

## NEWSBRIEFS

### 45th tournament

The 45th Annual State Farm Sun Bowl Basketball Tournament has the look of old and new in its 2005 lineup, as the field features Colgate University of the Patriot League, Georgetown University of the Big East Conference, Mississippi Valley State University of the Southwestern Athletic Conference and UTEP of Conference USA. UTEP, who officially joined Conference USA on July 1, will be making its 45th consecutive appearance in the oldest continuous holiday championship tournament in the nation. This year will mark Mississippi Valley State's third appearance, while Colgate and Georgetown will be making their first-ever appearances in the field. "The field for the State Farm Sun Bowl Basketball Tournament has gotten stronger every year that I've been at UTEP. We're excited about this year's teams," said Miner head coach Doc Sadler. "Georgetown won 19 games last year and has all of its starters returning. Colgate and Mississippi Valley State are up-and-coming teams. I think it's going to be a highly competitive tournament and a lot of fun for the fans to watch." In its 45th year, the Tournament will be Dec. 27-28, at the Don Haskins Center. Tournament tickets can be reserved now by calling the Sun Bowl Association office at 915-533-4416 or 800-915-BOWL. Tournament tickets are also included in UTEP season ticket packages.

### Reading habit

Feed your kid's reading habit this summer by taking them to the library for programs that feature entertainers like Terry Alvarez who will visit the Armijo Library on Saturday July 16 at 3 p.m. and the Memorial Park Library on July 23 also at 3:00 p.m. Terry will sing, dance and tell stories with her audience. The programs will include audience participation. For more information on this or other programs, visit [www.elpasolibrary.org](http://www.elpasolibrary.org) or call your nearest branch and check out what's new at your library, which could include performances by Daisy the Party Clown, ZZ the Clown, Karaoke King, and Magician Bobby King.

### In other news

■ Navy Airman Jose O. Ortega, son of Angelina Alanis of El Paso County participated in Trafalgar 200 commemorative events in Portsmouth, England while assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Saipan, homeported in Norfolk, Virginia. The event commemorates Admiral Lord Nelson and the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. The International Fleet Review included more than 160 ships from more than 36 of the world's navies. Amphibious assault ships like USS Saipan deploy throughout the world as a highly

See BRIEFS, Page 5

All the safety devices on a car can be replaced by one careful driver.

— Quips & Quotes

## Gov. Perry expands purpose of special session to include private property rights

*Lawmakers asked to shield Texans from effects of Supreme Court Ruling*

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry has expanded the call of the special legislative session to include legislation that limits government's ability to take property from private owners through eminent domain.

The U.S. Supreme Court recently set a new legal precedent that allows government entities to seize private property for economic development purposes.

"Today I am expanding the call of the special legislative session and asking lawmakers to take swift action to protect the private property rights of every Texan," Perry said. "The Supreme Court's ruling would allow government to condemn your family's home, bulldoze it and build a new shopping mall or some other kind of economic development project simply to generate more tax revenue. I stand with an overwhelming majority of lawmakers and citizens who believe that this starts us down a slippery slope that will lead to the erosion of Texans' rights."

"I support an amendment to the Texas Constitution because, by definition, the constitution is intended to protect the people from arbitrary acts by government that infringe on their

basic rights. One of the most basic rights in Texas is the right to own property, and government shouldn't be able to take that away to pad its tax coffers."

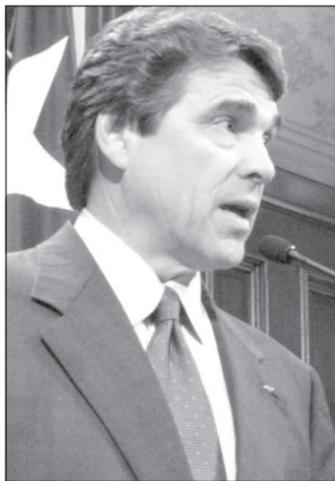
Gov. Perry's specific message allows lawmakers to consider "legislation relating to limiting the use of eminent domain to take private property for private parties or economic development purposes."

The Texas Constitution authorizes the governor to set the agenda during a special session of the legislature. The governor called lawmakers into special session beginning June 21, and has asked them to consider school finance, education re-

form and property tax relief legislation.

Legislation has already been filed in the Texas House and Senate that addresses the eminent domain issue. Gov. Perry's action was required for lawmakers to have the authority to pass such legislation.

"I have expanded the purpose of this special session because this recent decision by the Supreme Court requires immediate action. We don't need to study this issue, we need to act, and I believe this legislature will," Perry said.



Gov. Rick Perry

## Dedication planned for El Paso's Texas State Veterans Home

AUSTIN — Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office and Chairman of the Texas Veterans Land Board, has announced details for the upcoming dedication ceremony for the Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home in El Paso.

The ceremony will take place at the home, located at 9650 Kenworthy Street, at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 19. The public is invited.

"El Paso has a proud military tradition and has always cared for her veterans," Patterson said. "This home will continue that tradition. It is long overdue and I am proud to say to El Paso veterans 'welcome home.'"

The El Paso home will open Aug. 1, 2005. It has 160 beds, 60 of which will be certified for Alzheimer's care in a separate, secured unit. The home will employ about 150 full-time

employees, including registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, therapists, nurses' aides, laundry and housekeeping staff, activities aides, cooks and dietary staff.

The Texas State Veterans Home in El Paso joins existing homes in McAllen, Big Spring, Floresville, Bonham and Temple. Work is set to begin soon on a new home in Amarillo. Each existing home has 160 beds and provides skilled long-term nursing care, comprehensive rehabilitation programs, special diets, recreational activities, social services, a library, and a certified, secured Alzheimer's unit with its own secured outdoor courtyard.

For information on Texas State Veterans Homes or other programs for Texas veterans, call 800-252-VETS (800-252-8387) or visit our Web site at [www.texasveterans.com](http://www.texasveterans.com).



— Photos courtesy of Texas General Land Office

The Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home, located at 9650 Kenworthy Street, will have a dedication ceremony on July 19 at 2 p.m. The facility is named for veteran Ambrosio Guillen, at right.

## Doctors recommend chickenpox vaccine over pox-parties

*Doctors say do not go to chickenpox parties*

EL PASO COUNTY — Imagine attending a social event where the sole purpose is to get sick.

This scenario isn't so far-fetched.

The medical community has documented actual get-togethers staged by parents for the sole purpose of exposing healthy children to kids infected with the varicella (chickenpox) virus in the hopes that they will catch the disease and gain lifetime immunity.

Despite the availability of a chickenpox vaccine, some parents rely on these "parties" or visits to the home of children with chickenpox as a means of protecting their children from contracting the disease later in life. It is commonly thought they suffer less and the side-effects are less severe if they have the disease during childhood.

During a recent lecture at the Santa Rosa Medical Center, Donald J. Gordon, MD, a professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center, asked 50 nurses if they were familiar with the chickenpox party phenomenon. Not only were the nurses familiar with the parties, two said they have immediate relatives who had participated in them.

Although chickenpox parties continue to be held in many communities, physicians of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) discourage this outdated practice, because chickenpox is far from being a benign children's disease. "The fact remains that a significant number of those exposed do in fact either die or experience serious and permanent health disabilities," says Andrew C. Eisenberg, MD, immediate past-chair of the TMA Council on Public Health.

Dr. Eisenberg also reminds us that today's vaccines are manufactured under strict sterile conditions, thus limiting the potential cross-contamination inherent in natural exposure, whereas chickenpox parties run the greater risk of transmitting mutant or other 'wild type' infections. "While the intentions of those conducting chickenpox parties are appropriate in the sense that immunity is sought from this disease, the methods do not weigh in as safer than the established route of vaccination," claims Dr. Eisenberg.

To improve the Texas immunization rate and educate caregivers about the life-and-death importance of vaccinations, TMA has launched one of the most ambitious public health programs in its 151-year history. Be Wise — Immunize SM is a joint initiative of TMA and the service-oriented TMA Alliance and funded through a grant from the philanthropic TMA Foundation, to substantially increase statewide immunization rates. The multi-year program promotes immunization education and sponsors immunization events.

