

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Shooting contest

Photographers, take note! The El Paso Central Business Foundation is sponsoring a photography contest to promote a beautiful downtown. Photos that highlight the beauty, history, architecture and culture of downtown El Paso will be accepted for \$10 per entry Aug. 16-30 at the Central Business Association office in the Chase Bank Building, 201 E. Main, Ste. 171. Two categories, student and non-student, will be judged and winners will receive \$500. Call Robin Milikien at 533-2656 for details.

### Clerk improvements

The El Paso County implementation of its Five Year Records Management and Preservation Plan will soon have all county property records indexes and images available on the internet back as far as 1950, according to County Clerk, Waldo Alarcon. He also noted that the Clerks office now has the ability to record and return original documents to the general public at the time of recording. Previously, the office required days or weeks to move documents though the recording process before returning them to the originator. These improvements will make public record indexes and images for warranty deeds, deeds of trust, liens, releases, judgments and other official public records more accessible to the public, Alarcon said.

### In other news

■ El Paso County Sheriff's Dept. is investigating what is currently classified as an unattended death in Anthony. The body of a male Hispanic, mid to late 30's, partially clothed, was spotted by a passerby near the 1800 block of Antonio St. about 2 p.m. July 19. An autopsy is being performed.

■ The Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging is soliciting sponsors and exhibitors for the 6th Annual Aging to Perfection Expo, Oct. 14-15, 2004 at the El Paso Convention and Performing Arts Center. The Expo will be part of the Bi-National Border Health week and welcomes sponsors and exhibitors serving all age groups. Deadline for booths and sponsors is Aug. 31. For information call 533-0998.

■ Fabens High School is gearing up for a new school year with registration for students. Seniors will register Aug. 2, juniors on Aug. 3, sophomores on Aug. 4, freshmen on Aug. 5 and all new students on Aug. 6. Registration times are 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. daily. Information is at 764-2246. Meanwhile, Wildcat parents and fans are invited to meet the Wildcat Players on Wednesday, Aug. 11 at 7:30

See BRIEFS, Page 5

*Nothing improves the memory more than trying to forget.*

— Quips & Quotes

## \$1.1 million Anthony ISD bond election passes, just six percent cast their vote

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — The low voter turnout in last Saturday's \$1.1 million bond refunding election doesn't bother AISD Superintendent Vern Butler.

The important thing is that it did pass, although by a margin of only 45-38. An additional five votes were thrown out. There are 1,475 registered voters in the district. The official canvassing of the election results, Butler said, will take place at a special board meeting on Aug. 2.

Even more important for Butler and his financial director, Karen Elmore, is that the district can move forward now with plans for the future.

Butler sees the voting in Anthony in a historical perspective — as part of a pattern, a standard of voting in the El Paso area.

"The Anthony ISD appreciates the support it received from the community," Butler said Tuesday.

"We will do the best we can to be good stewards of the money entrusted to us and provide the best possible education for our students."



Vern Butler

Butler said Elmore will be working with the state in working out the mechanics for switching the indebtedness for the Fine Arts building from the M/O (Maintenance and Operation) side of the tax equation to the I&S (Interest and Sinking Fund).

"We don't know exactly what the new funding formula will be," the superintendent said, "but there will be some adjustments." In addition, the district is working out "legalities" of the financial changes.

In switching the indebtedness, approximately \$300,000 is freed up. It allows for various repairs to be made on the middle school gym. Passage also expected to generate an additional \$150,000 in state funding.

"The election gives us a little bit of a breather," the superintendent pointed out, noting that the district is not faced with a deficit budget situation. Approval will also help to stabilize the district's finances that suffered a severe blow with the loss of revenue from the closing of the Mountain Pass facility.

Butler previously said that passage of the bond issue will also allow AISD to increase the level of support and programs to the district's 712 students.

## San Eli schools use new teaching program

By Phillip Cortez  
Special to the Courier

A new District Alignment Curriculum aimed at providing teachers a scope and sequence that organizes the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) curriculum every six weeks will be implemented beginning in the 2004-2005 school year for grades K-8, according to Eliza Simental, an instructional specialist in the district.

A district-aligned curriculum means that there is total alignment between curriculum, assessment, and instruction. In other words, students throughout the district will be learning the same curriculum in every area (math, science, social studies, language arts) at the

same time, no matter which campus they attend school, because teachers will be provided that curriculum at the same time. Teachers will be giving students a curriculum-based assessment, meaning they will be tested on the same subject matter at the end of the six weeks period.

For example, if a Sambrano Elementary 3rd grader is learning about plants in science class, a third grade student attending Alarcón Elementary is going to be covering the same kinds of lessons on plants at the same time. Each child will be given an assessment at the end of the six weeks.

"Every six weeks the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills have been identified, taught and

See SAN ELI, Page 4

## EPCC, Canutillo ISD building solid bridges

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

NORTHWEST EL PASO — Special bridges are under construction in Northwest El Paso. These bridges connect El Paso Community College and the Canutillo Independent School District in a unique way.

One is academic — two others are concrete. Whatever the form, they both reflect a dynamic working relationship, a full partnership between the two academic institutions and their leaders, Dr. Richard Rhodes, president of EPCC; and Charles Hart, superintendent of CISD.

The foundations for these bridges began to be laid about five years when the school dis-

trict was looking for a suitable site to build a new high school. The location finally agreed upon was immediately adjacent to the Northwest branch of EPCC.

"It was absolutely the best place to build the new high school," Hart says. "It was a natural." The high school is scheduled for completion by Christmas of 2005.

He regards the high school and EPCC campus as an "educational complex — an educational hub for the northwest side of town."

Rhodes echoes Hart, envisioning his Northwest campus and that of the high school as the "finest educational facility in the county and the best example of cooperation between the community college and the school district,

See BRIDGES, Page 4

## State urges compliance with school vaccination requirements

AUSTIN — State health and education officials say parents should make sure their children are in compliance with school-enrollment vaccination requirements before school starts or the students will not be allowed to attend school.

In the past, some schools have allowed out-of-compliance students a 30-day grace period to start getting the required vaccinations. But this school year, that provisional enrollment will not be granted unless the student has received at least one dose of each required vaccine series and is not overdue for a vaccine dose.

Homeless students and certain students transferring from other Texas schools will be granted the temporary enrollment regardless of vaccination status.

State immunization requirements dictate that school students be vaccinated against nine illnesses: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B and varicella (chicken pox). Vaccination against a 10th illness, hepatitis A, also is required in 39 Texas counties for students in kindergarten through third grade.

Some students are exempt from vaccination requirements for medical or religious reasons or for reasons of conscience.

"We strongly encourage parents and guardians to make sure their school-age children are as fully vaccinated as possible before the first day of school," said Shirley Neeley, Texas commissioner of education. "We don't want any students to miss valuable learning time."

Eduardo Sanchez, Texas commissioner of health, said, "The fact that these vaccinations are required for school attendance underscores their value in preventing illness."

He encouraged parents taking their school-age children for vaccinations to also make sure younger siblings are up-to-date in their vaccinations. "It's crucial that infants and toddlers are protected, too," Sanchez said.

Routine vaccination recommendations call for most of the vaccine doses required for school attendance to be given by age two.

But catch-up schedules are available for students who did not receive the vaccines when younger.

Some vaccines are given in combination forms that cover multiple illnesses. Most of the vaccines are given in multiple doses over time.

Exact requirements vary with grade level.

Specific vaccination requirements for school attendance are available from schools, physicians' offices and local public health departments. The information also is available online at [www.ImmunizeTexas.com](http://www.ImmunizeTexas.com) or by calling the Texas Department of Health at 1-800-252-9152.

