophisticated system of "mooring" sounds that has yet to be cracked by U.S. code-breakers, the

first and third cow are believed to have directed the attack cow about when to strike.

Proponents of this theory believe it is only a matter of time before the United States itself becomes the target of a massive Falling Cow Attack.

Here's what you can do:

- Set up a Neighborhood Falling Cow Watch and make sure ALL confirmed cases of falling cows are reported to the Office of Homeland Security.

- Report suspicious cow behavior. A group of cows supposedly "herding" together may in fact be plotting.

- Refrain from jokes about Hamburger Helper or Big Mac Attacks, especially in the presence of cows.

In the event of a full-scale falling cow attack, a recent installment of "Worst Case Scenario" offered these tips:

- Panic. Really, it's OK — there are falling cows out there! Don't waste time trying to calm yourself down!

- Seek cover in a building, preferably one that has been reinforced to withstand falling cows.

- Do not seek cover under a tree, as cows may be waiting there to ambush you.

- Following a falling cow incident, wait at least 30 minutes after the last cow has dropped before venturing outside. If no cows are visible falling from the sky, it is probably safe to go outside.

(Be aware, however, that there have been disturbing reports of Stealth Cow Technology, which allows cows to fall undetected. These reports have not been confirmed.)

- And finally, make preparations for a really big barbecue.

(c) 2002 King Features Synd., Inc.

Briefs

From Page 1

He is a 2002 graduate of Socorro High School.

■ Socorro ISD's Ernesto Serna campus is a fairly new school in the but has achieved athletic recognition with their cross country teams. The 8th grade boys won their first back-to-back championship at the District and Lower Valley Conference levels. Last year as 7th graders they won their first championships. The 8th grade girls won their first District and Lower Valley Conference Championships.

■ Navy Ensign Richard Jimenez Jr., son of Fabiola Jimenez of Fabens, recently received his commission as a naval officer after completing Officer Candidate School at Pensacola, Florida. He is a 1997 graduate of Fabens High School.

■ The Business Professionals of America and the Mission Valley Explorers, sponsored by Norma Ayala at Socorro High School, have shoes and socks for families in need thanks to a \$1650 donation from Wal-Mart on Alameda. Call 937-2217 and ask for extension 72220 as soon as possible to suggest recipients.

■ The work of 50 photographers from throughout the United States is featured in the Chamizal National Memorial's upcoming exhibition, Texas Photographic Society: 18th Annual Member's Only Show, which opens to the public with a reception Thursday, Dec. 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Los Paisanos Fine Arts Gallery. The juried exhibition, which will be on display through Jan. 31, includes a work by El Paso photographer Janet Ingram. The show displays work by both amateur and professional photographers. Chamizal National Memorial is located at 800 South San Marcial between Bowie High School and the Bridge of the Americas. The gallery will be open daily from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. For additional information call 532-7273.

■ Texas livestock commissioners have formed a search committee to recruit a new regulatory veterinarian for the state following Dr. Linda Logan's resignation in early December. The appointee will also serve as the executive director for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC). The TAHC's 12 governor-appointed commissioners, led by Chairman Richard Traylor, have appointed Dr. James Lenarduzzi to serve as interim state veterinarian and agency executive director. The commissioners plan to hire a permanent replacement by late

winter 2003.

■ Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov.-elect David Dewhurst and Speaker-apparent Tom Craddick last week gave the Texas Public Policy Foundation a major shot-in-the-arm when they sanctioned the foundation's four-day conference planned for late January and early February. The state's top three leaders urged lawmakers and their staffs to attend the conference. The San Antonio think tank, closely tied to perennial GOP campaign donor James Leininger of San Antonio, has been around since 1989, but its influence has been limited due to the Democratically controlled legislature.

■ The First Annual Hamster Race will be Saturday, Dec. 28, 2002 at 1 p.m. at Zaragoza Valley Feed/PETS/BARN and is open to anyone with a hamster, or a gerbil. Four separate, straight paths, competing one against one. Top three winners receive hamster-appropriate gift baskets. First prize gets the biggest. Complimentary refreshments for racers, owners and on-lookers, too. No cost to enter, no cost to watch! Call (915) 849-0653 for information.

■ Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst is inviting Texas school children to participate in the seventh annual "Treasures of the Texas Coast 2003" Children's Art Contest. The competition is open to students in grades K-6 and focuses on the natural resources found along the Texas coast. Two winners will be chosen from each of the 24 regional councils of governments in Texas and one of these will be the grand prize winner with a variety of nice prizes. Each entry must be post-marked by Monday, Feb. 3, 2003. Any medium may be used, except for computer-generated artwork. For information on entry requirements and more, contact the General Land Office at 1-800-998-4GLO (select option 6) or visit the website at www.glo.state.tx.us/adopt-a-beach.

■ The American Cancer Society's 2003 Texas Golf Pass is available now, offering free green fees at 281 participating courses throughout Texas, including the El Paso area. The Golf Pass requires a contribution of \$35 and will benefit the cancer research, education, and patient services programs of the ACS. For more information or to order the 2003 Texas Golf Pass, contact the local American Cancer Society office or call 1-800-ACS-2345, or order online at www.texasgolfpass.com. The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem.

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Put us to work for you.
852-3235
WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER
Newspapers work!

Enriquez was known for community boosting

EL PASO COUNTY — Ann Enriquez was known as a force within the El Paso area community, a booster for all things El Paso. She died Thursday, Dec. 12 from brain cancer.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the San Elizario Catholic Church and she was subsequently buried at the San Elizario Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, Gaspar Enriquez; her mother, Emma Alarcon Garcia; her sisters, Susie

Yturalde and Pamela Arellano; and sisters-in-law, Lupe Franco and Irma Lackey.

While she worked as Regional Public Affairs Director for Southern Union Gas for 28 years, Enriquez' community service is almost legendary. Her service to East El Paso County reached to almost all levels of the community including trustee for the San Elizario ISD, the Mission Trail Association, the San Elizario Volunteer Fire Dept., the San Elizario Catholic Church, the Los Portales

Civic Association and the Lower Valley Water District.

She was also president of the YWCA Board of Directors and Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande Council. She was elected or appointed to serve on the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists; the R.E. Thomason Hospital board of managers; the El Paso City-County Board of Health; the Far West Texas School Boards Association; the Texas Association of School Boards and the National Association of School

Boards in the Hispanic Caucus.

She served as a trustee for the Las Palmas Medical Center, the Kellogg Community Health Partnership, the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, the El Paso Diabetes Association, the Rio Grande Council of Governments, El Paso Crime Stoppers and the El Paso Historical Society.

She sat on the Historical Missions Review Board, the Upper Rio Grande Quality Work Force Planning Committee, Unite El Paso and the Na-

tional Trust Heritage Tourism Project, as well as the El Paso County Library board, and the editorial boards for the El Paso Times and KDBC-TV.

She also did a stint on the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board, the El Paso Mayor's Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee, the Texas Tech School of Medicine and the El Paso Community College. The list of major awards for her community service is equally astonishing.

Her family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the El Paso YWCA.

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly to mostly sunny, breezy and cool.	Clear and cold.	Sunshine and a bit milder.	Sun and some clouds.	Partly sunny.	Periods of clouds and sunshine.	Mostly cloudy, breezy; perhaps a shower.	Sun and some clouds.
▲ 48°	▼ 22°	▲ 52° ▼ 28°	▲ 56° ▼ 32°	▲ 56° ▼ 34°	▲ 58° ▼ 36°	▲ 56° ▼ 30°	▲ 58° ▼ 28°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

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

REAL FEEL TEMP™

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

Thursday	44°
Friday	38°
Saturday	39°
Sunday	38°
Monday	54°
Tuesday	52°
Wednesday	59°