For more information about immunizations, call the Texas Department of State Health Services toll free number, (800) 252-9152, or look on the TDSHS Web site, [www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us) or the Be Wise—Immunize page of the TMA Web site (<http://www.texmed.org/Template.aspx?id=2656>).



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# Time in a hospital

Hospitals are a lot like major transportation terminals.

Almost everybody goes through there at one time or another, either for themselves or someone else. You see all kinds of people, of every shape, size, income and education level, in every stage of life from beginning to end.

There was a very precious person of mine in the hospital this week so I had quite a bit of time to contemplate on this after the initial rush to get our crisis under control. Having been in and around hospitals in both big cities and in small communities, I was thankful that this one was in the latter.

You see, I don't care what they say. Smaller is better. In the smaller places it's less about body count and more about people. Real people with real pain and real concerns and real feelings.

Some equally real attention from your health-care provider is a lot better guarantee of quality health care than the most up-to-date techno-gadget that could count the freckles on your molecules if they had any. Chances are, even if that machine is on the floor, nobody knows how to use it or it's not working properly.

Give me, instead, a nurse who can take blood pressure accurately, count a pulse with her fingers and gauge a patient's pain by the beads of sweat on his forehead or the color of his skin instead of asking him where he is "on a scale of one to 10...?"

Anybody who can put in a IV without tearing up a weak person's arm is worth their weight in gold.

So I was glad this was a small hospital, in a community that still doesn't

treat everybody like they live in a little cookie-cutter house right up the street with a nine to five job.

They made accommodations.

Because our family was in from way out of town and our patient needed close observation, they recognized the value in having a concerned family member on hand to help with nursing duties. They gave us a bed for one person, plenty of freedom to poke around for supplies, and didn't get snooty when we asked questions about drugs, dosage and procedure — questions that may have sounded dumb to them but didn't to us.

It gives me a happy feeling to see sick people in hospitals being cared for by people who love them and a cold, empty sensation to see them alone and at the mercy of a stranger's care.

When it came time for us to transfer from intensive care into a regular room, there had to be some shuffling done, because there were no rooms in that section not already occupied by people of the wrong sex. Well, not the wrong sex, just not the one we needed. So they moved this one old fellow while his people were not there.

After awhile this neat, white-haired little woman walked into our room with a bag full of supplies and an indignant expression on her face. Where's my husband? she demanded. A little shame-faced, we explained what had happened and she marched out.

Later the nurse told me she had been unable to reach the lady by phone to tell her they had moved her

See HOSPITALS, Page 4

## Where everybody knows your name:



MARGULIES  
© 2005 THE RECORD NEWSPAPER  
WWW.NORTHERNRECORD.COM/MARGULIES

## Where everybody knows your name, Social Security number, and credit card accounts:



BROOKINGS RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH



## View from here

By Jim Quinten

### Holding hostages with information

# Car dealerships seeking to lock up repair market, too

As a vehicle owner, I'm pretty sure you would agree that you should have the right to choose where your car, SUV, minivan or pick up truck are serviced and repaired. You probably wouldn't be too happy if the car company that built your vehicle controlled where you take it for service. After all, it is your car.

Well, if we are not careful you just might lose your right to get your vehicle serviced at your neighborhood repair shop and be forced to take it to a new car dealership. Why? Because today's modern vehicle is a very high tech machine and nearly every system on it is controlled and monitored by computers. It takes technical information, software and tools for professional technicians to service and diagnose and repair these vehicles.

So, what's the problem? The

problem is that the big car companies are not making enough profit selling new cars and they need to make more money selling parts and service. Even though a dealership's parts and service sales accounts for about 12 percent of total sales, it contributes to 48 percent of their total operating profit, according to the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) themselves. Compare this to the fact that new car sales are 60 percent of total sales, but only contributes 35 percent to total profit.

To capture a bigger piece of your vehicle service and repair business, they are trying to "lock out" the independent repair shops from the information and tools needed to work on your car so you will have to return to the dealership. Not a pretty picture. But there is something you

can do about it.

You can fight for your right to choose by contacting your congressmen and urging them to support the Motor Vehicle Owners Right to Repair Act (HR 2048). It's easy and takes only a couple minutes to go to [www.righttorepair.org](http://www.righttorepair.org) to send a letter.

The Motor Vehicle Owners Right to Repair Act is a bill that requires that the same information and tools that car manufacturers provide to their dealerships to service and repair your vehicle should also be available to your neighborhood repair shop. After all, when you buy a vehicle, you should choose where it's fixed, not the giant car companies.

Jim Quinten is President and CEO of the Automotive Parts & Services Association.

# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

**COPYRIGHT:**  
Entire contents © 2005 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

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

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

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

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
Open rate — \$20 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

**MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**  
52 issues for \$35. Delivery via 1st class mail.

**ADDRESS:**  
14200 Ashford  
Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235  
Fax: 852-0123  
E-mail: [wtxcc@wtccourier.com](mailto:wtxcc@wtccourier.com)  
Website: [wtccourier.com](http://wtccourier.com)

**Publisher**  
Rick Shrum  
**Business Manager**  
Francis D. Shrum  
**Contributors**  
Don Woodyard  
Steve Escajeda  
Arleen Beard • Jan Engels

Homesteader  
Est. 1973  
News, Inc.



Member Texas Community  
Newspaper Association



# Don't forget the Alamo

Did you know that Texas is the second-most popular travel destination in the United States? With summer upon us, Texans are busy mapping out their vacations. The good news is that an exciting vacation doesn't have to include travel agents and complex flight arrangements. Texans can find some of the country's greatest destinations right here in the 23rd Congressional District.

rio is the Riverwalk. After the Alamo, it's the most visited attraction in the State! The Riverwalk offers a variety of attractions and activities including riverboat rides, live music, art galleries, great shopping, and world class restaurants. For more information on the above attractions visit [www.sachamber.org](http://www.sachamber.org) or call 210-229-2100(10) 229-2100.

Take a stroll down the River Walk in San Antonio, explore out west or set up camp at one of the many recreational spots in the southwestern region of our state. The opportunities are endless!

## • Del Rio / Lake Amistad, National Recreation Area

Situated on the U.S.-Mexico Border and near the city of Del Rio, Lake Amistad is known primarily for excellent water recreation including: boating, fishing, swimming, scuba diving and water-skiing. Areas surrounding the



## Eye on D.C.

By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

I am fortunate to represent some of the most popular tourist sites in the world. I encourage residents of the 23rd District to ex-

lore or revisit some of these famed spots. I have created a list of hot spots and summer events that are sure to provide an exciting and meaningful vacation.

## • Big Bend National Park

You can enjoy sightseeing by personal car, backpacking, jeep touring, camping, fishing, float trips, hiking and wildlife viewing just to name a few of the many activities. Commercial float trips on the Rio Grande are available through outfitters just outside the park. Big Bend National Park is open year round, 24 hours a day, seven days per week. For more information visit [www.nps.gov/bibe/home](http://www.nps.gov/bibe/home) or call the park at 432-477-2251.

lake provide opportunities for picnicking, camping and hunting. Ciudad Acuna is just a short drive from the lake where visitors can cross the border for an afternoon of shopping and authentic Mexican cuisine. For more information on the lake and the recreation area visit [www.nps.gov/amis](http://www.nps.gov/amis) or call (830)775-7491.

## • Alpine/Marfa: Labor Day Weekend, Big Bend Balloon Bash and the Marfa Lights Festival

There are few more amazing sights than the contrast of colorful hot air balloons in the morning West Texas sky above the Alpine Valley against the Davis Mountains—except perhaps for the mysterious and unexplained Marfa Lights, seen by motorists almost every night of the year. If you're looking for wide open spaces and a touch of mystery this Labor Day weekend... go West! For more information visit the Marfa Chamber of Commerce online or call them at 800-650-9696.