The requirements apply to students in all public and private primary and secondary schools in Texas.



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# It takes two

Charlie Foxman has made his contribution to society, one that will carry his legacy down through the ages, one his grandchildren will talk about.

He has invented a jump rope that has no middle.

Yes, you heard right. All this apparatus consists of is two plastic handles attached to two short pieces of rope, "rendered harmless" by foam pads on the swinging end. I guess this means if you hit yourself with it, it may sting a little but it won't put your eye out.

Advantages to the use of this invention versus the traditional jump rope is that, Mr. Foxman says, you don't have to have the coordination of a prize fighter — in fact, you don't have to know how to jump rope at all. You get the "rope" and an instruction booklet for \$14.99 — plus tax.

Mr. Foxman is a martial arts teacher. I hope his students are not depending on him to actually teach them to defend themselves, but that's not my point.

What I'm wondering is, why on earth would anybody buy this?

Americans spend millions every day on exercise equipment that will sit unused, dusty or rusting away in their garage. I should know. What I have found works for me is to go outside and take a brisk two-mile walk. If I was going to jump rope in the fashion Mr. Foxman has now made possible, I'd just go out in the front yard and jump around — and it wouldn't cost me \$15 to do it. On second thought, maybe I would go out in the backyard, in difference to my kids and the neighbors.

My point is, it takes at least two to engage in some of the insanity we call everyday life in America.

People couldn't sell stupid, meaningless items if no one bought them. Telemarketers would stop calling if we all simply hung up on them. Our natural resources would last a lot longer if we drove the same car for years instead of rushing right out to buy the newest model. Imagine how much paper would be saved.

Michael Moore would vaporize like an unwelcome gas if the media would simply ignore him. His fragile claim to legitimacy — based only on his ability to clip film, "document" unsubstantiated gossip and capitalize on other people's tragedy — would dry up like an El Paso rain. A similar fate would be suffered by supermarket tabloids which market the most personal and pitiful struggles of some tragic little girl against drugs and anorexia. They would disappear if no one bought them.

We all know that the power an individual can exercise at the ballot box is questionable at best — witness the last fiasco we called a presidential election. But the individual power of the consumer dollar and the way we use it is stronger than ever.

I wonder what would happen if we actually started thinking about every item we purchased. Do we really need this? What are we going to do with it? Will it make our life better — like these fresh veggies — or should we put this candy bar back on the shelf because, like they say, a second on the lips and a lifetime on the hips?

I'm not sure the American economy could withstand that kind of marketplace revolution. If we started paying attention, it's likely that we'd find — myself included — that we spend what adds up to be enormous amounts of money on items that will have little or no lasting impact, either for practical purposes or even for pleasure.

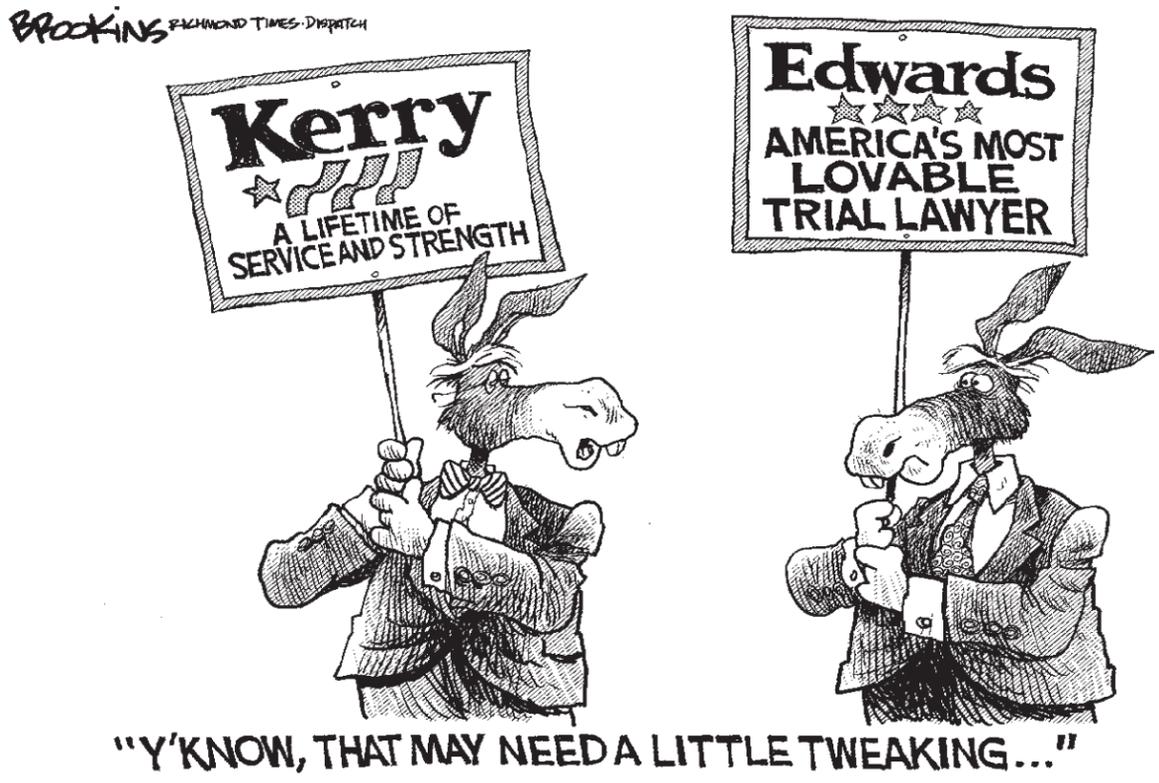
Not long ago I bought some on-sale DVDs while browsing in Wally World — good, solid family entertainment to replace the drivel otherwise served up nightly on TV. The kids have enjoyed the classic episodes of *Mayberry RFD* and *Beverly Hillbillies*, but several of the movies are still waiting, safely encased in plastic, for me to open them up. It's not that I'm watching nightly drivel, I just don't have

time for TV. I knew that when I bought them.

Subscriptions for magazines we never read, contracts with an exercise gym we never go to, "educational" toys for the baby who plays happily with a cardboard box, clothing that looked good on the hanger but not on us, shoes that looked comfortable but aren't, book and record clubs we join that send us best-sellers and CDs we don't want but for-

get to send back, fruit we bought because we know we should eat it but it rots in the bottom of the refrigerator — the list is endless.

It takes two to create this situation — the advertising and marketing gurus who start selling garbage to our kindergartners and the American consumer who allows it. Maybe if we started exercising personal responsibility over our money who knows what other areas of life might improve?



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## 4-H shooters take titles, raising funds to attend nationals

EL PASO COUNTY — Members of the Desert Valley 4H club brought home several titles from their travels to San Antonio to participate in the Texas Shooting Tournament, July 9-11. The teams competed in several divisions including the Scholastic Clay Targets.

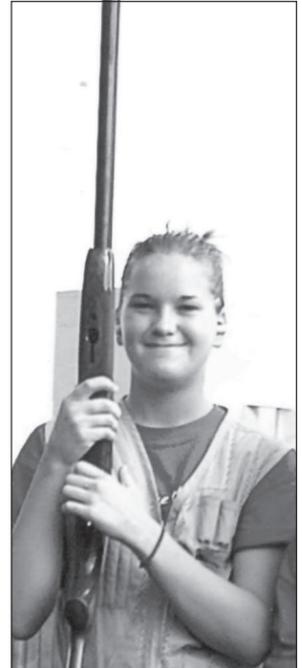
As a result of their success, the teams need to raise approximately \$10,000 to send the 15 students and their coaches to the National Tournament. Chances to win an outdoor fireplace/grill are being offered with a drawing on Aug. 31. Details on the fundraiser are available at 532-5431.

