



NEWSBRIEFS

John Drugan school

John Drugan farmed in the Lower Valley in the Socorro area for 59 years and served his community as a Socorro ISD school board member in the 1970's and 80's. All of his six children graduated from Socorro High School. Now SISD's newest campus, its 35th, will bear his name. A groundbreaking ceremony was held last Thursday at the site near the intersection of Pellicano and Loop 375 North preparatory to opening in January of 2006. Designed by PSRBB/IDEA architects, and built by Sam Corp., the campus is expected to cost about \$12.2 million, to house pre-K through 8th grades, and feature 36 classrooms, a gymnasium, media center/library, cafeteria and athletic fields. Susan Cook will be principal.

Siglo de Oro continues

In a continuance of 29 years of international theatrical presentations, Chamizal National Memorial is hosting its 30th annual Siglo de Oro Drama Festival through Sunday, March 6. Eight groups drawn from Mexico, Spain, Venezuela, Bolivia, Chile and the United States will gather in El Paso for both the festival and the Memorial's Educational Outreach Program. The festival features plays written during Spain's Golden Age, a period which fostered such literary greats as Calderon de la Barca, Gil Vicente, Tirso de Molina, Juan Ruiz de la Alarcon and Lope de Vega. The curtain opens at 8 p.m. nightly. Limited seating is available on a first come, first served basis. Admission is free. La vida es sueño will be presented on March 2 by Teatro Camino. On Thursday, March 3, Venezuela's popular Teatrela will perform Gil Vicente's La farsa de Ines Pereira. Costa Palamides directs. Mexico's prestigious director Marta Verduzco brings her Quien mal anda mal acaba by Juan Ruiz de la Alarcon from Mexico City to perform on Friday, March 4. The work is presented by Mexico's prestigious El Consejo Nacional para la cultura y las artes. Teatro Naque from Bolivia will present Seis oficios, a saber on Saturday, March 5. The Siglo de Oro Drama Festival will stage its final performance on Sunday, March 6 with a staging of Calderon de la Barca's Eco y Narciso. The Siglo de Oro Drama Festival is the only festival in the world completely dedicated to presenting works drawn from Spain's Golden Age. Most of the works presented at Chamizal National Memorial also are performed in Juárez, with several also traveling on to the cities of Chihuahua and Delicias. Schedules are available at the Memorial. For additional information, call 532-7273.

In other news

■ The Texas Gas Service has filed with the municipalities of Anthony, Horizon

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Sometimes it's hard to believe that the human tongue is only a couple of inches away from the brain.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

REGIONAL REP — Canutillo High School Junior Denise Rojas is the new FCCLA vice president of community service and projects for Region I. Rojas here holds the cookbook produced by CHS students which they will sell as one of their fund raising activities.

Canutillo High student named regional vice president for FCCLA

By Alfredo Vasquez
 Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Denise Rojas, a junior at Canutillo High School, was named Region I vice president for the Texas Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) during a regional conference held in Lubbock recently.

As vice president, Rojas will head the organization's community services and projects efforts for Region I which includes FCCLA chapters throughout Far West Texas, the Panhandle, and parts of Central Texas. There are five regions in the state.

Rojas presented a speech, titled "It's Your Move," about how FCCLA helps students prepare for the future and was interviewed by a panel of former officers to earn the coveted position.

"I was nominated for the position because I wanted to get more involved in FCCLA to see how I could make a difference," said Rojas,

who has been enrolled in FCCLA classes since her freshman year. Rojas is also a member of the school's National Honor Society and choir.

"The last time a CHS student was selected to serve as a FCCLA regional officer was in 1982, so this is a big honor for Denise and CHS," said Angelina Bencomo, CHS teacher for FCCLA classes. Assisting Bencomo this semester is Myrna Sundermann-Boughton, a teacher intern from NMSU.

"I hope that I can represent CHS the best that I can, and I want to be a good role model so that we can have more CHS students become officers," Rojas said.

Upcoming events for the newly elected officer include the state leadership meeting in Corpus Christi in April, an officer-training seminar in Austin in June, and the national leadership conference in San Diego, California in July.

FCCLA is one of the largest career and technology student organizations in the United States. The organization encourages personal growth and leadership development in teens through family and consumer sciences.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

SAFETY PAYS — Clint ISD was recently recognized by the West Texas Educational Insurance Association for its success in implementing safety programs designed to prevent employee injuries in the workplace. Wesley Slade of the Claims Administrative Service, shown left, presented the Diamond Star Award to James Kelch, assistant superintendent; Donna Cline, business manager; and Olivia Campos, assistant superintendent to commemorate saving the district \$14,698. By emphasizing safety programs, it is estimated that 472 participating school districts have saved about \$184 million since 1991 by avoiding injuries and worker's compensation claims.

Look carefully online before you leap to medical conclusions

AUSTIN — The Internet hosts a vast collection of information on topics ranging from sub sandwiches to submarines. Anybody with a computer and modem can access a variety of health information, too. But how can you tell whether the information is legitimate?

Patients can be fooled by bogus content if the site looks slick, cautions physicians of the Texas Medical Association.

"You'll find all this ridiculous stuff out on the Internet, and you can find there's no end to people out there who have Web pages full of baloney and malarkey," warns Philip T. Suarez, MD, former chair of TMA's Council on Communication.

"If I go to Google and I enter the word 'diabetes,' I'll have 4,500 entries on diabetes," observes Vijay N. Koli, TMA Council on Communication chair. "How can a patient not having any background be able to decide what he or she is looking for and what he or she is seeing?"

The key, he and other physicians stress, begins with not relying on typical search engines to begin quests for health information. Instead start your search with a reliable resource for quality information, and you'll end up with quality Web resources.

Joseph Perkinson, III, MD, member of TMA's Council on Communication, advises his patients to begin at trusted "jump sites" or "Web portals."

"I think one of the best Web sites, sort of a jump site, is the Healthfinder site. It is great for the lay person," Dr. Perkinson explains the Victoria family medicine physician. "You can type in any disease and hit 'enter' and it'll give you a list of Web sites that discuss that particular disease... and they're usually pretty good Web sites."

Some other Web portal-type sites of note include the National Institutes of Health/U.S. National Library of Medicine site, as well as those institutions' Medline Plus site; the TMA site; Medem; the American Medical Association (AMA) site; the Texas Academy of Family Physicians (TAFP) site; and Merck Medicus (see bottom for these sites' World Wide Web addresses).

"Probably the most important thing is... relate it to what you already do," Dr. Suarez stresses. "If you're sick, or (say) I hurt my knee badly, what am I going to do? Am I going to go to Wal-Mart and ask some guy who's sitting there, 'What am I going to do with my knee?' Or am I going to an orthopedic surgeon? Well, most rational people will go to the orthopedic surgeon. So go to sites that already have an established medical reputation."

"Practically speaking, if I didn't know where to go, and were I not in medicine per se, one of the things I would probably think about is, 'What medical institutions have good reputations, and do they have Web sites?'" Dr. Perkinson adds. He uses the World Wide Web and electronic medicine as

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One perspective

By Francis Shrum

In the eye of the beholder

Biographers, you gotta love the actions and words of their subject to stand or fall on their own.

em. They are the eye of the beholder. There's an immutable principle involved with peering into, let alone writing about, the lives and affairs of others, even if they are public figures. The principle basically is that the yardstick with which you measure the other guy is the same one that, ultimately, is apt to be applied to you.