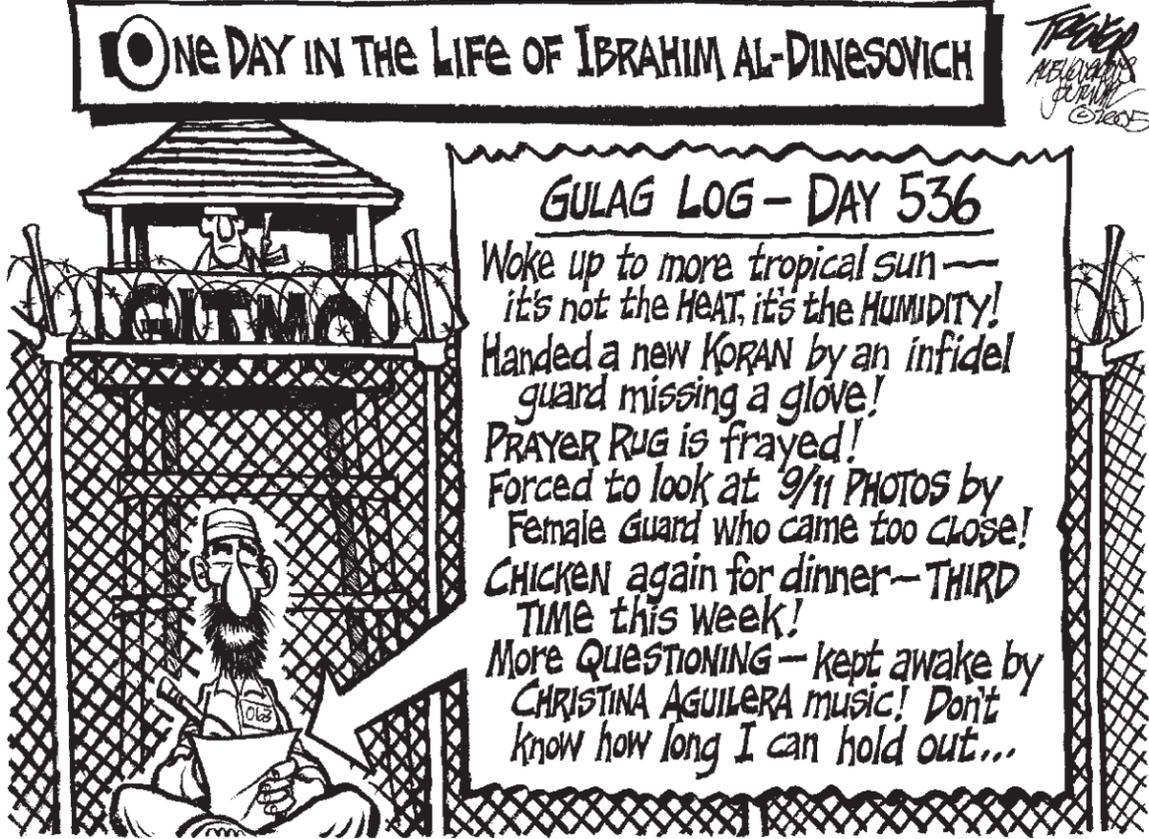
lake provide opportunities for picnicking, camping and hunting. Ciudad Acuna is just a short drive from the lake where visitors can cross the border for an afternoon of shopping and authentic Mexican cuisine. For more information on the lake and the recreation area visit [www.nps.gov/amis](http://www.nps.gov/amis) or call (830)775-7491.

• **Garner State Park**  
 Profound canyons, crystal-clear streams, towering mesas, and chiseled limestone cliffs are among the many sites that you will discover within this intriguing terrain. Garner State Park is found in the northern part of Uvalde County. Located 30 miles north of Uvalde and seven miles north of ConCan, Garner State Park has 10 acres of awe-inspiring riverfront. The park offers camping, hiking, picnicking, canoeing, fishing, swimming in the Frio River, miniature golf, paddle boat rentals, juke box dancing at the concessions building, and bike riding. Friends of Garner State Park has introduced a new program called *Cowboy Sunset Serenade*. This program gives an overview of the history of the American Cowboy through songs and cowboy poetry. These performances are held from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. For more information visit [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/garner](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/garner) or call 830/232-6132.

## • San Antonio/The Alamo & The Riverwalk

I am proud that more than 2.5 million people visit San Antonio each year to see the 4.2 acre complex known worldwide as "The Alamo." The Alamo is open every day of the year except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Visitation hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday. The jewel of San Anto-

There are hundreds of ways to make Texas your vacation destination this summer. Take joy in the natural beauty and wonder of our state and invite a friend "down" to share in the fun. For more ideas about where to go with your family in the 23rd Congressional District of Texas, visit our state's <http://www.TravelTex.com> web site.



## Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

# Fighting for Ft. Bliss

This past Monday, the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission heard strong arguments favoring the ability of the El Paso community to welcome new troops, many of whom will be coming from overseas bases scheduled for closure. The panel listened to concerns about errors in the data used by the Department of Defense in crafting the list of military bases recommended for closure, and El Paso leaders testified against the proposed move of the Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Center and School.

The nine-member BRAC Commission, led by former Department of Veterans' Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi, is analyzing the Pentagon's recently-announced 2005 BRAC recommendations and held a regional hearing on Monday in San Antonio to give communities an opportunity to respond to the proposed changes. The BRAC Commission will provide President Bush with a

final list of changes to our military bases later in the year for his approval. The President's approval, as well as the agreement of Congress, will finalize the BRAC process.

Overall, Fort Bliss has fared very well in BRAC, as the Pentagon proposed changes that will result in a net gain of 11,500 military and civilian personnel at the post — the largest military personnel gain of any military base in the country — and an annual economic impact of about \$1.8 billion. However, we believe the Pentagon's proposal to move the ADA Center and School from Fort Bliss to Fort Sill, Oklahoma would be detrimental to both the El Paso community and to our nation's ability to train the next generation of air defenders.

Bob Cook, Interim President of the El Paso Regional Economic Development Corporation; Major General James Maloney, a retired former commander of Fort Bliss and a member of the Texas State Military Preparedness Commission; and I testi-

fied before the BRAC Commission Monday, stressing El Paso's capacity for growth in key areas — from water and housing to schools.

Together with White Sands Missile Range and Holloman Air Force Base, our regional military facilities comprise the largest Department of Defense-controlled air and ground space in the world and can live fire every weapon in the Army's arsenal. This unmatched capability is just one of the reasons why the Army has rated Fort Bliss as the number one base in the nation for military value, and it is this top ranking that made Fort Bliss and El Paso the logical choice for the basing of the new units as part of the Army's transformation initiative.

While El Paso was pleased that the Army has recognized the strategic value of Fort Bliss, we were disappointed that the Secretary of Defense proposed moving the ADA Center and School and ADA brigade to Fort



True Texas by Roger T. Moore, July 14, 1920: Slugger Clark of Corsicana hits 8 straight homers vs. Texarkana.

# New faces help shape up 'enthusiastic' leadership team in San Elizario ISD

By Phillip Cortez  
Special to the Courier

SANELIZARIO — With the 2005-2006 school year approaching August 15, the San Elizario Independent School District will welcome a few new faces, including some familiar ones making a return to the district.

"We have a very strong leadership team in place in the district," said Dr. Mike Quatrini, Superintendent in San Elizario. "Especially at the campus level, where the personnel is young, energetic, and enthusiastic about teaching the children of San Elizario and helping them succeed."

At San Elizario High School, Joe Keith has been named principal, succeeding Irma Baquera, who retired after the 2004-2005 school year. Keith spent 11 years as a teacher in the Socorro ISD before becoming a principal at Sun Ridge Middle School from 2001-2004. Keith was named an Assistant Principal at San Elizario High School in 2004 and will now lead an AP staff comprised of Kathy Harper, Frank Huizar, and Spanky Sanchez.

Harper has been working in education for over 25 years, the last seven of them as an AP at San Elizario High School. Huizar was first hired as a teacher at the high school in 1998. Sanchez began his teaching career in 1990 for Socorro schools before coming to San Elizario for seven years as varsity basketball coach and English teacher. After coaching varsity basketball and teaching English at Burges High School in the El Paso ISD from 2002-

2005, Sanchez is making a return visit to San Elizario.