The students did an outstanding job of representing El Paso County in San Antonio and they brought home the following Titles: Texas SCTP Seniors Experienced Division Champions (grades 9-12); Texas SCTP Juniors Experienced Division Champions (grades 6-8); Texas SCTP Juniors Novice Division Champions (grades 6-8); Texas ATA Lady's Handicap Champion — Caitlyn Barney;

Texas ATA Sub Junior Handicap Runner Up — Kyle Ivey.

Along with bragging rights, they will represent the State of Texas at the 2004 Grand American Tournament in Vandalia, Ohio on Aug. 11. The Team members belong to Desert Valley 4H, Amateur Trapshooting Association, (ATA), and the Scholastic Clay Target Program, (SCTP). Their home range is the El Paso Skeet and Trap Club on Alameda.

Team Coaches are Brian Ivey, Warren Ivey, Adrienne Schultz, Michael M. Ivey, Garry Barney, and Sarah Ivey. Team members are Texas SCTP Seniors Experienced Division Champions Brian Ivey, Jr, Kyle Ivey, Carlos Garcia, Anthony Garcia and Zachary Lettunich; Texas SCTP Juniors Experienced Division Champions Caitlyn Barney, Cody Ivey, Mathew Ivey, King Ivey, and Rene Chavez; Texas SCTP Juniors Novice Division Champions are Robbie Petrie, Jessica Ivey, Trevor Nelson, Mark Myers and Tyler Armstrong.



**TAKING AIM —** Caitlyn Barney is Texas ATA Lady's Handicap Champion.

# Funeral services set for officer and gentleman, Bill Rutherford

EL PASO COUNTY — William Holland “Bill” Rutherford Jr., 77, died on July 25 at the Mt. View Nursing Home in El Paso following a short but aggressive illness.

A long-time resident of El Paso County, he was born in Iuka, Missouri on May 14, 1927. He lied about his age to join the U.S. Navy during WWII in 1943 at age 16, which began a long and distinguished military career which included numerous combat tours.

He took part in the invasion of Okinawa in April of 1945. He resigned the Navy that year, shortly thereafter enlisting in the U.S. Army as a Corporal, in time for the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He was wounded in Korea in July of 1950, received five battle stars and was promoted to Sgt. First Class. Only a few months later he earned the Bronze Star by clearing, according to military documents, “an effective and well-defended road block” while serving as

advance support in his tank of infantry companies.

During the nighttime fray, he exposed himself to enemy fire repeatedly as he removed many wounded, cleared the roadblock and an accompanying village of enemy resistance, then held the position until the advancing battalions arrived.

Rutherford was wounded again on March 24, 1970 which served with the 5th Mech. Infantry. He retired from the U.S. military the following year, in 1971, after 27 and a half years with the rank of Command Sgt. Major.

Rutherford joined the El Paso

County Sheriff’s Dept. as a Patrol Sgt. where he remained for seven years before he became the first Chief of Police for the then-newly incorporated Horizon City, a position in which he served for another 10 years.



Bill Rutherford

He is survived by his wife, Bessie Marie, of the family home in Horizon City; three brothers, Richard L. of Memphis; Joseph D. of Nesbit, Missouri; and John B. of Hernando,

Missouri. He leaves two sons: William H. III of Huntsville, Alabama; and Dennis W. of Clarksville, Tennessee; and three daughters: Christine M. of Shelbyville, Tennessee; Brenda C. of El Paso; and Tracy A. of Amherst,

Ohio. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and 10 grandchildren.

Rutherford was a member of the El Maida Shrine Temple and the John T. Bean Masonic Lodge 1333. He was a Charter and Life Member of the VFW Post 10354 of Horizon City; and a member of the American Legion Post 0598 and both the Lion’s and Kiwanis Clubs in Horizon City.

He served as volunteer director of the Oz Glaze Sr. Citizen’s Center, 13969 Veny Webb in Horizon City until his illness — donations may be made to the Center in his memory in

lieu of flowers.

Arrangements are by Martin Funeral Home, 1460 George Dieter. Visitation will be Thursday, July 29, 5-8 p.m. and Chapel Services, with Pastor Wes Phillips of the Horizon City Baptist Church presiding, will be held Friday, July 30, at that location at 1:15 p.m. Internment will be at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery with Full Military and Police Honors, at 2:30 p.m. that day and a reception will follow at the First Baptist Church of Horizon City, 17018 Darrington, 852-3127.

## TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, August 5, 1973: Famous trapeze artist Vander Clyde dies in Round Rock.



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

### Community Health Centers: Neighbors helping neighbors

Recently I had the honor of touring the Gateway Community Health Center in Laredo, Texas. I hold this building especially close to my heart because it was named in my honor.

As I walked from room to room, I was reminded of the miracles that take place every day in centers just like this one. Community health centers — like the ones in Laredo and Uvalde — serve the millions of people who choose to live in rural America. They fill a critical role in health care and should not be taken for granted.

For over 30 years, community health centers have provided community-based care to patients who otherwise may not have received necessary medical treatment. Whether it’s because the only doctor is too far away or is too expensive, receiving

proper medical care is just not an option for some folks. This is where community health centers step in.

We all know that being healthy is important to being a productive member of your family and the larger community. But too often in poor and rural regions of Texas, parents and children are forced to go without proper health care. Community health centers are able to provide important health services for rural America. Whether it’s preventive prenatal care or early detection of diseases like diabetes or breast cancer, community health centers increase access to much needed care.

But community health centers do much more than just treat illness. They also help prevent disease and strengthen entire communities. Com-

munity health centers improve citizens’ health, but they also provide jobs, strengthen schools, stabilize neighborhoods and enhance community pride. Workers are able to be more productive, children are able to stay in school, and mothers are able to care for their newborn babies. Community health centers work because they are neighbors helping neighbors to keep their community healthy and happy.

I’d like to say thank you, once again, to all the people who have dedicated themselves to these important institutions. We owe you a great deal of gratitude and in many instances, we owe you our lives. Thank you and keep up the good work!



## Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

### It’s time for parents to get involved in their children’s education



Hola, mi gente. As we prepare for the magic

day when we send our children back to school, please keep in mind that a child’s education is of the utmost importance in this modern day and age. It has been proved time and time again that for a child to succeed in school, the parents must be involved.

There are parents who take an intense interest in assuring that their children receive a proper education — a schooling that will see them through the pitfalls of life. Then, again, there are those who truly don’t care one way or the other. There are various reasons why this may be so.

In the first place, many parents might not have achieved educational attainment themselves. Either they dropped out of school before graduation, they hated school because they had other priorities, or they simply weren’t able to handle the course work. Whatever the reason, we must ensure that our children don’t fall victim to that ogre known as “the dropout rate.”

As your legislator, it is my job to make sure that our schools have the money necessary to educate our children. As we battle with those who want to do away with equitable funding of our schools — namely, Robin Hood — we expect parents to work with their children to make sure that our efforts are not going to be wasted.

Our children must be educated if they are to compete. Without a solid education, they will not succeed. Instead, they will flounder, be lost, and will not develop the ability to obtain a high paying job. Do you want your child or children to struggle through life, working at minimum wage jobs? I didn’t think so.

Yet, how many parents really don’t care whether their children go to school or not? Too many, I’m afraid. If you’re a parent with a child in one of our schools, become a volunteer. Children take more of an interest in school when they know that their parents care. If the parents don’t care, the child won’t either.

We must encourage our youngsters to finish their schooling. We must inspire them to reach for the stars. We,

as parents, must be there for them during the tough times, because nobody ever said that school was easy.