AGRICULTURE

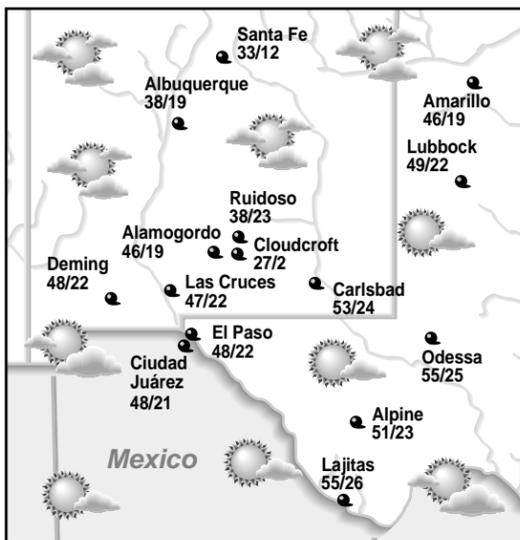
Mainly dry weather will prevail over the next few days. There will be 6-9 hours of sunshine both Thursday and Friday. Breezy and cool Thursday with west to northwest winds at 10-20 mph. Light and variable winds Friday. Drying conditions will be good to very good each day. Mainly dry and seasonable this weekend. It may shower early next week.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2002

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	48	24
Canutillo	49	25
Clint	47	26
E. Montana	48	22
Fabens	47	26
Horizon	49	25
San Elizario	46	22
Socorro	47	22
Tornillo	47	26
Vinton	49	25

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	38/19/pc	42/25/pc	44/25/sh	45/24/c	37/18/sf
Atlanta	60/48/t	56/37/pc	58/39/s	58/41/pc	63/44/c
Atlantic City	54/40/pc	50/37/r	48/32/s	48/29/c	46/35/r
Austin/San Antonio	63/33/pc	65/40/s	66/44/pc	67/39/pc	61/32/s
Baltimore	48/42/pc	52/36/r	46/30/s	50/24/c	45/37/r
Boston	42/36/pc	48/32/r	40/30/pc	42/28/c	41/29/pc
Chicago	46/32/r	36/24/sf	36/22/pc	36/24/c	37/25/i
Dallas/Ft. Worth	59/35/pc	57/38/s	55/45/pc	62/41/pc	56/33/s
Denver	34/14/pc	40/20/pc	40/19/pc	39/20/c	34/5/c
Flagstaff	32/6/pc	36/20/c	36/22/sn	38/18/pc	32/12/c
Houston	65/44/pc	65/42/s	66/52/sh	69/48/pc	62/37/pc
Kansas City	44/25/c	38/20/s	40/24/pc	42/26/c	37/12/c
Las Vegas	48/30/s	46/34/c	48/32/pc	55/35/pc	51/37/c
Miami	80/68/pc	81/67/sh	78/67/pc	79/67/pc	80/69/pc
Minneapolis	35/20/sf	30/14/sf	25/11/c	25/10/c	22/14/sn
New Orleans	74/53/r	65/45/s	64/50/pc	68/53/pc	70/41/s
New York City	44/38/pc	48/36/r	42/32/s	46/30/c	44/38/pc
Philadelphia	48/40/pc	52/36/r	44/30/s	48/28/c	44/37/c
Phoenix	55/38/s	57/42/pc	60/46/sh	63/41/c	63/35/c
Portland	46/34/c	46/33/pc	42/33/pc	41/33/c	41/23/pc
San Francisco	54/46/r	54/46/sh	52/42/pc	52/42/pc	53/44/r
Seattle	48/34/pc	46/33/pc	41/33/pc	41/32/c	40/24/c
Tucson	52/30/s	60/36/pc	57/40/sh	58/36/c	54/34/c
Washington, DC	50/44/pc	54/38/r	46/34/s	50/30/c	50/41/r

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



Can't Tip This!

DARE TO COMPARE No other wet/dry vac has all of these features.

- Genuine Shop-Vac Brand
- High-Performance Cartridge Filter
- Low-Profile, Anti-Tip Design
- Lock-On Hose
- Quietest Wet/Dry Vac Available
- 18-Foot Power Cord
- Extra-Large Tool Basket
- Top & Side Carry Handles
- Convertible Blower Port
- Big 2-1/2" Accessories

Exclusive!

Available Only At



Improving Home Improvement™

shop·vac®

THE ORIGINAL WET/DRY VAC

\$ 69⁸⁸

12 Gallon
5.0 Peak HP
Wet/Dry Vac
#159648

See the complete line of the #1 selling brand of wet/dry vacs, filters and accessories.

www.shopvac.com www.lowes.com

Shop-Vac® is a registered trademark of Shop-Vac Corporation. Lowe's® and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. ©2002 Lowe's® Home Centers, Inc. For the Lowe's nearest you call 1-800-44-LOWES. Prices may vary if there are market variations.