"It is truly an honor and a privilege to work as principal for SEHS," Keith said. "I believe that this year will provide opportunity for success in a manner that reflects upon our level of commitment to each other and our students."

Meanwhile, plenty of exciting change has occurred at the district's elementary and primary schools.

- Sheri Pellicote has been named AP at Sambrano Elementary School for 2005-2006 after an 11-year tenure as a teacher in the Ysleta Independent School District.

- George Augustain, who began his teaching career with YISD in 1983 before becoming an AP at San Elizario Primary, then Sambrano for the next seven years, has been named the new principal at Borrego Elementary. Augustain replaces Sylvia Hopp, who became the Assistant Superintendent for Planning & Instruction in San Elizario.

- Mayela Sanchez, who taught at Ysleta in 1994 before becoming a counselor at Sambrano Elementary and then an AP at Loya Primary, has now become the AP at Alarcón Elementary.

- Adam Starke, who had been a teacher at Parkland High School in 1995 before becoming an AP at Alarcón Elementary the past three years, will now be the new AP at Loya Primary.

- Julian Encina, the CATE Coordinator at San Elizario High School and district lead counselor, has now joined the Department of Planning & Instruction.

View from here By Byron Schlomach, Ph.D.

# Texans must understand broken system to fix it

With the special session on school finance and taxation currently underway, Texans need basic knowledge in order to cut through the political rhetoric.

Much of how our current system operates is not exactly how it was intended to operate. But the fact remains — it is broken.

Here are some easily understood facts about how the system does — and does not — operate.

**Fact #1:** Rising property values help finance state government. Through the funding formulas and the Robin Hood equalization system, the state determines how much money each school district is entitled to. If local property taxes are less, the state makes up the difference. If they are more, the state takes the difference. Rising property values mean less state money is needed, freeing state resources to fund other things.

**Fact #2:** In the 1990s alone, inflation-adjusted per-student spending increased by one-fifth and has tripled since 1970. No more than a handful of school districts have failed to grow spending in excess of enrollment growth and inflation.

**Fact #3:** The United States gets a poor rate of return on its education spending compared to other nations. The Dallas Federal Reserve Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the World Bank have all noted that the U.S. academically achieves less than other nations spending far less on public education.

**Fact #4:** Only half of current public school employees in Texas are

classified as classroom teachers.

**Fact #5:** There are currently fewer than 15 students for every teacher in Texas. In 1960, there were about 24 students for every teacher. Teachers once outnumbered non-teachers and SAT scores were as good or better compared to today.

**Fact #6:** Robin Hood is a scapegoat. Whether an administrator or school board member is from a rich district or poor district, Robin Hood is always at fault for the district's academic woes. Either it is claimed too much money is taken away from or not enough is received by the district. Only more money will cure whatever ails a school district, according to local officials.

**Fact #7:** Well-constructed economic research from noted economists Eric Hanushek, Carolyn Hoxby, and Richard Vedder, among others, repeatedly shows that additional funding for schools is not the answer. The largest single employer, though not the largest industry, in virtually every community is the local school district. Many legislators support more money for schools even though they know it will not necessarily improve test scores or drop-out rates.

**Fact #8:** Arguments for equity are arguments for spending and spending alone; not about kids. Equity guarantees that no district can spend significantly more than any other. If one district's taxpayers agree to spend more money, every district's taxpayers spend more money through the state system. (See Facts 2 through 5.)

**Fact #9:** The system is designed, purposely or not, to extract more taxpayer money. The courts have said that when districts reach a tax rate limit, we have a de facto statewide property tax, which is illegal. Therefore, the state must constantly bribe districts to reduce tax rates with more state money. Meanwhile, property values continue to rise, reducing the state share, giving an excuse for local officials to raise rates back where they were.

**Fact #10:** School districts are encouraged to tax at the maximum possible rate. The greater the local tax rate, the greater the state subsidy to local districts. Currently proposed legislation would make this even worse, guaranteeing future biannual "buy downs" of local tax rates with state money.

**Fact #11:** School officials are encouraged to categorize children. This is because districts get more money for bilingual education than for regular education.

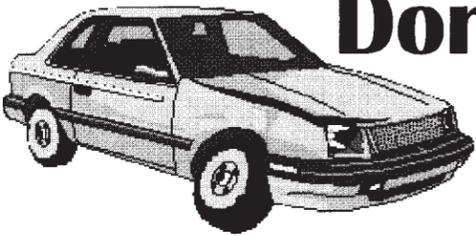
Unfortunately, current legislation does little to solve the problems outlined above.

Ultimately, the only solution is for the state to define a satisfactory educational system as one that provides enough teachers and classrooms and materials to teach capable children the basics, including English immersion. We already more than achieve such a level of funding. We just need to use it better.

*Byron Schlomach, Ph.D., is the chief economist for the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit research institute based in Austin.*

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®  
of Texas

Don't Trade It,  
Donate It



Receive FREE towing  
Receive a tax deduction  
Avoid the hassles of selling

www.texaslung.org

22101-2

1-800-ALA-LUNG

To ADVERTISE  
CALL 852-3235

## Hospitals

From Page 2

husband and had missed her when she passed the nurse's station on the way in. She said she hoped the woman hadn't been rude. I laughed. She couldn't know that this lady's reaction to her missing husband was one of the most uplifting things I could have seen.

We visited with the lady on several occasions after that in the dining room — a tiny, snowy-topped

person with bulldog instincts to see to the well-being of her thin, one-legged mate. Lucky man.

Later, there was an escapee from our floor, a fellow in a wheel chair so desperate for a cigarette that he managed, in his hospital gown and bandages, to get all the way down to the hospital loading zone and ask passersby for a smoke.

On my way out the front that afternoon, I was stopped by a nurse from our floor who was going off-duty. She had spotted the man outside, and asked if I would go back upstairs and tell

the duty nurse to send someone down for the truant while she waited with him.

Somehow, I don't think this exchange would have taken place in a big hospital. I was glad for everyone involved, including me, that it did.

Hospitals, like schools and jails, are places of intense human activity and transition — some success and failure, joy and sadness, life and death.

You never walk away unscathed or untouched by this odd mix of blessing and curse.

## Reyes

From Page 3

Sill. In our testimony before the BRAC Commission we expressed our support for retaining the ADA Center and School at Fort Bliss. In terms of geographic space, Fort Sill lacks the land needed for air defense training. In fact, it would take 12 Fort Sills to equal the size of Fort Bliss. It is also logical to go to school where you can actually carry out "real world" training, and in fact, it improves training.

Our testimony before the BRAC Commission was an extremely important step in the BRAC process and we crafted our message with the help of many members of our community and state. Just as we have worked as a team for over eight years to prepare for BRAC, since the release of the BRAC recommendation two months ago, we have worked together with our U.S. Senators, our Governor, our Mayor, and our Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, as well as community leaders from the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, El Paso Water Utilities, and our local school

districts. And we continued our regional approach with representatives of Alamogordo, New Mexico serving on our team.

Through our combined efforts — briefing BRAC Commission staff and testifying before the Commissioners — we have educated the decision-makers about the strengths of the El Paso community and our regional military complex and stressed the strategic placement of the ADA Center and School at Fort Bliss. We presented strong arguments to the BRAC Commission and will continue to do so until the final changes are presented to the President and Congress.

## Outstanding Texas student selected for Lone Star Leadership Academy

CANUTILLO — Stephanie Sapien, sixth grade student at Canutillo Elementary School, was among 80 outstanding Texas sixth and seventh grade students who were selected to participate in the



Stephanie Sapien

Education in Action's 2005 Lone Star Leadership Academy due to demonstrated academic success and leadership potential. They visited historically, politically and environmentally significant sites including the Austin offices of their state representatives and senators, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, LBJ Library, State Cemetery, Governor's Mansion, State Capitol, Supreme Court and McKinney Roughs Environmental Learning Center. They enjoyed an evening around the campfire with a cowboy storyteller, bat watching on the Lone Star Riverboat, and a guided rafting program on the Colorado River.