It’s a well known fact that every school year completed means a substantial increase in lifetime earnings. A child who does not finish school is doomed to having low-paying jobs for the rest of his or her life. A solid education, however, one that includes not only a high school diploma but a college degree will guarantee that your child will earn substantially higher wages throughout his or her life.

Please, mi gente, keep that in mind. As you prepare to enroll your child or children in school, make a promise to yourself that you will become more involved. Remember, our school districts are money poor. Sometimes the only thing that keeps them going is parental and volunteer involvement.

If you’re a stay at home mom or dad, you can spare two hours a day to helping your child’s school. Remember, it doesn’t take much. But, the rewards will be outstanding. As always, I remain your friend and public servant, Chente for la gente.

## CORRECTED NOTICE

### Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on **Monday, August 9, 2004** during the Planning Commission meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed items:

1. A public proposal by the Village Council to amend the Village Zoning Ordinance regulations (Ord. No. 088-94) in the following specified particulars:

**Article IV, Prohibited Uses**, Subsection B. **Uses Prohibited**, paragraph 4 is proposed to be amended as follow:

“4. Feed lots, poultry farms or facilities for killing or slaughtering and dressing of animals, *except for as allowed by special permit in zoning district R-1.*”

**Article IV, R-1 Residential District**, Subsection D. **Uses Permitted by Special Permit** is proposed to amend by adding a paragraph 4. to read as follows:

“4. *The keeping of agricultural livestock and the butchering and dressing of those animals as part of an educational program at a public school; The showing of agricultural livestock and agricultural products to the public as part of a public school program or competition.*”

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Clerk of the Village of Vinton.

CAMILLE CASTILLO  
Village Clerk

# Socorro breaks ground for 34th campus as school starts up again

A Socorro ISD committee is accepting nominations for names for the District's 34th campus, a new Pre-K-8th school. A groundbreaking ceremony for the new school is scheduled for 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 28.

From the District's Education Center, 12300 Eastlake Drive, buses will then take participants to the building site at 3830 Rich Beem Drive in the northeast corner of the District, just south of Montana Avenue and east of the Loop 375 bridge.

Individuals may submit school name recommendations in person or by mail to Vicki Icard, Director of Special Projects, Socorro Independent School District, 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, 79928-5400. Nomi-

nations may also be faxed to 860-7137 or sent to the following e-mail address: vicard@sisd.net. All recommendations need to include a brief synopsis of why the school should be named as suggested. Nominations will be accepted through Aug. 13.

The school has been designed by El Paso's Perspectiva architectural firm, and will be built by Banes General Contractors on the 30-acre site. The finished school is designed to serve 900 students in pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade, and will include playing fields for football and soccer, a gymnasium for games and school assemblies plus a cafeteria, kitchen and library.

The guaranteed maximum price for the new campus is \$9,294,087,

with funds coming from the District's 2000 bond election. The new campus is part of the El Dorado High School feeder pattern, and will help relieve the growing student populations of the District's Paso del Norte (pre-K-8) and the Lujan-Chavez (pre-K-5) campuses.

Meanwhile, the SISD teachers have been "back to school" for more than a week and SISD's estimated 33,000 students returned to the District's 33 pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle school and high school campuses July 26. Among the changes affecting the District-wide instructional program are new nine-week grading periods for the 2004-2005 school year to give teachers an additional three weeks per period to work with the subject.



**BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE** — Canutillo ISD Superintendent Charles Hart, left, and EPCC President Richard Rhodes made presentation recently to the Transportation Policy Board of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) regarding the Northwest campuses.

## Bridges

From Page 1

cooperating in every way for the future of young people."

His comments came at a May meeting of the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization). Rhodes shared the podium with Hart, and the two educators urged officials to expedite work for completion of Loop 375 that would run behind the two schools and link up with Doniphan Drive. It would provide back-door access to the two campuses.

Cornerstone of the academic bridge between the two schools is the dual credit program that allows "academically ready" high school juniors and seniors to take basic, core courses and earn credit on both the high school and college levels. Rhodes says these students can take up to two courses per semester starting in the junior year for a possible total of eight by the time they graduate from high school. The goal is 42 credit hours by graduation.

Rhodes, who promotes the dual credit program through TV advertising, says there are 800 students throughout the county who are participating in the dual credit program.

"Taking college for a test drive." That is how Dr. Pam Padilla describes the program. She is the assistant superintendent for student performance in the Canutillo ISD. Padilla sees it as a seamless transition from high school to college without the student having to leave the "secure environment" of the high school.

She speaks of another plus for dual credit. Many high school graduates will be the first in their families to go to college. They therefore can't go to family members about it.

Because of changes in the curriculum, the program was not offered in the past school year. Fifteen students took part in it in the 2002-03. Courses included U.S. History, U.S. Government and Economics.

Padilla expects that number to increase in the future.

"El Paso Community College has been extremely helpful in setting up educational opportunities for our students," she adds.

Then there are the two concrete "bridges."

The first bridge is actually a boulevard — a roadway under construction between the campuses. It will connect with Loop 375 once it's completed. It is a shared expense between the schools.

Hart announced the second concrete "bridge" at the July meeting of the board of trustees. He said he had signed an agreement with Rhodes for joint use of parking facilities during football games and other special events to accommodate an overflow of vehicles.

The two educators show great respect for each other's work.

"It has been a delight working with Hart," Rhodes says. "He is a superb superintendent — a true visionary."

"When Rhodes came on board, it (dual education program) took off," Hart points out. "He is an outstanding educator; he is an outstanding man. He works with us every way he can to do what's best for the students."

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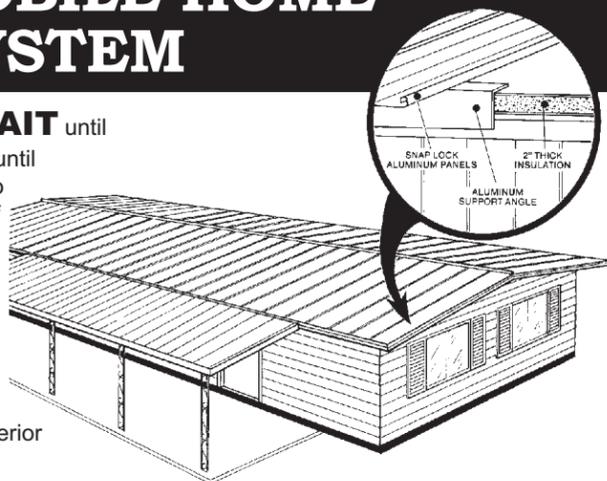
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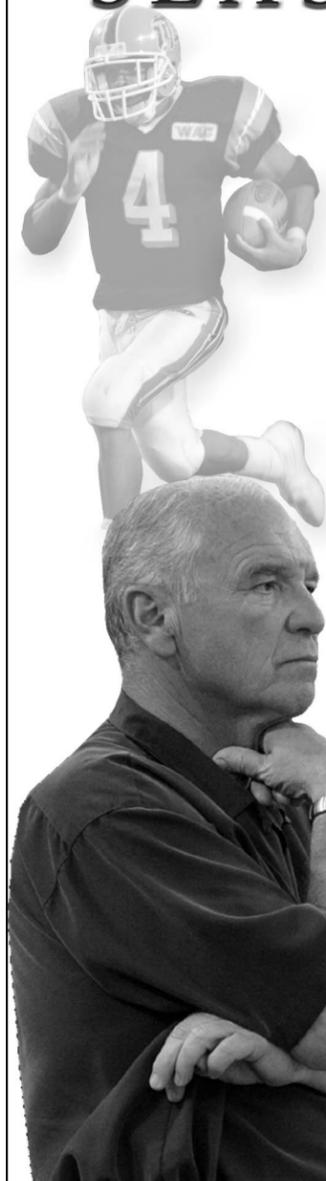
## 2004 FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS

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## San Eli

From Page 1

tested on," Simental said. "It ensures parents that their child is learning what they're supposed to be learning."