In other words, we'd better be on pretty solid ground before the old shame-shame finger starts wagging in a direction other than our own.

Or not. Too often, people who write the life stories of other people forget that they really are not equipped with some sort of mystical telepathic ability. This is especially true if a biography is not authorized by its subject or is written about a dead one. I've started reading a few biographies that I never finished, finding them to be little more than a gossip column on steroids.

The name of one widely-read biographer, and I use the term loosely in describing this woman, when seen on the cover of a book is sufficient for me to never give it a second glance, even if I'm interested in her subject. I get the feeling that she is somehow trying to improve her own stature by trashing people more famous than she.

We should highly value those biographers who honestly put in the time and effort to research the details of another person's life with the sincere intent to understand them rather than recreate them. Rare and valuable are those writers who can pass up the temptation to interpret their subject's unrecorded thoughts and unrevealed motivations, and instead will allow

And we need them, these biographers, because I personally would never have the time, opportunity or the intellectual discipline to read and assimilate the voluminous writings of our first president. For less than \$20 at a local wholesale warehouse, I picked up a well-written and reasonably objective synopsis of his life — *His Excellency, George Washington* — written by someone who did, Joseph J. Ellis.

A&E's *Biography*, which I figure is about the most reputable among television's biographical offerings, is a hopelessly appealing program that let's us peek into the life and personal business of someone famous without even having to crack a book.

It seems that the lives and doings of humans are endlessly interesting to other humans. We can't seem to get enough of being the beholder. That's why *People* magazine will always have a market — written of the people, by the people, for the people, if I may horribly corrupt a quote from an extremely famous person.

I recently read *Diana, Story of a Princess* by Tim Clayton and Phil Craig which, as far as I could determine, is the most sane and objective overview written of this life that spun so terribly out of control under the glare of the public spotlight.

I even felt a little ashamed when I bought the book, like I was somehow contributing to the insatiable public feeding-frenzy that ultimately devoured her. Still, as I read it, I was grateful that reputable authors had taken the time to objectively compile the record, to use actual quotes from actual people instead of sensationalizing what this most tragic person was about. The portrait that finally

emerged from the written records of and about this beautiful English woman revealed someone as real and flawed and marvelous and gifted as many women I actually know, neither entirely good nor evil, just caught in a hopeless love/hate relationship with the spotlight.

In the end, the final judgment of a biography is whether it tells a tale we can swallow, a piece of writing that

can bring the extraordinary, the mediocre and the bizarre characteristics that make up a life into a believable focus. If the subject comes off as being too good to be true, the writer probably has a bad case of hero worship and isn't giving an objective view. On the other hand, if the subject — short of Adolph Hitler or Charles Manson — comes off as entirely evil, the picture is likely

skewed in the opposite direction.

Ironically, the week I finished reading *Diana*, almost eight years after her death, it was announced that Prince Charles would finally wed Camilla Parker Bowles, with the apparent blessing — or at least the apathy — of a public that once vilified his longtime mistress. What a switch!

In the end, I guess it really is all in the eye of the beholder.

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

The glory of Texas

This week marks a special occasion for our great state. It is the anniversary of our state's independence from Mexico. On March 2, 1836 a convention of 54 men met in the small settlement of Washington-on-the-Brazos to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The Texas Declaration of Independence was produced, literally, overnight. Its urgency was paramount. While the founding fathers of Texas prepared the document, the Alamo in San Antonio was under siege by Santa Anna's army of Mexico. In near-freezing weather, in an unfinished building, the convention voted in the early morning hours of March 2 to unanimously accept the resolution. Ultimately, 58 members signed the document. And thus was born the Republic of Texas.

The declaration sent a sign to Mexico that Texans would no longer live under what many of them regarded as a tyrannical rule from a distant source. It was testimony that Texans were ready and willing to

fight for their freedom. And fight they did.

Four days after signing the document, William Barret Travis and 184 brave men concluded their gruesome battle against more than 5,000 Mexican troops. The odds were against the Texas volunteers, but they were determined to stay the course and fight until the end. When the battle was over, only 15 people — mostly women and children — were spared. Familiar names like Davy Crockett, James Bowie and Juan Badillo lost their lives that fateful day. These brave souls did not give their lives in vain. The casualties that the Texas forces mounted against Mexico, and the time lost in reducing the Alamo cut short Mexico's campaign. It gave Sam Houston just enough time to perfect his plans for the defense of Texas and enabled him to win the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836. This victory spelled a final freedom for Texas.

In the saga of Texas history, there is no period as distinctive as Texas'

struggle for independence.

The period's heroes are remembered in the names of cities and towns, streets, plazas and public buildings. The Lone Star flag, inherited from the original Texas Republic, still flies proudly throughout our state.

I'd like to leave you with a quote by Sam Houston just before the Battle of San Jacinto.

"We view ourselves on the eve of battle. We are nerved for the contest, and must conquer or perish. It is vain to look for present aid: none is at hand. We must now act or abandon all hope! Rally to the standard, and be no longer the scoff of mercenary tongues! Be men, be free men, that your children may bless their father's name."

Texas Independence Day is an occasion for all Texans to stand proud and remember the men who stood up for their rights and fought for their freedom. God Bless Texas!



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Empowerment zone is positive for El Paso



Since 1999, El Paso's Empowerment Zone (EZ) has not only provided quality job training and small business expansion opportunities for our community, but has worked to promote the long term well-being of the border region. The latest example is the new 'Read El Paso Read' campaign.

Recently, a study by the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater ranked El Paso the least literate large city in the country. The study considered each city's libraries, journals, and newspaper subscribers, but did not take into account the unique cultural and linguistic characteristics of the U.S.-Mexico border region and El Paso in particular. Even worse, studies such as this could adversely affect our ability to attract business, industry, jobs and other assets that we desperately need in our community.

While we in El Paso did not give much credence to such a hastily created study, it did underscore the importance of literacy and its impact on

our education, quality of life, and economic well-being. In addition to enriching one's life and imagination, literacy will foster improved education, increased trade, inter-governmental relationships, and international business with Mexico, Central and South America.

To ensure improved business opportunities and education for future generations of El Pasoans, 'Read El Paso Read,' an initiative I spearheaded with the El Paso EZ, promotes literacy in our community by collaborating with government officials, business leaders, educators, and families. We've provided students with journals to track their reading progress and incentives such as retail coupons and recognition awards to encourage them to read '20 minutes a day, 5 days a week.' We have held — and will continue to hold — book giveaways and library card drives. We have enjoyed success so far, and the EZ even handed out 60,000 books at an event in late February.

As we can see, it is apparent that the Empowerment Zone program —

a federal initiative through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development — promotes economic development in underserved communities. EZs receive regulatory relief and tax breaks from the federal government to help local small businesses provide jobs and promote community revitalization. EZs are authorized to reward eligible employers with tax credits that can be worth up to \$5,000 per employee, deductions and increased expensing of equipment and machinery.

In his recent fiscal year 2006 budget request, President Bush zeroed out funding for the EZs. As someone who fought to secure El Paso's EZ designation in 1998, as a member of the Empowerment Zone Caucus and as someone who has worked closely with our local EZ and seen the positive results of their creative initiatives, I know EZs play an important role in improving the economies of underserved areas and distressed neighborhoods. It is important that they receive full funding from the federal government.