— Contributed by Alfredo Vasquez

## Desert Wind sixth graders complete fund-raising year for Tsunami relief

By Carlos A. Briano  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The tsunami that hit Asia Dec. 26, 2004 took the students of Desert Wind by surprise. But after seeing all the press coverage and all the donations being raised worldwide, the sixth-grade teachers decided to do something about it.

"The teachers thought it would be a good opportunity to incorporate the science of what a tsunami is and what can happen due to a tsunami," says Desert Wind sixth grade teacher Rachel Lopez. "In Social Studies, we learned about the area and found ways we could contribute."

So as a part of their classroom requirements, all sixth graders were asked to participate in fundraising groups. Students were allowed to sell items in school with proceeds donated to the American Red Cross tsunami relief fund. By the end of the school year they raised \$788.02.

"The sixth graders really got into it," Lopez says. "They had one goal: to help raise money. And the other students got to see these students work hard, contribute and come together for a greater good. In a sense, that made us more of a

community."

Kassandra Lara, a sixth grade student, came up with a creative way to raise money.

"I was taking private painting classes," she says. "When they brought up this project, I decided to sell two of my acrylic desert scene paintings. I sold one for \$15 and one for \$20."

Sixth graders Luisa Muela and Jacqueline Granado teamed up in their fundraising endeavors.

"For Valentine's, Jacqueline and I sold candy-grams," Luisa says. "We also sold craft strings. Everybody purchased the things we were selling to help."

"I thought of those people and put myself in their place," Jacqueline adds. "I hope this will help them receive clothes, food, medicine, things that could help them while they go through this circumstance."

Desert Wind will receive a letter of acknowledgment and a certificate of appreciation from the American Red Cross.

"The children of that part of the world are going to need help for many years to come," says Mark Matthys, Executive Director for the El Paso area American Red Cross. "The students of Desert Wind are heroes to the American Red Cross."

## FirstLight Federal Credit Union to sponsor Sun Bowl Parade

EL PASO COUNTY — The Sun Bowl Association announced today that it has secured a corporate sponsor for the Sun Bowl Parade.

FirstLight Federal Credit Union, a community financial cooperative with locations in El Paso and Las Cruces, has agreed to sponsor the Sun Bowl Parade in 2005,

2006 and 2007, with an option for the 2008 season.

FirstLight Federal Credit Union recently changed its name from Fort Bliss Federal Credit Union.

"We are really excited about adding FirstLight Federal Credit Union to our family as the title sponsor of the Sun Bowl Parade," said President Wayne Thornton of the Sun Bowl Association. "This is a great fit for both the parade and FirstLight."

FirstLight FCU becomes just the fourth title sponsor of the parade since its inception in 1936. The parade was previously sponsored by the Las Palmas & Del Sol Health Network from 1999-2004.

"The Sun Bowl Parade is the perfect opportunity for FirstLight Federal Credit Union to let the El Paso community and our troops at Fort

Bliss know that we are here to serve them, what better way than to become a part of this community's traditions," said Karl Murphy, president of FirstLight Federal Credit Union.

The Sun Bowl Parade is the single-most attended event in the Southwest region, bringing over 300,000



spectators to Montana Street each Thanksgiving Day. A tradition that started on New Year's Day 1936, the Sun Bowl Parade is

also broadcast on KTSM-NBC Channel 9.

"This is a great fit for both organizations," said Bernie Olivas, executive director of the Sun Bowl Association. "We were looking for a locally-based sponsor for one of El Paso's treasures and FirstLight Federal Credit Union stepped up to the plate. With their recent name change it is a win-win situation for everyone."

The theme for the 69th Annual FirstLight Federal Credit Union Sun Bowl Parade is "Cartoon Crazy". The parade is slated for Nov. 24 on Montana Street between Ochoa Street and Copia Street.

## SBA offers 'Web Chat Series' for small business owners

By Michael Stamler  
Special to the Courier

WASHINGTON, DC — The U.S. Small Business Administration has announced the kick off of a live Web chat series for small business owners on entrepreneurship, beginning in July, to engage business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs in a national dialogue about the issues that matter to them most.

Business owners can exchange information on relevant business issues with real-world industry leaders and successful entrepreneurs. Partici-

pants will converse online in real-time, having direct access to the Web chats via questions they will provide, and be able to receive instant answers to their questions.

Kicking off the first chat will be J. Scott Plank, chief administrative officer of Under Armour Performance Apparel, on Thursday, July 21, at 11 a.m. MDT. The Web chat will focus on *Entrepreneurship: Innovative Strategies for Small Business Growth*. Plank will share the incredible story of helping to build a multi-million dollar business with other entrepreneurs and aspiring business owners, as well

as provide insight on the successes and challenges of entrepreneurship.

Participants can join the live Web chat by going online to <http://www.sba.gov>, and clicking "Your Small Business Voice Live Online." Plank will answer questions for approximately one hour. Participants may also post a question for Plank before the July 21 Web chat by visiting the same Web page and posting their question online. The Live Web chats will be held monthly — for details on future live Web chats, check the website.

### Briefs

From Page 1

visible deterrent to would-be aggressors, and are equipped with the most versatile and powerful weapons available. Ortega is a 2003 graduate of Socorro High School and joined the Navy in February 2004.

■ The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded UTEP \$926,689 in federal funds for the following projects, according to Congressman Silvestre Reyes:

- \$474,144 for Undergraduate Biomedical Research Training;
- \$218,349 for the U.S.-Mexico Interdisciplinary Research Training Program;
- \$209,293 for the Border Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program, a joint UTEP-EPCC effort that aims to increase the number of minority students who pursue biomedical research; and
- \$24,903 for the Advanced Edu-

cation Nursing Trainee Positions "I applaud UTEP for their continued work encouraging students to pursue health-related fields and providing avenues to make such education a possibility," said Reyes.

■ The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded El Paso's Tigua tribe a \$6,000 grant to improve their library services, Congressman Silvestre Reyes has announced. The Tiguas will receive a Basic Grant of \$5,000 to support existing library operations and services and a \$1,000 Education/Assessment Grant to provide training and outreach opportunities for library staff. "This funding will not only improve the Tigua's library, it will encourage lifelong learning and increase educational opportunities for all generations of Tiguas," said Reyes. "The Tiguas are deserving of this funding, which will also help preserve their history and culture." IMLS, an independent federal grant-making agency dedicated to helping libraries and mu-

seums, provided this grant through their Native American Library Services Grant program.

■ The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded the following two grants to the El Paso community, Congressman Silvestre Reyes, said this week:

- \$451,500 to UTEP for BASICS: Screening and Brief Intervention for UTEP College Students, an educational program to prevent student binge drinking on campus.
- \$450,000 to Aliviane for the Renacer Project. HHS awarded this grant through the Young Offender Re-entry Program, which enhances substance abuse treatment for juvenile and young adult offenders returning to the community from incarceration. "Fighting alcohol and substance abuse is hard work, and is especially critical when it concerns young people at vulnerable times in their lives," Reyes said. HHS awarded these grants through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

# grand opening

come join our celebration...

July 16, 2005 - Noon to 8 p.m.

Buy One,  
Get One FREE\*

- 6" Sub
- 12" Sub
- Salad

\* Must be of equal or lesser value.



Be sure to enter our raffle.

**SUBWAY**  
eat fresh.®

Valid only at:  
**1420 N. Fabens  
Fabens, TX**  
In the S&S Grande  
Food Parking Lot  
**764-7777**

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

\*Not for Sale. No cash value. Restrictions may apply. Not valid with any other offers. Valid at participating restaurants.

**RESEARCH BACK  
ISSUES AT:  
[www.wtccourier.com](http://www.wtccourier.com)**

# Antwone Taulton thinks El Paso is the right place to play arena football

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

They say that lightning never strikes twice in the same place, and if it does, there's usually quite a bit of time between strikes.

The El Paso County Coliseum, however, which was hit with arena football fever last year only to see the Rumble and the Intense Football League wither and blow away, is about to be hit with that jolting feeling of *déjà vu* — all over again.