"Teachers can plan for instruction and monitor student progress closer. This process will allow teachers to implement intervention strategies if needed."

There are things a parent can do to help their children under the new district-aligned curriculum initiative, according to Simental, and a meeting that will provide parents with an overview of the initiative is scheduled for Thursday, August 19.

As the district begins the 2004-

2005 school year, Simental says she knows the challenges ahead, one of which will effect 5th grade students.

"This year, fifth grade students will need to pass not only Reading to be promoted to the next grade level, but also Mathematics," she said. "In addition, the standard error of measurement will increase each year."



# Canutillo ISD honors local media

[www.wtccourier.com](http://www.wtccourier.com)

By Kim Guzman  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Don Woodyard of the *West Texas County Courier* and Michael Hernandez of the *El Paso Times* were named to the Media

Honor Roll, a program sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), by Canutillo Independent School District. The Media Honor Roll recognizes media representatives statewide who deserve recognition for fair and balanced reporting of news about public schools.

Media representatives from more than 475 Texas newspapers and radio and television stations were honored by their local school districts.

Criteria for selection included media representative's efforts to get to know the superintendent, board president, and the district's mission and goals; report school news in a fair, accurate, and balanced manner; give a high profile to positive news about schools; visit the schools; and maintain a policy of no surprises by sharing information with school officials.

"Canutillo ISD appreciates these reporters for their balanced and accurate approach to sharing both the challenges facing our schools and the successes achieved by our teachers, students, and school board. Their work aids our community in focusing on the goal of providing the best public education we can for every child," said Charles Hart, CISD Superintendent.

TASB is a nonprofit association established in 1949 to serve local Texas school districts. School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent have a combined annual budget of \$28 billion, employ more than 560,000 people, and serve more than four million public school students.



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## Briefs

From Page 1

p.m. in the Wildcat Stadium. Watermelon will be served and a Booster Club sign-up will be ongoing.

■ Canutillo High School will hold freshman orientation Aug. 3 and Aug. 4. Classes for all students begin Monday, Aug. 16. Freshman Orientation, or SOAR (Student Orientation and Recreation), is scheduled from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 3-4 starting in the new gym. Different activities are planned, snacks will be served, and transportation will be provided. "It is very important that all freshman attend both days to receive information about being a successful student at Canutillo High School. It also provides an opportunity to tour the school and make friends," said Derrick Brown, CHS principal. Students new to the district and enrolling at the high school should stop by CHS Office to register as soon as possible. New students should bring social security card, a utility bill, shot records and report card or transcript from previous school. For more information, call the CHS office at 877-7500.

■ The Horizon City Community Chapel will host an Evangelistic Rally for Jesus, Aug. 2-4, 7 p.m. nightly. The chapel is at 14802 Duanesburg in Horizon City, phone is 852-3154. The public is invited.

■ Socorro ISD Community Learning Center has announced day classes, free of charge, in ESL and also GED in both English and Spanish. All classes will be held at the Community Learning Center at 313 S. Rio Vista from 8 a.m. to noon for ESL. The GED classes will be held from 12:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The classes will be held from Monday through Friday. Registration is July 26 to Aug. 3. For additional information call 937-1700.

■ What would a celebration of our peaceful border experience be without the tellers of stories? This year, the Chamizal will have three.

They are **Juba**: The African Griot/American storyteller; **Terry Alvarez**, story dancer; and **Gregorio Pedroza**, bilingual sto-

ryteller. The three will join for a workshop during the Annual Chamizal Festival Oct. 9-10, and they will perform separately.



Terry Alvarez

tells stories for all ages. In her performances, she utilizes movement, rhythm, music, costuming and puppet. She also uses folk and fairy tales from many cultures, as well as her own original work in creating her humorous and interactive work. Sarah Addison (juba) was born in the Mississippi Delta and raised on a Kansas farm. As a descendant of West African Griots (storytellers), she uses instruments, songs and gestures to tell her tales. She weaves African-American history, culture and folklore throughout her stories, while she teaches us about life, character, cultural identity, pride, appreciating cultural differences and social responsibility. Gregorio Pedroza blends English and Spanish as he shares the experiences of growing up in a barrio in Texas in a large extended family with grandparents who only spoke Spanish.

■ Yusuf Farran has joined the Canutillo Independent School District administrative staff as its Construction Administrator, supervising the district's new construction projects to ensure that all projects are in compliance with planning and zoning requirements. Canutillo ISD is currently building a new high school and classroom additions to three existing school campuses, installing playground equipment at the elementary schools, installing roof-repair work district-wide, and, in the near future, upgrading the electrical and mechanical systems at the present Canutillo High School and Middle School. The new position, which was created by the School Board in February, is directly under the superintendent. "The level of responsibility and expertise involved and the impact of decisions on district operations warrant that the new construction administrator report directly to the superintendent," stated Renee O'Donnell, CISD executive director for Human Resources. Farran has over 16 years of civil, environmental, and sanitary engineering experience. He earned a master of science degree in civil/environmental engineering and a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from UTEI Paso. Farran was formerly construction project manager for Ysleta ISD.

## Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology Education Programs for Clint Independent School District

Clint ISD offers Career and Technology Education programs in Career Orientation, Agricultural Science and Technology Education, Business Education, Family and Consumer Sciences Education, Health Science Technology Education, Technology Education, and Trade and Industrial Education, including selected approved innovative courses. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude, age appropriateness, and class space available.

It is the policy of Clint ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Clint ISD will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the district's Title IX Coordinator Alfredo Solis at 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4961 and/or Section 504 Coordinator Michelle Casillas at 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4961.

## Notificación Pública de Prácticas No-Discriminatorias en Programas de Educación en Carreras y Tecnología del Distrito Escolar de Clint

El distrito independiente de Clint ofrece programas vocacionales en la orientación de ocupaciones, tecnología en ciencia de la agricultura, negocio y la comercialización, ciencias del consumidor y familia, ciencias de la salud, educación de tecnología, y tecnología industrial, incluyendo algunas clases innovativas. La admisión a estos programas se basa en interés y aptitud, conveniencia de la edad, y el cupo de la clase disponible.

Es norma del distrito independiente de Clint no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Deprechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Emmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

El distrito independiente de Clint tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en los programas vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX, Alfredo Solis, en 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4961 y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504, Michelle Casillas en 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4961.

# Classified Ads

## LEGAL

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### Rio Grande Council of Governments

The Regional Review Committee for the Upper Rio Grande State Planning Region will hold a meeting on Wednesday, August 4, 2004 beginning at 10:00 a.m. (CST-Van Horn Time) at the Van Horn Convention Center located at 1801 W. Broadway, Van Horn, Texas. The purpose of the meeting will be to establish the priorities for funding for the 2005-2006 Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) applications as set forth by the Office of Rural Community Affairs. Please contact Annette Gutierrez, Regional Services Director at (915) 533-0998, ext. 119 or email at a.gutierrez@riocog.org if you have any questions.

WTCC: 07/29/04

#### CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Federal and State Regulation Materi-

als Programs require that all students, staff, parents, and other interested parties be provided information on these mandated programs.

### PEST CONTROL TREATMENT PROGRAM NOTICE

The Canutillo Independent School District manages a Pest Control Program in accordance with Integrated Pest Management procedures prescribed by the Texas Structural Pest Control Board.

The District provides pest control services in-house. The District pesticide applicator is licensed through the Texas Structural Pest Control Board. The applicator has been scheduled to perform indoor applications of pesticides on a monthly basis. On occasion, requests are made for indoor pesticide applications for special purposes.