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View from here By Michael Quinn Sullivan

Newspaper math: bad assumptions, bad pronouncements

Advertisers and insiders have reeled the last several months as newspapers around the state and nation were found to use shoddy math to prop up their circulation numbers to increase their profits.

It seems shoddy accounting methods are not limited to the circulation departments of Texas' major metros.

The *San Antonio Express-News* opined that Gov. Rick Perry's claims

of a \$6.4 billion increase in budget revenues was like calling "a pig a princess" and that the people "must not be fooled."

Let's look at the numbers. This year the Comptroller is projecting \$64.7 billion in discretionary fund revenues. Two years ago lawmakers appropriated \$58.3. That's a difference of \$6.4 billion. Even a journalist should be able to do that math.

So what Texans "must not" do is put too much stock in the pronouncements of newspaper editorial boards. The *Express-News* claims there isn't \$6 billion more in revenues because that money has already been spent.

Sorry, but it just ain't so. Like the special-interest-protecting bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., the state's media and liberal elite — if I may repeat myself — make the faulty as-

sumption that current spending should be automatically increased. The argument goes that we must "maintain" the current level of service for any particular program, which means increasing the money spent.

That's not bad math; that's bad public policy.

There is not a single agency, program or activity in the Texas Constitution that is guaranteed a single additional cent from the taxpayer's purse; spending growth is not required by the state's constitution. More importantly, there is not a shred of moral justification for simply increasing the funds expended for any program without a careful consideration of how the money was previously spent.

Maybe legislators will determine in the course of the appropriations process that the state needs to spend \$6 billion more than it did in the last Session, leaving Texas' coffers with a few hundred million in the bank.

But that is a very different outcome than simply presuming more money needs to be spent because of the way it was spent in the past.

For months newspaper columnists have told Texans how bad things are; how the fiscal disciplines imposed last Session would wreak havoc on our state. As recently as this weekend, editorial boards and left-wing advocates were calling for tax increases to meet the presumed "budget shortfall." Now that they have been proven wrong, these guys are whining that the surplus isn't what it could have been.

But maybe they are right. With a little more discipline, and an even finer knife to the budget this Session, taxpayers could be saved a lot more money.

Michael Quinn Sullivan, a former newspaper reporter, is vice president of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, an Austin-based research institute.



"The TERRORISTS HAVE RELEASED G.I. JOE UNHARMED, but HAVE REPORTEDLY TAKEN MR. POTATO HEAD HOSTAGE and ARE THREATENING to PULL OFF HIS NOSE..."



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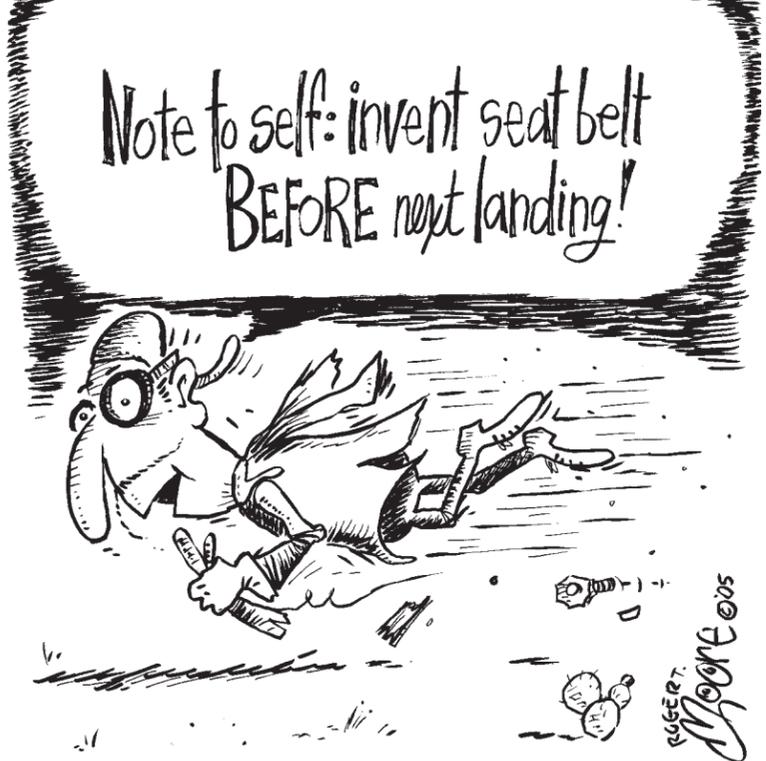
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TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Mar. 2, 1910: The U.S. Air Force is born with the 1st ever military flight at Ft. Sam Houston by a gutsy pilot named Benjamin Foulois.



Canutillo schools want to begin next school year early

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — With support of the community, the Canutillo ISD is hopeful of approval by TEA (Texas Education Agency) of a waiver for the start of its 2005-06 school year.

Antonio Del Campo, chairperson of the District Advisory Committee, told trustees of the CISD at their Feb. 11 meeting that 40 out of 48 people (83 percent) attending a recent public hearing supported the district's request to start the upcoming school year on Aug. 11 for students.

State law requires that schools cannot start before Aug. 22, explains Alfredo Vasquez, public information officer for the district. Deviation requires a waiver from TEA. Vasquez says there are four reasons for requesting an earlier start date:

First is to even up the two school year semesters to approximately 90 days each. The state requires students to attend school 180 days out

of the year.

Secondly, it will better coordinate various local inter-district activities. With the same school schedule, it is easier to plan events, Vasquez points out.

The third reason is that by starting on Aug. 11, it is easier to get in end-of-semester exams before the Christmas break. Otherwise, students would have to take the exam after returning to classes.

Finally, an earlier start date gives the district extra days during the Christmas break to make the move to the new high school. The new high school is scheduled to open in January of 2006.

Other agenda items also related to the new high school.

- Fred Siebert, project manager for Banes General Contractors, told board members that work on the high school is about 70 percent complete and is on schedule.

- The board approved an inter-local agreement between CISD and El Paso Community College for con-

struction of the roadway between the Northwest campus of EPCC and the new high school.

The naming of the new boulevard had come up for discussion in previous board meetings. It is the intent of the board, Vasquez said, to name the roadway in honor of Sgt. Isela Rubalcava, a 1995 graduate of Canutillo High School, who was killed in action in Iraq in the spring of 2004.

The district is in the process of completing the paperwork with the City of El Paso so that the shared road could be named in her honor.

- The board also reaffirmed that Banes General Contractors would assist with the installation of artificial turf for the football field of the new high school. Banes will be working with U.S. Track and Turf which will also be providing artificial surfacing for the outdoor basketball and tennis courts as well as the track.

The board also approved school board trustee election scheduled for May 7.

VLB offers land loans to Texas veterans

AUSTIN — Jerry Patterson, Chairman of the Veterans Land Board, has announced VLB land loans of up to \$60,000 are now available for Texas veterans and can be used for tracts as small as one acre. The required down payment is only five percent, with a 30-year fixed term, and the interest rate is 6.64 percent.

"There's nothing that really compares with the VLB land loan program," Patterson said. "Our interest rate is two full percentage points lower than average, and most lenders require 20 percent down."

In 2003, the minimum acreage that could be bought with a VLB land loan was reduced from five acres to one acre, making it easier for veterans to buy lots closer to urban areas. A Texas veteran can simultaneously have a VLB land loan, a VLB home loan and a VLB home improvement loan. The maximum VLB home loan amount is currently \$240,000.