Seems Waco businessman Antwone Taulton has paid the \$250,000 franchise fee for admittance into the National Indoor Football League and the team he will bring into the league will be stationed in El Paso.

Taulton told me this week that the reason he chose El Paso as the location for his first ever sports franchise — he has no real ties here — was because he felt the Sun City was a growing metropolitan city with lots of potential.

He said the fact that arena football had already been played at the coliseum was a big plus. El Paso has already done this and knows what it takes to make it work, he told me. He

felt that the fact that it failed had more to do with the team ownership than the city of El Paso.

The NIFL is a 22-team league that has been around since 2001. In fact, they're in the middle of their playoffs right now.

The El Paso team, whose nickname will be established after a contest is held, will begin play in March of 2006. They will likely play a 16-game regular-season schedule with a couple of exhibition games.

I don't know about you, but though I really want this thing to work, I've got to be a little bit skeptical. Not because I'm a negative person but because I live in El Paso and have a portion of my brain which is dedicated to memory.

In San Antonio, they say "Remember the Alamo!" In El Paso, we say "Remember the Rumble?" and "Remember the Buzzards?" and "Remember affiliated minor league baseball?"

It seems lately that outside of UTEP athletics, most sports franchises in El Paso have met with disastrous results.

Does that mean this will fail? Of course not — all we need is that one guy with the confidence, vision and guts that almost all our city

leaders lack.

One thing is for certain — El Paso will never see the light of day until someone comes along with the courage to lead us out of the economic-developmental darkness.

## The weaker sex?

I can't lie, I'm not a huge fan of women's sports. But then again, neither are most women.

I'll check out the occasional volleyball, softball or track and field competition on TV, but other than that, I don't keep up much with the opposite sex — at least not on the sports pages.

But the past week really tweaked my interest.

I thought it was a really intriguing story.

No, I'm not talking about the Danica Patrick story. I'll be impressed with her when she actually wins a race. I've seen plenty of women driving on the freeway — the fact that she can drive fast doesn't impress me. Women pass me on the way to work every morning — and they're putting on makeup and talking on their cell phones at the same time.

No, I'm not talking about the Michelle Wie story. The fact that she plays golf with the guys doesn't impress me. When she can actually

compete with the guys is when I'll pay attention. By the way, I'm still waiting for the time when Wie can actually beat some of the top women professionals.

And no, I'm not talking about the Lisa Leslie story. The fact that her WNBA all-star opponents actually walked off the court so that she could proceed unmolested to the basket and dunk the ball doesn't impress me. The fact that the defense walked away and gave her a gift should have embarrassed her.

What I am talking about is a woman who actually earned her attention and accolades last week.

It seemed, to most of the sporting world, that Venus Williams' best days were long behind her. Once considered the best tennis player in the world, she hasn't even been considered the best tennis player in her family for quite some time now.

But Venus went back to the drawing board. She rededicated herself to her game and went out and defeated Lindsay Davenport for the Wimbledon title to regain her lofty position.

No hype, no potential, no gimmicks, no gifts. Congratulations Venus, for doing it the old fashioned way — by earning it.



KIRK ©2005 T. Taulton/El Paso  
Email: kirk@kirkblende.com

**Pepperoni's Pizza & Deli**  
852-2544  
Limited Delivery Area

**Chinese Food  
Burgers & Subs**

## Tornillo ISD hosts basketball camp

By Rudy Barreda  
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO — Students of all ages attended the Tornillo ISD Basketball Camp, held June 27-30, at the Tornillo Intermediate School gymnasium. Approximately 30 students attended the four-day event, which gave them the opportunity to stay active, improve their basketball fundamentals and have some fun during the summer.

TISD Athletic Director Damaso Martinez organized the event, along with Coaches Marlene Bullard and Karlin Russell. Tornillo High School students Danny Avila and Raul Hernandez also helped coach the students, as well as recent graduate Rudy Valenzuela. The camp activities were designed to strengthen the students' basketball fundamentals,

including dribbling, passing, shooting, and game strategy. "We want the kids to learn the fundamentals and the mental aspect of the game, and develop a positive attitude as student athletes", said Coach Martinez.

All participants received a t-shirt

on the first day of the camp. On Thursday, a celebration was held, with pizzas donated by Flicks Pizza. Students who participated all four days received a basketball. Martinez said he hopes the camp becomes an annual event.



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

AN EYE ON THE BALL — Tornillo ISD students practice their free throws as part of the TISD Basketball Camp.

## Classified Ads

### LEGALS

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Rafael R. Ramirez is requesting the following variances from the County of El Paso Subdivision Regulations for the proposed Park Addition No. 2 Replat A Subdivision:

1. Minimum lot setback of 25 feet from front of property line; and
2. 10 feet from side property line

The proposed subdivision encom-

passes three-quarters (3/4) acres of land and has a legal description of Portion of Tract 4, Park Addition No. 2. The El Paso County Commissioners' Court will consider these variances on Monday, July 25, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. at the County Courthouse, 500 E. San Antonio Street, Room 303, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Anyone interested in providing comment on the proposed variances, either in support or opposition, may do

so during the public comment period of the Commissioners' Court meeting or by providing written comment to the attention of Subdivision Coordinator, El Paso Road and Bridge Department, 500 E. San Antonio Street, El Paso, Texas 79901. In order to be considered by Commissioners' Court, the County must receive any written comments at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Commissioners' Court meeting. WTCC: 07/14/05

### COUNSELING SERVICES

DAMIAN MAUREIRA, LCSW - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family. Health insurance and fee scale accepted. 657 Winn Rd. in

Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment. 7/28

### HELP WANTED

Ryan Supply/ Ace Hardware in Fabens, Texas is currently interviewing for Cashiers, Sales Associates and Assistant Managers. Apply on line @ [www.acehardwarejobs.com](http://www.acehardwarejobs.com) or call 1-866-975-4223 for a toll free automated interview. Please have your zip code, social security number, and 5-10 minutes of uninterrupted time. Please do not use a cell phone due to possible signal loss. For phone interviews, press "1" for Yes and "2" for No. 7/14-21

### REAL

### ESTATE

- VALLEY FARM LAND
  - FREEWAY LAND
  - COMMERCIAL LAND
  - RESIDENTIAL LOTS
  - Valley Home With Pecan Trees 11423 Alameda
  - Five-Acre Tornillo Farm w/ City Water
- APODACA LAND CO.**  
915-859-5472

### 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. Informacion: 838-6264.

### SERVICES

### "Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring"

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

**BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR**  
Domestic and Foreign  
852-3523  
1558 Oxbow, Horizon City

### HORIZON CITY PLUMBING

852-1079  
•Electric roofer service for sewers and drains  
•Appliance installation  
•Many other plumbing services  
Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY **COURIER**

32nd Anniversary

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CASUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINE, FABENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNILLO

## CLASSIFIED AD FORM

15 words - \$5 per week; 35 words - \$10 per week

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	(STOP HERE FOR \$5 AD.)
16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35

Please print. Send form and payment (no cash) to:

West Texas County Courier  
14200 Ashford, Ste. C  
Horizon City, TX 79928

Deadline: Mondays

Contact Information:

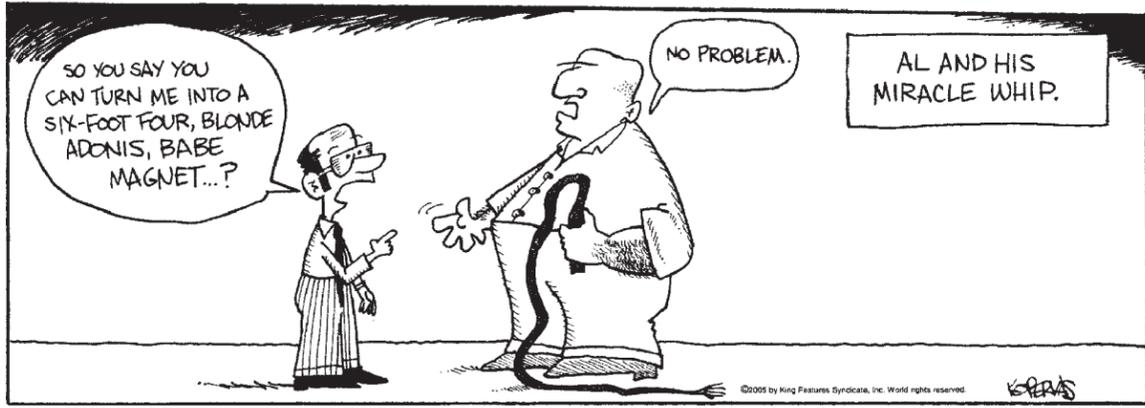
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