Information on the times and types of pesticide applications is available at the request of the parents, guardians, or managing conservators. Information may be obtained by writing to:

Department for Support Services  
Canutillo Indepen-

dent School District  
P.O. Box 100  
Canutillo, Texas  
79835

### ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRAM NOTICE

The Canutillo Independent School District, in compliance with government regulations requiring the development of a written plan for the management of Asbestos Containing Building materials (ACBM's) in schools, maintains on record, a management Plan for each campus and facility.

School Districts nationwide have expanded a great amount of effort and substantial number of dollars in identifying materials in our buildings which may contain even small amounts of asbestos. Many of these materials are the same materials we may have in our homes: some are located in areas not accessible to students or teachers; others are covered with protective covering which restrict direct access. The intent of the government requirements is to identify these materials and develop a written document dealing with the ways of managing them to

ensure that they continue to be non-threatening.

A mandated 3-year reinspection was recently completed and was placed on record at the District's main office and at each school. The EPA requires that schools perform both visual and physical assessments of condition of asbestos containing materials in the schools in the form of a six-month periodic surveillance inspection and a three-year reinspection, respectively. Asbestos abatement activity is scheduled in the schools to facilitate planned renovation projects and maintenance work in schools where asbestos is present. All activities involving asbestos are recorded in the Management Plans and are available for review during normal business hours at either the school's administrative office or the Support Services Office, 7710 Cap Carter Rd. Copies can be obtained for a nominal fee.

### AVISO A TODAS LAS PERSONAS INTERESADAS

Los programas sobre materiales reglamentados por el gobierno estatal y federal requieren que todos los

estudiantes, personal, padres, y otras personas interesadas les sea provisto información tocante a estos programas obligatorios.

### AVISO DEL PROGRAMA DE TRATAMIENTO PARA CONTROL DE PLAGAS

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo administra un programa de control de plagas en conformidad con los procedimientos prescritos por la junta del Control de Plagas Estructural de Texas. El Aplicador ha sido programado para que haga aplicaciones interiores de insecticidas una vez al mes. Hay ocasiones en que se hagan aplicaciones de insecticidas en el interior de edificios por razones especiales.

A petición de los padres, guardianes o conservadores dirigentes, esta disponible la información tocante a las horas y tipos de pesticidas que se usaran en las aplicaciones. Está información se puede obtener escribiendo al:

Department for Support Services  
Canutillo Independent School District  
P.O. Box 100  
Canutillo, Texas  
79835

### AVISO DEL PROGRAMA DEL PLAN PARA EL CONTROL DE ASBESTOS

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo, en conformidad con los reglamentos del gobierno que requieren el desarrollo de un plan escrito para el control de materiales de construcción que contienen asbestos (ACBM's) en las escuelas, mantiene en archivos un plan para cada escuela o edificio del distrito escolar.

Districtos Escolares a través del país han invertido una gran cantidad de esfuerzo y una cantidad sustancial de dólares en identificar aquellos materiales en nuestros edificios que pueden contener aun pequeñas cantidades de asbestos. Muchos de estos materiales son los mismos materiales que tenemos en nuestros hogares; algunos se encuentran en áreas que no son accesibles a los estudiantes o maestros, otros están cubiertos con capas protectoras que no permiten el acceso directo. La intención de los reglamentos del gobierno es de identificar estos materiales y desarrollar un documento escrito que trate las maneras de controlarios y así asegurar que no sean peligrosos.

Una reinspección obligatoria cada 3 años fue recientemente terminada y la información fue archivada en la oficina de

Administración del distrito escolar y en cada escuela. La EPA (Agencia Protectora del Ambiente) requiere que las escuelas lleven a cabo inspecciones visuales y físicas de la condición de aquellos materiales que contienen asbestos, por medio de una vigilancia o inspección cada 6 meses, y una reinspección cada 3 años respectivamente. El control de asbestos en las escuelas es programado para facilitar todos los proyectos de renovación y de mantenimiento de proyectos en las escuelas donde hay asbestos. Todas las actividades que implican asbestos son anotados y archivados en los planes de administración y pueden ser revisados durante las horas de oficina de la escuela o en las Oficinas de Support Services, 7710 Cap Carter Rd. Se puede obtener copias por un costo bajo.

WTCC: 07/29/04

### PUBLIC NOTICE

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at South West Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - IG2WJ52M4SF249961, 1995 Pontiac Grand Prix SE, red,

Nebraska dealership plates 073104 VIN - IGTEKIRH3E533607, 1984 GMC Sierra pickup, blue/white, Missouri plates 745 PSO WTCC-06/17/04

### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services will be accepted at the following times:

### STAFF LEASING AND TEMPORARY SERVICES CSP NO. 199-0809-0470 MONDAY, AUG. 9, 2004, UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. WTCC-07/29/04

### BARGAINS

PACKAGE DEAL on three mountain bikes, special editions, excellent condition. Yellow women's 26-inch; red women's 24-inch; white men's 26-inch. Cost average of \$350 when purchased new, will sell all three for \$300. Also, one girl's Pacific North-

west 20-inch bike, 5 speed Chiano gears, no-flat tires. Will sell for \$30 alone or include in package price. 852-2610. 7/29

### HELP WANTED

New pecan internet business, one mile south of Fabens, seeking employee that is computer skilled (spread sheet, word processing, Quick Books accounting), bilingual, and speaks fluent English with good telephone skills. Must be reliable, and references required (including all employment past five years). Packaging of pecans, some simple cooking, and packaging-shipping are also required until sale volume rises to additional help. Looking for qualified individual with long-term employment in mind. Must have drivers license and transportation to Fabens. Starting salary is \$9/hour. Five days per week, 8-5. Send resume to Secretary, P.O. Box 777, Fabens, TX 79838. 7/29

### SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information. Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Información: 838-6264.

## SERVICES

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# King Super Crossword

## I APPEAL ACROSS

- 1 Commedia dell' \_
- 5 One of the Mavericks
- 9 Seraglio
- 14 Telescope view
- 19 Clark's coworker
- 20 "An apple \_ ..."
- 21 Catherine of "Home Alone"
- 22 Mindful
- 23 Start of a remark by John Yeck
- 25 \_ button
- 26 Neighbor of Nigeria
- 27 Confused
- 28 Artist Mondrian
- 30 Apprehend
- 32 Winter hazard
- 33 Lincoln or Zumwalt
- 35 Swerve
- 39 Slavic soup
- 42 Part 2 of remark
- 47 Ring stat
- 48 Pull the Trigger?
- 49 \_ nez
- 50 Western lake
- 53 Fit for farming
- 56 Patois
- 58 Rag man?
- 60 \_ lily
- 61 Raison d'\_
- 62 Big hit?
- 64 Creepy Christopher

- 65 Word on a fuse
- 68 Suffix with racket
- 69 Farm feature
- 70 Spice-rack item
- 71 Part 3 of remark
- 74 Part 4 of remark
- 77 Skin problem
- 78 Monte Rosa, for one
- 79 Dion's "Run-around" girl
- 80 Mitchell homestead
- 81 Glowing
- 82 Rule
- 84 " \_ Angel" ('60 smash)
- 86 Persona
- 90 Publishing
- 92 Diva Renata
- 94 Author's afterthought
- 95 Asta's mistress
- 96 With 91 Down, fiber source
- 97 Urchins
- 99 Fuss and feathers
- 100 Part 5 of remark
- 105 Patron
- 108 Chore
- 109 "The Longest Day" author
- 110 Baby rat
- 111 Lady of the lea
- 113 Eastern discipline
- 116 Furious
- 120 Part owner?