The Texas Veterans Land Board was created in 1946 to help veterans returning from World War II buy land for agricultural purposes. The program has changed over the years as land prices rose sharply. VLB loan amounts increased from the original \$7,500, to \$20,000, \$40,000, and now \$60,000.

"We're always working to enhance benefits for Texas veterans," Patterson said. "No other state can match what the VLB offers: low-cost home, land and home improvement loans, nursing homes and cemeteries — all exclusively for Texas veterans or their spouses. And all of our programs are self-funding, which is good news for Texas taxpayers."

Information on Veterans Land Board loans for land, home purchases and home improvement is available at 1-800-252-VETS (1-800-252-8387) and the agency's Web site at www.texasveterans.com. Information is also available on Texas State Veterans Homes for veterans or their spouses who need affordable, skilled nursing care.

Medical

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much as possible to assist his patients.

"The Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins, UCLA, Stanford, all of them have excellent Web sites," Dr. Perkinson says. "And on almost every one of their sites, on the main site you'll see a button that is 'health information' or 'health care information' — and it's a fantastic jumping point to reliable, trustworthy, and good quality

medical information that's free."

While one approach is to begin searching at the site of a reputable institution, what are clues to be confident about the content? The answer is that quality resources keep good company — look for credible endorsements on the site and credible links from the site.

"When you don't see endorsements from major medical societies like TMA, AMA, TAFFP, or AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians) — I think that raises flags — you're looking for those things on a Web site," Dr. Perkinson notes.

The other thing he's wary of is popup ads. "If I see lots of heavy advertising of the type where I can't find the story, I don't really care for those sites. If a lot of pop-ups are occurring, I tend to think of those sites less highly." He also cautions against sites with clearly outdated pages, like those advertising an upcoming conference that has already passed.

While the physicians endorse patients' personal initiative to be involved in their care, they stress it's important to discuss their findings with their physician. That promotes understanding of accurate relevant information, and debunks bad information the patient may have learned.

"I normally tell my patients there is a lot more information outside. But please do not confuse information with knowledge," Dr. Koli, a San Antonio internal medicine specialist, recommends. He hopes patients who take the initiative to research their condition use it as a springboard for discussion with him.

Sharing knowledge is part of being a physician. Dr. Suarez, a Victoria obstetrician/gynecologist, says better-informed patients can ultimately

improve their care. "You know, 'physician' is 'teacher.' That's what he word really means," he says. "So you have to first teach and then you can cure. If you educate appropriately and teach people, then they're more apt to follow what they're supposed to do."

"It's just a lot harder to un-educate a person than it is to educate them," Dr. Perkinson observes. "I think that the danger in unreliable medical education is that they're teaching people misconceptions about the disease that they then have to get over."

Dr. Koli admits to this danger if patients inadvertently stray to bad information. "At times it becomes more of a menace as doctors try to undo what they have learned and channel them properly," he explains.

But in the end, Dr. Suarez believes the reward outweighs the risk. "You're still going to get people coming in with more silly stuff, and 'I had this holistic person and I'm spending \$300 a month on all these heavy metals and herbal products and ground bats wings and things like that,' and you still have to educate those people," he acknowledges. "But I think that

for every patient who comes in with misinformation and is anxious to pursue the wrong track, I think that more people are coming with better information.

"Number one, it allows patients to appropriately select therapies and what needs to be done, and secondly, they continue with that enthusiasm of participating in their own health care if they're knowledgeable," concludes Dr. Suarez.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing more than 40,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the state. TMA's key objective since 1853 is to improve the health of all Texans.

Some suggested Web medical portal sites:

- Healthfinder site <http://www.healthfinder.gov>
- National Institutes of Health and U.S. National Library of Medicine site <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>
- Medline Plus site <http://medlineplus.gov/>
- The TMA site <http://www.texmed.org> - go to "Links" and "Gateway to Health"

- Medem <http://www.medem.com> and click on "For Patients"
- The American Medical Association site <http://www.ama-assn.org> and click on "For Patients"

- The Texas Academy of Family Physicians "Links" section <http://www.taftp.org>

Some other notable medical sites:

- The Mayo Clinic <http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthinfo/>

- The American Academy of Family Physicians' site specifically for patients, <http://familydoctor.org>

- WebMD <http://www.webmd.com>
- Merck Medicus <http://www.merckmedicus.com> - use the search feature in the Patient Resources section

- * The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center <http://www.mdanderson.org>
- Johns Hopkins University Medical http://www.hopkinshospital.org/health_info

Canutillo Independent School District Notice of Public Hearing

AEIS Report

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2004 Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report as part of the regular monthly School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 8, at the CISD Administrative Offices, 7965 Artcraft.

The public is invited to attend. The AEIS report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Canutillo ISD campuses and central office.

For more information, call 877-7440.

Junta Publica

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo

El reporte "Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica"

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar el reporte "Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica" (AEIS) del año escolar 2004. El reporte será parte de la reunión mensual de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el Martes 8 de marzo a las 6:00 p.m. en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas localizado en 7965 Artcraft.

Todos los individuos interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte AEIS estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito y en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas.

Para mayor información, favor de llamar al 877-7446.

WTCC: 03-03-05

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Web sites provide one-stop access to government services, information

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry announced Tuesday the launch of new, comprehensive on-line business and consumer portals that streamline access to state and local government services.

“These portals are excellent examples of how government can use technology to make it easier and friendlier for consumers and businesses to access a variety of government services and programs,” Perry said.

For citizens, the “Living in Texas” portal brings on-line services like driver’s license renewals, information on electric utility rates and tourist information to a single point of access. For Texas businesses, the “Texas Business Portal” simplifies the process of fulfilling all state reporting and licensing requirements by bringing them into a single site that is easy to use.

Developed by the Texas Department

of Information Resources (DIR), both portals are linked directly to Texas Online (www.texasonline.com), the official website for the State of Texas, and access is available at no charge to users. “We saw the opportunity to support Gov. Perry’s commitment to simplifying access to government and we were able to leverage our Texas Online investments to build these portals,” said Larry Olson, Chief Technology Officer and DIR Executive Director.

The Texas Business Portal includes:

- A guide to starting a business in Texas, including information on setting up a company structure

- Business opportunity with government
- Business research and statistics
- Economic development and expansion
- Employer resources
- Access to Texas workers through

WorkinTexas.com

Living in Texas features include:

- Information on electric utility rates
- Consumer protection information
- Vehicle registration and renewal
- Job resources through WorkinTexas.com
- Tax information
- Access to public records

“These portals join other free online services already available through Texas Online that present information of value to specific customer groups such as the veterans and homeland security sites,” said Charles Bacarisse, chair of the Texas Online Authority. Visit the new:

- ‘Texas Business Portal’ at www.business.texasonline.com
- ‘Living in Texas Portal’ at www.living.texasonline.com
- Official Website of the State of Texas at www.texasonline.com



A welcome wave of relief

CANUTILLO — Canutillo Elementary School presented a check recently for \$1,786 to the Red Cross for the Tsunami Relief Fund. Shown bottom row from left are CES students Roy Maturino, Cassie Sapien, Celina Beltran, Isabel Hernandez, Aaron Mata, and Luis Urvina. Top row from left are Renee O’Donnell, CISD Executive Director for Human Resources; Hector Giron, CES principal; Mark Matthys, Red Cross Executive Director; and CES eagle mascot Alejandra Cooper.