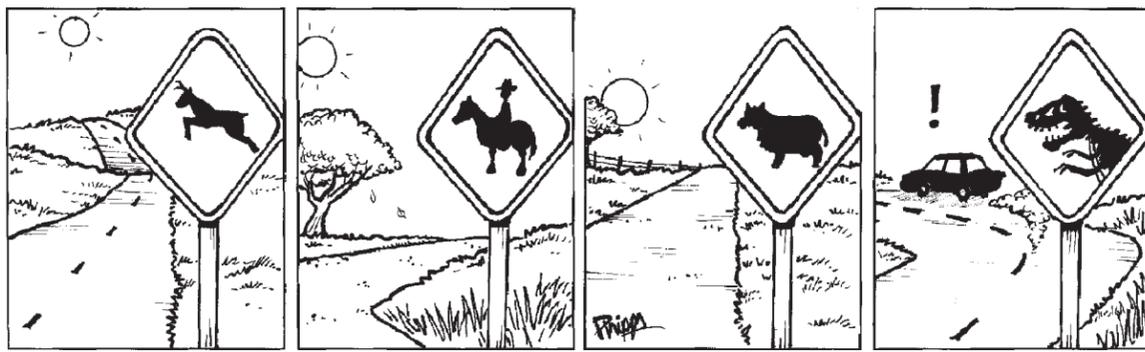


# Comix

## OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



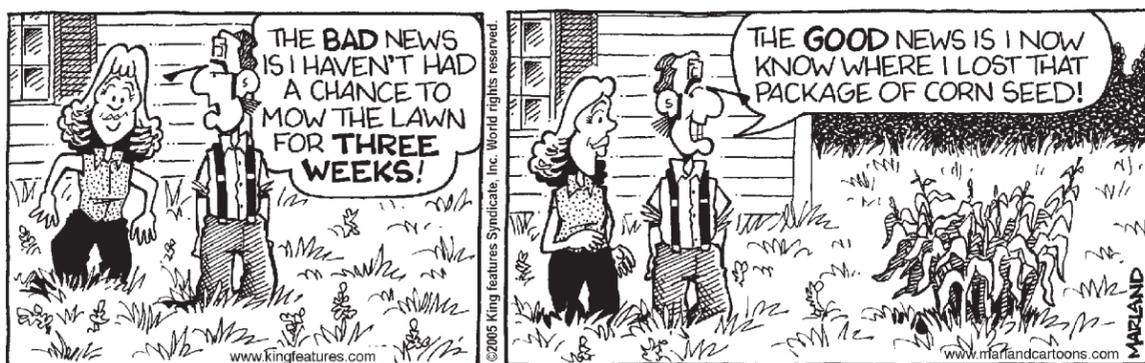
## AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



## THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



## R.F.D. By Mike Marland



# Tom and Katie are for real

By Don Flood

This week I have an extraordinary news bulletin to report: I was wrong!

Regular readers, of course, will be stunned as much as I was by this development — and I apologize for their emotional distress — but the facts speak for themselves.

In a recent column, I wrote about Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes in a manner that, unfortunately, may have suggested I took their relationship to be a publicity stunt.

But now, with Tom having popped the question atop the Eiffel Tower and immediately announcing it to the press afterward, it is obvious to me that: They Share the Greatest Relationship in History.

And, boy, is my face red. (Editor's note: His face isn't exactly red, eyes maybe.)

So let's be clear. Their relationship is NOT a publicity stunt, and if Tom Cruise has to hold press conferences every day until the opening of his movie to prove it, that's what he's going to do.

(Also, regarding that disgraceful behavior where Cruise got squirted with water by a fake microphone, I just want to say to Tom, on behalf of the world media, that I am very, very sorry I didn't see it live.)

But inquiring minds want to know, how do Tom and Katie really stack up against some of the other greatest couples in history?

The following scientific poll, conducted haphazardly by the highly regarded Fictional Polls, Inc., questioned 1,088 losers who were actually bored enough to stay on the phone. Margin of error: quite a bit.

According to that poll, the top five relationships of all time — not including my own of course, in

case my wife is reading! — are:

**Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor/Cleopatra** — Taylor really believed she was Cleopatra and Burton was drunk enough to go along with it, so for a time things went smashingly.

**Abelard and Heloise** — One of the most truly celebrated couples in history. Unfortunately, no one knows who they are anymore — blame their publicist — and now she's stuck writing this dopey household hints column. Last I heard Abelard was pitching an idea for reality show starring him and Heloise. Even UPN turned it down.

**Paul Newman and Robert Redford** — No, I'm not suggesting that Newman and Redford were a "couple," but they sure looked good together and seemed to get along well too, even when all those guys were trying to shoot them at the end of "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." In many relationships, that kind of stress leads to backbiting and recriminations, but this successful couple learned to take things one bullet at a time.

**Popeye and Olive Oyl** — Long regarded as the epitome of True Love, the real-life story of Popeye and Olive had more than its share of bumps in the road, many revolving around her life-long battle with bulimia, which is especially dangerous for cartoon characters.

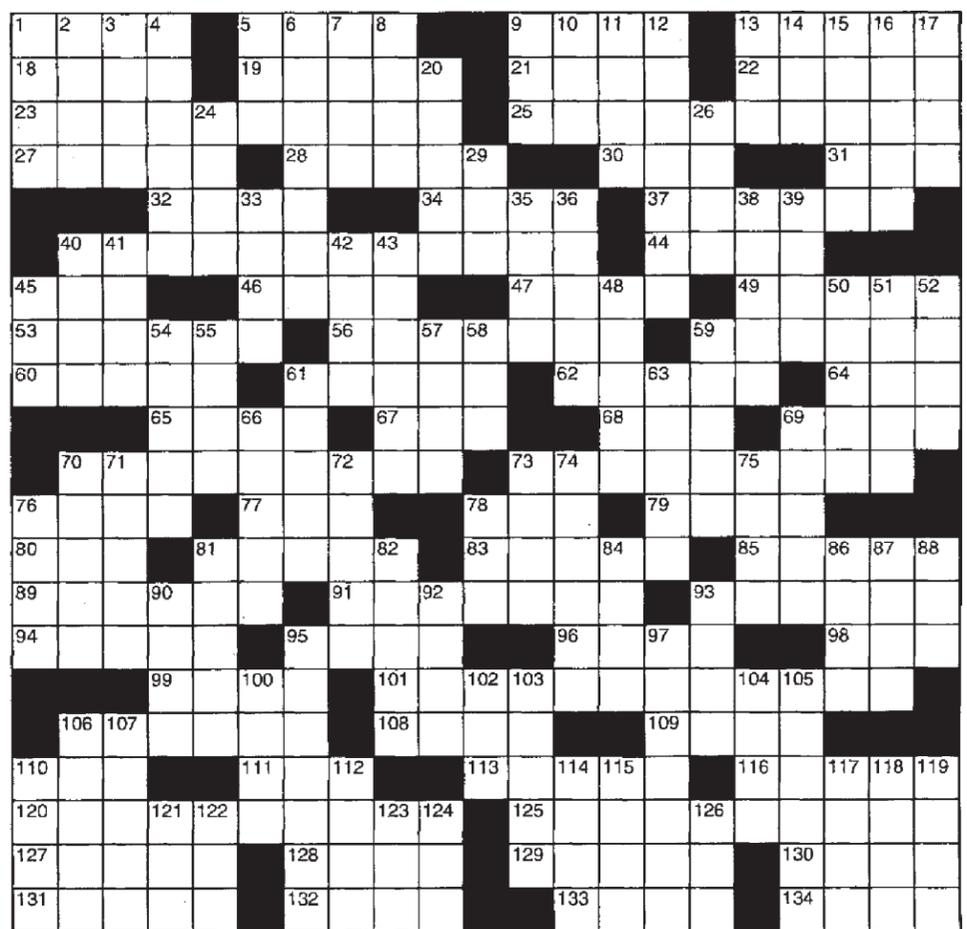
**Burt Reynolds and Loni Anderson** — Just kidding. I needed a fifth one to round things out.