- 123 Tower material?
  - 127 End of remark
  - 129 Tantrum
  - 130 Johnson of "Brief Encounter"
  - 131 Sometimes it's sweet
  - 132 Stylish
  - 133 Gold bug?
  - 134 Talent
  - 135 Couturier Cassini
  - 136 Diner fare
- DOWN**
- 1 See 87 Down
  - 2 Carrot or parsnip
  - 3 Canterbury cans
  - 4 Value
  - 5 Humbug lead\_in
  - 6 Fatty
  - 7 Punjabi princess
  - 8 Anklebiter
  - 9 Behave like a bunny
  - 10 "Gotchal!"
  - 11 Sought office
  - 12 " \_ go brag!"
  - 13 A la King?
  - 14 Bandleader Calloway
  - 15 Be in debt
  - 16 Hyper
  - 17 Fromm or Segal
  - 18 Doctrine
  - 24 Biggest part of a fish?
  - 29 Recipe abbr.
  - 31 Reggae's Marley

- 34 Female zebra
- 36 German astronomer
- 37 New York county
- 38 Tow truck feature
- 40 Hearsay
- 41 TV's "One \_ Beyond"
- 42 Gumbo veggie
- 43 Stable youngster
- 44 Aspect
- 45 Pulls together
- 46 They're very well-armed
- 47 Tic- \_ -toe
- 51 Islamic deity
- 52 Muralist Rivera
- 54 Point the finger at
- 55 Reverse's signal
- 57 Bailiwick
- 58 Elfman of "Dharma & Greg"
- 59 Born
- 63 Proper
- 66 Wilder works
- 67 Wd. segment
- 70 Wise guy
- 71 Descendant
- 72 Prelim
- 73 Lack of feeling
- 74 Feed a fire
- 75 Use another blue pencil?
- 76 Faucet problem
- 77 Landon or Kjellin
- 79 Position
- 82 Jennifer of "Flashdance"

- 83 Most minute
- 85 "The Secret of \_" ('82 film)
- 87 With 1 Down, "Sweet Liberty" director
- 88 Shiva and Ganessa
- 89 Conceit
- 91 See 96 Across
- 93 \_ California
- 94 Discern
- 96 "Message to Michael" singer
- 98 Bible feature
- 101 Affliction
- 102 Overhead item?
- 103 Couple
- 104 Add nutrients
- 105 Tic
- 106 Designer Emilio
- 107 Made a choice
- 112 Get \_ (retaliate)
- 114 Bismarck or Kruger
- 115 Purpose
- 117 Turkish title
- 118 " \_ can't be!"
- 119 Impress
- 121 \_ roll
- 122 Legal matter
- 124 Slangy suffix
- 125 Rocker Ocasek
- 126 Babble
- 128 Med. test

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# Press may be in foul territory over NY slugger's decline

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

With all the talk about athletes getting the upper hand via steroids lately, it's no wonder the media and fans have been leery about Jason Giambi's troubles.

The New York Yankees slugger has been anything but pumped up this season, batting in the .220s without the home run punch we've seen throughout his career.

Most people have suspected one thing and one thing only — steroids.

Media types speculated that he became muscle-bound last season by taking illegal substances. So naturally, when Giambi showed up to training camp about 25 pounds lighter this year, they figured he was forced off the juice in the shadow of the BALCO doping scandal, and lost all that muscle.

But Giambi has not only failed to produce on the field, he says he constantly feels fatigued off it. He has said he has no energy.

Recently, it was reported that Giambi might be infected by some kind of intestinal parasite.

When news of this hit the airwaves, I heard fans and talk show hosts laugh at the absurd idea and claim, once again, that they knew he was off steroids and just couldn't produce like he used to.

I'm not sure those people are laughing as loudly today. It was reported this week that Giambi is being tested for a potentially fatal condition sometimes caused by intestinal parasites.

Seems his doctors are stumped but feel something out of the ordinary is present.

Giambi has been tested for cancer and HIV, both tests were negative.

Sometimes the easiest thing to do is think the worst of people. I have no idea if Giambi was taking steroids or whether he is suffering right now because of it. But I do know that Giambi has always been one of the few good guys in sports.

And though we usually can't wait to tear down our heroes, I wish we would at least wait and see what the truth is before we condemn someone.

How terrible it would be if it turned out that Giambi was suffering from some terrible disease. I wonder how his detractors would feel then.

I do know one thing, Giambi would be man

enough to face his tragedy head on. I wonder if the media types out there would even be man enough to admit they were wrong.

## Loaded referee

How many times have you been at a ballgame and yelled at the referee? I mean called him every name in the book and even a couple names not listed in the book.

Up until now, yelling at the ref has always been part of the game. I say "up until now" because of what happened in South Africa recently.

You might want to think twice before questioning any referees there, especially soccer referees.

Seems a coach had questioned one of the referee's rulings during a game, causing the bench to empty. But as the players stormed the field to argue with him, the ref did not get mad, he got even.

Witnesses say the official took a gun out of his pants and fired several shots at the team, killing the coach and injuring two players.

Police there are searching for the referee, who fled the scene immediately after the incident.

This is one of those instances where one usu-

ally says, I thought I'd seen everything in this game — but that's a new one.

Here's a little additional information, kids. In case you're wondering how dangerous it is in South Africa, statistics show the murder rate there is eight times higher than that of the United States. And that's off the soccer field.

## Marlin in deep

The top 2003 draft pick of the Florida Marlins spent some time in the hospital recently.

No, he wasn't there because of an arm injury or even a pulled hamstring. Turns out he didn't even have a hangnail. What Jeff Allison did suffer from was a little ailment called an overdose of heroin.

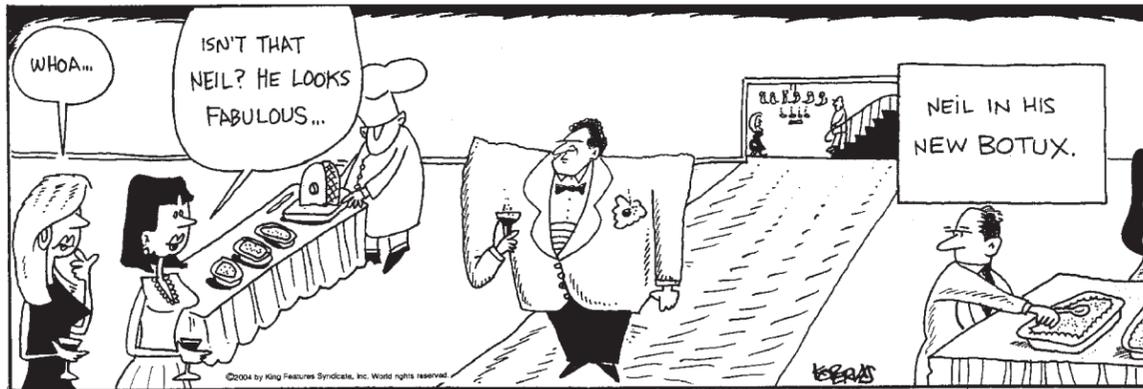
It's sad to hear about another kid with all the potential of the world just throwing it all away. But when it gets to this level the idea of his baseball future being in jeopardy takes a back seat to his future being in jeopardy.

The bad thing is that Allison has plenty of money to keep his habit alive after receiving a \$1.85-million signing bonus last year.

Let's hope he gets his life together before he has no more life to save.

## Comix

### OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



### AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



### THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



### R.F.D. By Mike Marland



## Music stands test of time

By Don Flood

"It's got a good beat. I can dance to it."

That's how they used to rate songs on Dick Clark's "American Bandstand."