— Contributed by Kim Guzman

Briefs

From Page 1

City, Clint, Socorro, Vinton and El Paso to adjust its rates as part of the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP). Last year’s filing increased the rate by seven cents, this year it will be 40 cents, effective June 1, 2005. The GRIP mechanism was passed by the Texas Legislature in 2003, and allows municipalities to have annual oversight of rate increases.

■ Free Colorectal Cancer Screening is being offered by Del Sol Regional Oncology Center, 10460 Vista Del Sol, Ste 100 on Saturday, April 2 from 8 a.m. to

noon. No appointment necessary. Every year, about 135,000 Americans are diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 57,000 die from the disease. Most of these cases occur after age 50, which is why the American Cancer Society recommends that men and women at average risk begin regular screening at age 50. However, anyone with a personal or family history of colorectal cancer, polyps in the colon or rectum, or inflammatory bowel disease is at a higher risk and may need to be examined sooner and more often. For information, call 629-3453. Testing kits to take home will be given out to the first 200 people, along with instructions from a screening counselor on how to use the test. The entire process

takes about 30 minutes.

■ Canutillo Independent School District received a 2004 Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) Gold Star and a Silver Star for excellence in school communications. The awards were announced at the TSPRA Star Awards in February during the organization’s annual conference in Austin. CISD was awarded a gold star for its external newsletter, Envisions District Bulletin, and a silver star for its brochure, District Update 2004-05. Public Information Officer for the District is Alfredo Vasquez, who has been head of the district’s information office since its inception six years ago. Assisting Vasquez is communication specialist Kimberle

Guzman. Each year TSPRA recognizes school communicators for outstanding work in both print and electronic media. More than 800 entries were received this year.

■ History visited Salvador Sanchez Middle School Feb. 25 as the students gathered for an all-school assembly to observe Black History Month. The Mission Valley school is located at 321 North Rio Vista Road. Sixth-grade teacher Torita Hansby says the program included songs, poems and skits including a student dramatization of Rosa Parks’ refusal to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Alabama bus in 1955. Parks was arrested and fined for violating a city ordinance, and many say the resulting protests

were the beginning of the modern civil rights movement. The skit was performed by the school’s theater students. Poetry renditions, songs, and contributions of various African-Americans were portrayed, as well as a performance by members of the Fort Bliss Sage Hall choir.

■ Applications for emergency agricultural loans for damages and losses caused by excessive rain and hail last October are being accepted by the Farm Service Agency, a credit agency of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Detailed information and applicant eligibility criteria is available at www.fsa.usda.gov/tx or by contacting William McAnally at 432-336-5206.

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Seniors Rivera and Thomas to play in last regular season home game

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

To say that these past two UTEP basketball seasons have been something mighty special is a major understatement.

To say that you're running out of time to witness the two stars most responsible for the success this team has enjoyed is all too accurate.

This Saturday night marks the last Western Athletic Conference regular season game ever for the Miners and hopefully it will be the last home game of the year.

Why do I hope it's the last home game? Would you rather the Miners host an NIT game after being passed over by the NCAA and the big dance?

And if it is indeed the final home game of the season, it will be the last time El Pasoans will be able to watch Omar Thomas and Filiberto Rivera do their thing in person.

UTEP has seen its share of 1-2 punches over the years, tandems like Bobby Joe Hill and David Lattin, Mike Switzer and Nate Archibald, Fred Reynolds and Juden Smith, Chris Sandle and Chris Blocker, Tim Hardaway and Antonio Davis, to name just a few.

These two guys are so unique. They compliment each other and coexist because of their unselfishness.

The names Omar Thomas and Fili Rivera will be forever intertwined in the annals of

UTEP basketball history. The two will always be credited with bringing Miner basketball back from the hoops grave.

After the disastrous 2002-03 season which saw the team go a school-worst 6-24 under then first-year coach Billy Gillispie, O.T. and Fili led a resurgence that earned the Miners the best one-year turnaround in college basketball history with a 24-8 record.

Gillispie left the UTEP orange and blue for Texas A&M's maroon and white — and a lot more green. But Rivera and Thomas stayed and haven't missed a beat.

The Miners go into this weekend's game against Boise State with a 23-7 record and the second seed in the WAC tournament all locked up.

UTEP will no doubt need good games from John Tofi, Gio St. Amant, Jason Williams and Miguel Ayala to win the tournament, but in the end it all comes down to the play of two players.

UTEP has truly never had a player quite like Omar Thomas. A player that can contort his body, almost slither around a defender like a snake, and score at will. He can draw a foul almost whenever he needs to and is deadly accurate from the free throw line.

Thomas has turned into a strong rebounder and is the only player that I know who can score 27 points while only taking 10 shots. Most other players put the ball up 25 times for that kind of production.

In the movie *Schindler's List*, Liam Neeson,

who plays Oskar Schindler, explains the importance of getting things done and states that "it's not the work, not the work — (he looks to the heavens and holds up his arms to illustrate the enormity of his message) it's the presentation."

Fili Rivera thinks like Oskar Schindler. He gets the work done night in and night out, but not without a flare for the dramatic.

Rivera is a showman, he's got what so many players lack — charisma.

Rivera has played through bad ankles, cramps, blows to the head and countless falls to the hardwood and he still plays with a heart as big as the Don.

Fili broke the record for assists in a game with 18 and assists for a season with 184, in the same contest against Louisiana Tech last week. For good measure he dished out nine more assists the next game against SMU.

There are times during close games that Fili just refuses to let the Miners lose and whether it's a bucket, a free throw, an assist, a rebound or a steal, he just always seems to come up with the big play at the crucial time.

Fili and O.T. — O.T. and Fili — soon they'll both be gone.

But before we worry about how we'll replace these two gems next season, let's just be glad we still have them for the next five to eight games or so, and enjoy them while their here.

We won't have a tandem like this one for at least another generation but we'll still enjoy them for many years to come — in the NBA.

Young El Paso shooter aiming for Olympic gold

EL PASO COUNTY — A 14-year-old El Paso County girl, Caitlin Barney, was recently notified of her acceptance by the National Junior Olympic Shotgun Team (NJOST). She will now represent the El Paso area and Texas while competing at International Trap events throughout the United States, training and attending competitions to earn a slot representing the US in the world at Olympic venues. She is training under the direction of Coach Lloyd Woodhouse, the USA Shooting (USAS) National Shotgun Coach. Caitlin shoots International (Olympic) trap, as well as American trap and rifle, and has been in competition for two and a half years locally and one year at the state and national level. She is the current Texas State Ladies Handicap (added yardage) Champion in American Trap, and her junior high trap team is the State Scholastic Clay Target Program's experienced division champion, State Hall of Fame Champions and National Hall of Fame reserve champions. She is an active member of Desert Valley 4H shooting sports program and is on the El Paso County 4H Teen Council. Her next NJOST competition will be at Fort Benning, Georgia in March of this year. She is the daughter of Garry and Deborah Barney and is a freshman at Eastwood High School where she qualified for the varsity ROTC rifle team.

Classified Ads

LEGAL

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 Southwest Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - 3B7HC16X3TM125919, 1996 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup, 2-door, green, Chihuahua license DM-31-068 VIN - IFTDFI768VLB33143, 1997 Ford F-150 pickup, white, 2-door, Chihuahua license ZUU-44-41 VIN - IFMDU32XOMUA50313, 1991 Ford Explorer SUV, silver/red, Chihuahua license 947-SKY-4 VIN - IFUJAHCG81PH47794, 2001 Freightliner Daycab truck, white, Oklahoma license IVA 517 VIN - IXKWDB9X03J393866, 2003 Kenworth tractor, red, Minne-

sota license PA C7999 WTCC-03/03/05

EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #1

PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 is currently accepting resumes to fill the position of Commissioner for the Horizon City Fire Department Board of Commissioners. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, a U.S. citizen, have lived in El Paso County for at least one year, and reside within the boundaries of the El Paso County Emergency Services District #1.

The Board meets once a month on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Horizon City Fire Station, 14151 Nunda, in Horizon City, Texas.

Resumes must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March

15. All resumes will be opened and reviewed at the Regular Commissioners meeting on March 17 at 6:30 p.m. The Board will pick one resume and send it and their recommendation to County Commissioner Miguel Teran for final appointment.

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

14151 Nunda El Paso, TX 79928 Attn: Ron Larson WTCC: 03/03/05, 03/10/05

NOTICE TO CUSTOMER

Texas Gas Service Company, a division of ONEOK, Inc. ("Company"), hereby gives notice of its intent to implement a new schedule of rates for approximately 184,186 residential, 11,746 commercial, 70 industrial, 792 public authority, 21 municipal water pumping and 49 standard transportation customers within the incorporated areas of El Paso, Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton, Texas, in accordance with the Company's Statement of Intent filed with the Cities of El Paso, Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton, Texas, on February

18, 2005. The proposed effective date is for meters read on and after May 31, 2005.

It is anticipated that the effect of the change in rates will be to increase the revenues of the Company within the El Paso Service Area by approximately \$1,207,239 or 0.95 percent. The proposed change does not constitute a "major" change as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code.

The proposed tariffs include increases in gas sales and transportation rates for all residential, commercial, industrial, public authority, and municipal water pumping customers in the incorporated areas of the El Paso Service Area. The effect of the change in rates, when allowed, will be to increase the revenues of the Company by approximately 0.95 percent. Based on the proposed rate design, the average monthly residential bill of 45 Ccf will increase by approximately \$0.40, or 1.2 percent, the average monthly commercial bill of 279 Ccf will increase approximately \$1.46, or 0.8 percent, the average monthly public authority bill of 975 Ccf will increase approximately \$4.56 or 0.7 per-

cent, the average monthly industrial bill of 2,926 Ccf will increase approximately \$12.41, or 0.6 percent, the average monthly municipal water pumping bill of 11,698 Ccf will increase approximately \$28.48 or 0.4 percent, and the average standard transportation bill of 31,397 Ccf will increase approximately \$80.03 or 3.1%.

A complete copy of the Statement of Intent is available for inspection in the municipalities' offices and in the Company's business office located at 4600 Pollard St., El Paso, Texas 79930.

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WTCC: 03/10/05

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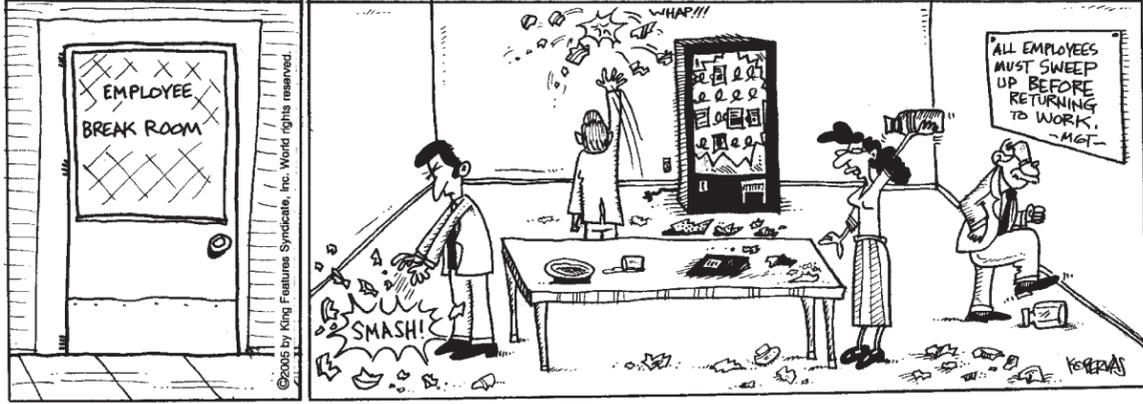
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9	10	11	12
13	14	15	(STOP HERE) (FOR \$5 AD.)
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OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



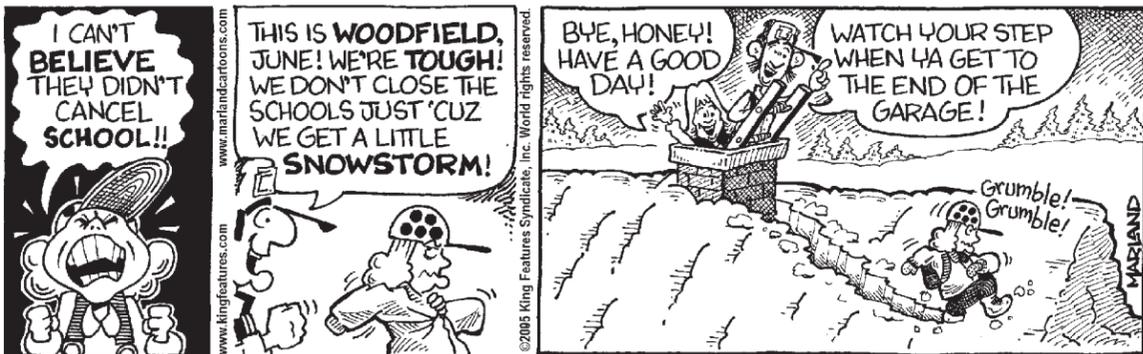
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Be tough, buy a truck

By Don Flood

From watching our truck commercials, a creature from another planet would assume two things: 1) 93 percent of American men work on ranches — the rest work on farms — and, 2) America has fewer paved roads than the moons of Saturn.

They would also assume, of course, that American men spend most of their day searching for incredibly heavy objects to lug over rugged desert terrain, when, in fact, a more typical load would be couple of Big Macs and a Happy Meal, driven through quiet suburban neighborhoods.

A new wrinkle was added recently with an ad featuring various guys practically drooling about what manly things they could accomplish with a new, powerful truck.

One man says, "I would get my tools back from my neighbor," as he is shown using the truck to rip out a garage door.

Apparently, this man's neighborhood has such a serious problem with people not returning borrowed tools that the only rational option is buying a truck capable of wreaking destruction.

But the selling point is always the same, trucks are tough and powerful (and so are the buyers).

Ford has now taken a step further. Its Super Bowl ad proclaimed something like, "Ford doesn't just make tough trucks. They make you tough!"

Now Ford might claim this was just a joke, an "edgy" commercial made especially for the Super Bowl, but here's my guess: *The other ads were just too subtle.*

Ford wanted an ad that said, "Buy a Ford truck and be a Real Man!"