That's probably not how they're going to rate American composer John Cage's "Organ2/ASLAP," which is being performed in Halberstadt, Germany.

"ASLAP" stands for "as slowly as possible," but of course that's open to interpretation. How long is "slowly as possible"?

Fortunately, we have our answer. A group of German music experts have stepped in and decided: 639 years.

That's how long it will take for their current performance of "Organ2." (It has something to do with commemorating the town's organ, which dates to 1361.)

I say "current" because, sadly, the performance has already begun, in September 2001. The first 18 months of the concert consisted of dead silence, with the first notes actually being played in February 2003.

The next big change, according to a CNN story, comes in 2006, when another note is scheduled to be played. I'm not kidding. Buy your tickets now.

Cage himself died in 1992, and I'm sorry to say I was unaware of his work while he was alive because the man possessed a certain genius (and no, I'm not being sarcastic).

In 1951, he wrote "Imaginary Landscape No. 4 for 12 Radios." I have never heard that work performed — it was done using real radios tuned in to real radio stations — but I know I would like it.

Likewise, his 1952 masterpiece "4'33," which consists of three movements of silence lasting a total of four minutes and 33 seconds.

I've haven't heard "4'33" performed live either, but I have a broken CD player which, while useless for listening to CDs, does reproduce silence with an amazing degree of faithfulness. I listened carefully.

The piece begins slowly, one might say timidly, with an opening theme that is a study in pastoral silence.

One becomes aware of a brook — the kind that should be babbling — but this one makes no sound of any kind. Nearby birds and cows remain strangely silent.

The movement ends much as it began, and then there is silence. (Note: Those attending a live performance should not clap between movements.)

The second movement opens also with silence, but of a much quicker tempo. One finds oneself in a large, crowded city — in which all is mysteriously quiet. The lack of noise from traffic, sirens, street workers and passersby gradually becomes deafening, as the section builds to a silent and shattering crescendo, signaling an abrupt end to the movement.

The third movement opens with a more somber silence, seeming to build at first but then trailing off into silence. It is an astonishing work (though without a stopwatch it can be hard to tell when it's over).

But not as astonishing as this true fact. In 2002, composer Mike Batt was sued by Cage's heirs after he produced a CD with a track entitled "A One Minute Silence." They sued him for plagiarizing silence. He settled out of court.

And for those wanting to hear "Organ2," make your plans now. The concert is scheduled to end in the year 2640; no encore is planned.

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## Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I am about to turn 62 years old. I have not worked very much so I think I will get the minimum Social Security check. Can you tell me what the minimum is?

**A:** There is no minimum Social Security benefit. You should have been receiving an annual Social Security Statement from us giving you an estimate of your future Social Security benefits. If you have not been receiving this Statement or have forgotten the benefit estimates it provides, call

us at (800) 772-1213 to request a new Statement.

**Q:** I want estimates of what my retirement benefit payments would be at several different ages, such as 62 1/2 years, 63 years, 64 years, etc. Do I need to request several different Social Security Statements?

**A:** No. To test different retirement scenarios, we suggest you request one Social Security Statement and use the calculation programs on

SSA's Retirement Planner "<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/r&m1.htm>". Using the information from the Social Security Statement, you can test an unlimited number of alternatives using these programs.

**Q:** My elderly mother recently died. As we were making funeral arrangements, the funeral home director told us he would take care of all our Social Security business. Can I assume that was done?

**A:** As a service to their customers, many funeral homes voluntarily provide death information to the Social

Security Administration. But it is still the family's responsibility to contact the agency to determine if any additional action is necessary or if any benefits are payable.

**Q:** My neighbor gets Social Security disability benefits. But he has two cars and owns a second home near the beach. Can I file a fraud report about him receiving government benefits that he is not entitled to?

**A:** Social Security disability benefits are not means-tested. In other words, how much money your neighbor has or how many things he owns were

not factors in deciding his eligibility for benefits. He qualified for disability because he had worked and paid Social Security taxes for a sufficient period of time and because he has a severe medical impairment that will keep him from doing "substantial" work for at least one year.

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

# WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sun and clouds.	Partly to mostly cloudy.	Partly sunny; breezy in the afternoon.	Partly sunny.	Mostly sunny, t-storm possible in the afternoon.	Sunshine and a few clouds.	Sunny to partly cloudy.	Sunny to partly cloudy.
▲ 96°	▼ 71°	▲ 96° ▼ 71°	▲ 96° ▼ 72°	▲ 96° ▼ 72°	▲ 98° ▼ 72°	▲ 98° ▼ 72°	▲ 98° ▼ 72°

## UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	10	Very High
Friday	10	Very High
Saturday	10	Very High
Sunday	10	Very High
Monday	10	Very High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

## REAL FEEL TEMP™

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

Thursday	96°
Friday	89°
Saturday	89°
Sunday	89°
Monday	95°
Tuesday	98°
Wednesday	98°

## AGRICULTURE

A strong ridge of high pressure aloft will allow for baking sunshine across the area, with sparse cloud cover limited to the short term. Drying conditions will be excellent across the area, with an average of 9-11 hours worth of sunshine Thursday through Saturday. By Sunday, a more favorably moist flow may allow for a shower across the area.

All forecasts and maps provided by **AccuWeather, Inc. ©2004**

## TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	93	70
Canutillo	93	70
Clint	94	70
E. Montana	95	71
Fabens	94	70
Horizon	94	71
San Elizario	90	68
Socorro	94	70
Tornillo	94	70
Vinton	93	70

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	90/64/t	90/64/s	91/65/s	90/66/t	92/66/pc
Atlanta	90/72/t	91/72/t	90/72/t	88/72/t	88/72/t
Atlantic City	85/71/pc	84/69/pc	86/69/pc	86/69/t	86/68/r
Austin/San Antonio	95/73/t	93/72/t	94/73/t	95/74/s	96/74/pc
Baltimore	88/72/pc	88/72/pc	90/72/pc	90/70/t	85/69/r
Boston	82/70/sh	84/70/pc	84/70/s	84/68/t	82/69/r
Chicago	86/66/pc	86/68/t	84/64/t	86/66/pc	86/65/s
Dallas/Ft. Worth	91/74/t	94/74/t	94/76/t	97/76/s	99/77/s
Denver	77/54/t	79/55/t	85/57/t	89/60/pc	90/61/s
Flagstaff	78/48/s	80/48/s	80/48/s	78/50/t	79/50/c
Houston	92/76/t	94/76/t	94/76/t	94/76/t	96/76/pc
Kansas City	80/65/t	85/65/t	86/66/t	88/68/pc	92/68/c
Las Vegas	105/78/s	105/78/s	103/79/s	101/79/s	104/79/s
Miami	88/77/t	89/77/t	90/78/sh	90/79/sh	91/78/t
Minneapolis	78/60/pc	75/60/pc	78/63/pc	83/65/t	84/64/pc
New Orleans	92/78/t	92/78/t	92/78/t	92/78/t	92/78/t
New York City	84/72/pc	84/72/pc	86/72/pc	88/73/t	86/73/sh
Philadelphia	88/72/pc	88/72/pc	90/72/pc	90/72/t	88/72/r
Phoenix	106/82/s	106/83/s	106/83/s	101/85/t	105/81/s
Portland	88/59/s	88/59/pc	86/59/pc	86/57/pc	80/56/pc
San Francisco	72/57/pc	70/58/pc	71/57/pc	71/56/s	71/52/s
Seattle	86/58/s	84/58/s	82/58/pc	82/57/pc	76/56/s
Tucson	98/74/s	99/74/s	99/74/s	98/75/t	100/74/s
Washington, DC	88/72/pc	90/74/pc	90/74/t	89/73/t	86/72/r

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

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