When I was growing up there

wasn't much doubt about what made men tough — muscles.

We had advertisements that showed a bully coming up on the beach and kicking sand on a guy, who's afraid to fight back *because he's a 97-pound weakling.*

(Due to the super-sizing of America, we no longer have 97-pound weaklings; they now weigh 300 pounds.)

The weakling resolves to build himself up by using the famed Charles Atlas exercise plan that, according to fitness professionals, has never worked for anybody in the history of the universe.

No matter, in the next segment, the guy, oddly bulked up and looking like he and Bobby Bonds employ the same sports trainer, steps up and sucker punches the bully.

A new version of the ad would probably show the guy running over the bully with a huge SUV, backing over him a few times before going to look for heavy objects to haul around.

But another commercial competes with Ford's for sheer weirdness, the soda-pop ad with the "Stacey's Mom" soundtrack.

This advertisement seems to suggest to 30-something moms that 12-year-old boys will find them "hot" if they ply them with the right carbonated beverages, in this case Dr Pepper.

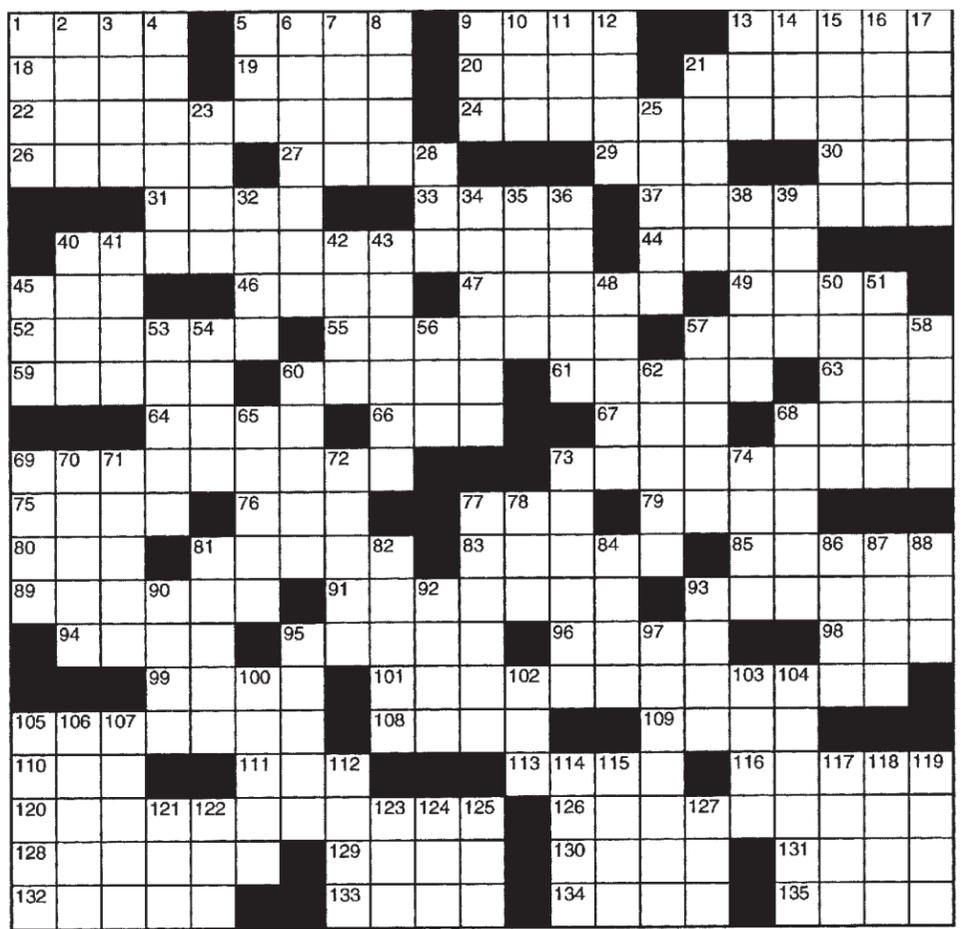
While science has established the validity of "beer goggles" — the power of adult, fermented drinks to render members of the opposite sex more attractive — there have been, to date, no authoritative studies on "Dr Pepper goggles."

Sorry, Moms, if you want 12-year-old boys to think you're hot, you need to buy a truck.

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King Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| STRICTLY SPEAKING ACROSS | group | 116 Exit | 28 _ Lanka | 78 Bustle |
| 1 Summer stinger | 63 Pigeon English? | 120 FDA-approved snack? | 32 Tennis pro | 81 Happening |
| 5 Sailor's quaff | 64 To boot | 126 "Equus," for instance? | Nastase | 82 Latin class no-nos |
| 9 In the sack | 66 Spud bud | 128 Inventor Otis | 34 Moss Hart's autobiography | 84 Scratches the surface |
| 13 Master, in Madras | 67 Bulldog, for one | 129 Dingy digs | 35 " _ Game" ('71 film) | 86 Zodiac animal |
| 18 "Dies _" | 68 "Blame _ Rio" ('84 film) | 130 Pat on the buns? | 36 Up and about | 87 Buffalo waterfront |
| 19 Melodious | 69 Capone | 131 Kuwaiti ruler | 38 Requests | 88 Actor Horsley |
| McEntire | 70 Hire a private | 132 Blackboard | 39 Ain't right? | 90 Currier's partner |
| 20 -Valley, CA | 71 eye? | 133 Type of chalcedony | 40 Spanish sherry | 92 Memo start |
| 21 Walked | 75 Landed | 134 Holler | 41 Author Dinesen | 93 On a whale watch, perhaps |
| confidently | 76 Palm Sunday | 135 Odense denizen | 42 "Peter Pan" pirate | 95 Asian nation |
| 22 Tenured? | animal | | 43 Tried a mouthful | 97 Clothes |
| 24 Ex-wife, sometimes? | 77 Humbug lead-in | | 45 "What?" | 100 African equine |
| 26 Roman official | 79 Act like an | DOWN | 48 Crack up | 102 Quayle or Blocker |
| 27 Umps | antelope | 1 Man's altar ego? | 50 Proclamations | 103 Eye appreciatively |
| 29 Bus, bigwig | 80 Oxford figure | 2 Like the Kalahari | 51 A nose that shows | 104 Acted like a chick |
| 30 Plant part | 81 Vote in | 3 Agra attire | 53 Coat-of-arms | 105 Garden supplies |
| 31 Writer Blyton | 83 "Watership Down" author | 4 Prepared a | figure | 106 In the slightest degree |
| 33 Tabula _ | 85 Defy a dictator | 5 Whippet's warning | 54 Lovett or Waggoner | 107 "GoodFellas" group |
| 37 At full tilt | 89 Salad veggie | 6 Keep the shelves | e.g. | 112 Return address? |
| 40 Violin bows? | 91 Geronimo's birthplace | stocked | 56 Italian greyhound, | 114 "Hi, sailor!" |
| 44 Evils | 93 Draw | 7 Crumhorn cousin | 57 Ignoramus | 115 Battery part |
| 45 Terry-cloth | 94 Donated | 8 Sail support | 58 Used up | 117 _ mater |
| inscription | 95 Swedish currency | 9 Furniture wood | 60 Gagger gal | 118 Self-smitten |
| 46 Cookbook author | 96 Mardi _ | 10 Jacket info | 62 Wood and gas | 119 Thornfield |
| 47 Deed | 98 It may be white | 11 Big bird | 65 Sedimentary stuff | governess |
| 49 Wraps up | 99 Signor Ferrari | 12 _ brakes | 68 Force | 121 Cornerstone abbr. |
| 52 Incompetent | 101 Stockbrokers? | 13 Canonized Mlle. | 69 Lose luster | 122 "Evita" character |
| 55 Neighbor of Latvia | 105 Petite pet | 14 "- you for real?" | 70 " _ Comes Mary" ('66 song) | 123 " _ Tiki" |
| 57 TV's "The _ Game" | 108 Blood components | 15 Was an optimist | 71 Dano or Darnell | 124 TV Tarzan |
| 59 Melodramatic | 109 Kid at court | 16 Unimprovable | 72 Messy Madison | 125 King's handle? |
| 60 Progress | 110 Former govt. agcy. | 17 Juicy fruit | 73 Nickels and dimes | 127 Costa del _ |
| 61 Chaka Khan's | 111 Carpenter - | 21 Toast word | 74 Designer | |
| | 113 Wine valley | 23 Await judgment | Lagerfeld | |
| | | 25 Macabre | 77 Church sale | |



Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: My son just enlisted in the Navy. Do people in the military pay Social Security taxes?

A: Yes. People who serve in the military services on active duty or on active duty for training have paid into Social Security since 1957. While those who served in the military before 1957 did not pay into Social Security, their Social Security records are credited with special earnings for Social Security purposes. In addition, between 1957 to 2001, military per-

sonnel in active duty status, received deemed military wages aside from their regular wages for having served in the armed forces, provided that another federal agency was not using their military service towards retirement. For more information, log onto our website, www.ssa.gov or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 for a copy of the fact sheet, Military Service and Social Security.

Q: My son is disabled and is receiving Supplemental Security Income

(SSI). One of his uncles recently died and left him some money ó not a lot, but more than he has ever had before. Does this mean that his SSI payments will stop?

A: Your son should contact Social Security and report the inheritance. The money he inherited is considered income for the month it was received and it could make him ineligible for payments that month. But you should also know that to receive SSI an individual cannot have more than \$2,000 in resources. Your son may want to talk to a Social Security representative about the inheritance be-

fore he decides what to do with it.
Q: I am planning on getting married later this year and may change my last name. If I do, how would I go about getting my name changed on my Social Security card?

A: To report a name change, you will need to fill out an Application For A Social Security Number (Form SS-5). You will have to show proof of identity under both your old name and your new name. You can download the application at www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.pdf. Your corrected card will have your new name and the same Social

Security number as your previous card. It is especially important that your Social Security record shows your correct name, since your employer reports your earnings under the name you provide. Social Security provides this service free of charge.

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

WEATHER

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly sunny.	Partly cloudy.	Sunshine; breezy in the afternoon.	Times of clouds and sun.	Cloudy with rain possible.	Considerable cloudiness with a chance of rain.	Intervals of clouds and sunshine.	Partial sunshine.
▲ 70°	▼ 42°	▲ 68° ▼ 40°	▲ 68° ▼ 40°	▲ 64° ▼ 38°	▲ 64° ▼ 36°	▲ 60° ▼ 34°	▲ 64° ▼ 34°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	7	High
Friday	7	High
Saturday	7	High
Sunday	4	Low
Monday	3	Low
Tuesday	4	Low
Wednesday	6	Moderate

REAL FEEL TEMP®

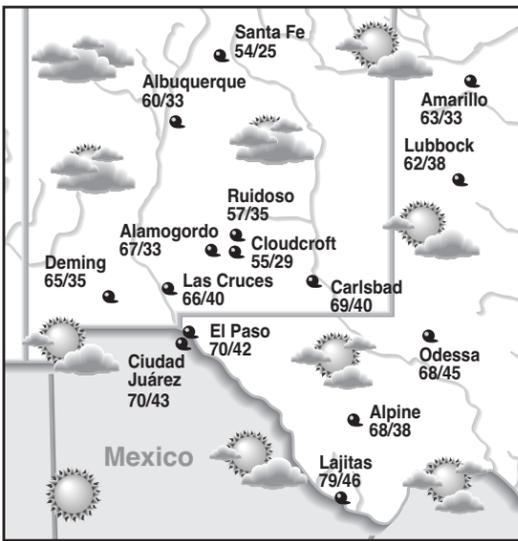
The exclusive AccuWeather composite index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors.

Thursday	77°
Friday	61°
Saturday	59°
Sunday	54°
Monday	54°
Tuesday	64°
Wednesday	67°

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	70	42
Canutillo	70	42
Clint	69	43
E. Montana	70	42
Fabens	70	43
Horizon	71	43
San Elizario	68	40
Socorro	69	41
Tornillo	70	43
Vinton	70	42

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	60/33/c	55/34/s	57/35/pc	59/36/sh	59/33/c
Atlanta	52/34/pc	56/40/pc	58/42/pc	60/39/pc	61/40/s
Atlantic City	38/17/pc	41/24/s	44/27/sn	41/22/pc	43/20/pc
Austin/San Antonio	63/47/pc	66/47/pc	64/45/r	66/47/r	70/48/pc
Baltimore	38/22/s	42/28/s	40/30/sn	44/30/pc	45/24/s
Boston	29/16/pc	32/24/pc	34/20/sn	32/20/pc	32/18/s
Chicago	34/24/s	38/28/sn	38/26/sn	42/28/pc	40/23/i
Dallas/Ft. Worth	58/42/pc	60/41/r	62/44/pc	68/47/pc	68/48/s
Denver	52/28/pc	56/26/pc	56/28/pc	60/31/pc	59/28/s
Flagstaff	51/22/s	49/24/pc	41/26/sf	51/26/c	50/23/c
Houston	66/50/r	68/50/pc	68/48/r	70/50/pc	72/50/r
Kansas City	50/34/pc	57/34/pc	54/36/pc	56/36/pc	59/37/s
Las Vegas	68/46/s	68/48/pc	68/48/sh	70/49/s	70/49/s
Miami	68/58/r	72/62/r	77/65/pc	79/62/s	77/58/pc
Minneapolis	32/20/pc	36/22/sf	36/24/sf	35/25/pc	38/20/sn
New Orleans	60/49/r	64/50/pc	69/51/sh	69/51/s	68/52/s
New York City	34/22/pc	35/28/pc	37/30/sn	40/26/pc	40/23/pc
Philadelphia	36/22/pc	40/28/pc	40/28/sn	42/30/pc	43/23/s
Phoenix	75/52/s	75/54/pc	72/54/sh	78/54/pc	74/50/c
Portland	59/44/pc	56/42/sh	58/42/pc	60/44/s	59/47/pc
San Francisco	62/52/sh	61/48/r	62/48/sh	65/50/s	64/55/s
Seattle	56/44/pc	54/42/sh	54/42/pc	56/44/pc	55/47/c
Tucson	75/46/s	74/46/s	72/47/pc	68/46/sh	68/45/pc
Washington, DC	40/26/s	44/30/s	40/30/sn	45/34/pc	47/28/s

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

AGRICULTURE

Sunshine will mix with some clouds on Thursday and Friday. Temperatures will be close to seasonal averages. Over the weekend, moisture will increase over the region and there may be some rain on Sunday. In addition to the rain, temperatures will be a little cooler.

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