And now, to that hallowed list, we add Tom and Katie. Have fun, you crazy kids!

(c) 2005 King Features Synd., Inc.

# King Super Crossword

- |                      |                        |                      |                        |                         |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>SIX-FOOTERS</b>   | bedtime?               | 129 County in 128    | 35 Constellation       | 84 "Lemon _" ('65 hit)  |
| <b>ACROSS</b>        | 68 Diva Marlon         | Across               | component              | 86 Immaculate           |
| 1 Kite or coot       | 69 Young or King       | 130 Scorch           | 36 Furry fisherman     | 87 Kuwaiti kingpin      |
| 5 Chihuahua snack    | 70 6' designer         | 131 Pass on          | 38 Cowes' locale       | 88 Turkey serving       |
| 9 "Goodbye,          | 73 6' author           | 132 Crowdburst?      | 39 First name in       | 90 "I've _ had!"        |
| Columbus" author     | 76 Art deco figure     | 133 Part of a threat | architecture           | 92 Conductor            |
| 13 Egyptian Nobelist | 77 Marsh               | 134 Connecticut      | 40 Fellow              | Klemperer               |
| 18 Sore              | 78 Parenthesis shape   | campus               | 41 Brink               | 93 _ vera               |
| 19 Addis _           | 79 Melodious           | <b>DOWN</b>          | 42 Role for Liz        | 95 Roaring Twenties     |
| 21 Merrill melody    | McEntire               | 1 Supermarket        | 43 Has a hunch         | figure                  |
| 22 Menander's        | 80 Deli loaf           | supplies             | 45 Craven or Unseld    | 97 Canvas shades        |
| marketplace          | 81 Robert of "The      | 2 "New Jack City"    | 48 Peter of Peter and  | 100 Inland sea          |
| 23 6' actress        | Citadel"               | actor                | Gordon                 | 102 Superlative suffix  |
| 25 6' comedian       | 83 Feline, familiarly  | 3 Korean statesman   | 51 Copper or cobalt    | 103 Nullifies           |
| 27 Cook clams        | 85 Force               | 4 Go-getter          | 52 Mastermind          | 104 "Nautilus" captain  |
| 28 Trickles          | 89 '66 Michael Caine   | 5 Lincoln son        | 53 Quitter's cry       | 105 Formal              |
| 30 Clean-air org.    | movie                  | 6 Disconcerts        | 55 Vegetate            | 106 Kid stuff?          |
| 31 Cartoon cry       | 91 Supervise           | 7 Spelunker's spot   | 57 "Disco Duck"        | 107 Comic Leon          |
| 32 Wool gatherer?    | 93 Take for granted    | 8 Tony's cousin      | singer                 | 110 Canterbury          |
| 34 Not _ many words  | 94 Attack              | 9 Scott's "The _     | 58 Keatsian crock      | cleaner                 |
| 37 "Animal Farm"     | 95 They may get cold   | Quartet"             | 59 Barrel part         | 112 Austin or Copley    |
| author               | 96 Ring out            | 10 Mispickel, e.g.   | 61 Tower               | 114 Velvet feature      |
| 40 6' actor          | 98 Fix a fight         | 11 Become winded     | 63 Each's partner      | 115 Bucket              |
| 44 Garfield's pal    | 99 And others          | 12 Queequeg's        | 66 Head monk           | 117 On the briny        |
| 45 Tie the knot      | 101 6' singer          | weapon               | 69 See 70 Down         | 118 Distribute the deck |
| 46 38 Down, for one  | 106 Paraguayan title   | 13 Mr. Mineo         | 70 With 69 Down,       | 119 Rochester's         |
| 47 _ impasse         | 108 Mediocre           | 14 Season firewood   | "Heaven" singer        | missus                  |
| 49 Sour sort         | 109 When pigs whistle, | 15 Peg               | 71 Stuff               | 121 It may be           |
| 53 Swallow up        | to Tennyson            | 16 Shakespearean     | 72 Dumbstruck          | strapless               |
| 56 Undergoes         | 110 Mongrel            | sprite               | 73 "True _" ('69 film) | 122 Whichever           |
| 59 Make a pile?      | 111 Address abbr.      | 17 Chore             | 74 Arm-y types?        | 123 Carnival site       |
| 60 Pool person       | 113 Actress Hedren     | 20 Clear jelly       | 75 Wading bird         | 124 Big bang letters    |
| 61 Puzzling problem  | 116 Gettysburg         | 24 Love, to Livy     | 76 Therefore           | 126 Adversary           |
| 62 Scarlett's        | commander              | 29 _ -Cat (winter    | 78 Canine grp.         |                         |
| sweetheart           | 120 6' trumpeter       | transport)           | 81 "Same here!"        |                         |
| 64 Actress Hagen     | 125 6' anthropologist  | 33 Relief initials?  | 82 Lock                |                         |
| 65 Potter's need     | 127 Doll up            |                      |                        |                         |
| 67 Browning's        | 128 Ireland            |                      |                        |                         |



Answer Page 6

# Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I retired from the U.S. Army several years ago, after 23 years of service, and receive a military pension. How will my military retirement affect my Social Security benefits?

**A:** You can get both Social Security benefits and military retirement. Generally, there is no offset of Social Security benefits because of your military retirement. You will get your full Social Security benefits based on your earnings. More information may be found in our fact sheet called Military Service and Social Security,

which is available on our website.

**Q:** How much will the new Prescription Drug Program cost and where does want sign up for this new coverage?

**A:** The Prescription Drug Program has a monthly premium of anywhere from \$35 to as much as \$70, depending on which Prescription Drug Provider individuals select, a \$250 annual deductible, 25% coinsurance up to \$2250 in prescription cost. Medicare will not pay for any prescriptions

after \$2250 unless an individual has more than \$3600 in annual prescription cost.

**Q:** My three children receive monthly survivors benefits from Social Security. But my oldest son will turn 18 on July 5, 2005. Will his last payment be in June or July?

**A:** Your son's benefits stop the month he becomes age 18 or the month he becomes 19 if he is still attending elementary or secondary school full time. His last payment will be for the month of June but he will receive his last payment in July. You will be notified by mail before the last payment.

**Q:** I worked as a teaching assistant for a couple of years in the 1970s, and then quit to raise a family. I am now working again but plan to quit work when my husband retires. I will only have about 18 years of total work under Social Security. Is there a minimum Social Security retirement benefit?

**A:** There is no minimum monthly Social Security benefit. Your benefit is calculated based on your highest 35 years of earnings, and in years when no earnings are reported, zeros are added in. However, you should know that a spouse is entitled to up to one-half of the retired

worker's full benefit. If you are eligible for both your own retirement benefit and for benefits as a spouse, we always pay your own benefit first. If your benefit as a spouse is higher than your retirement benefit, you'll receive a combination of benefits equaling the higher spouse's benefit.

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.

## 7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

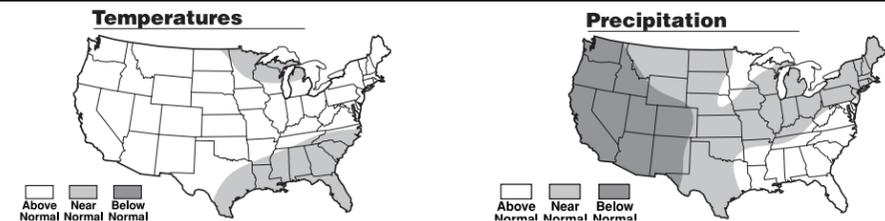
AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
A p.m. t-storm possible	Mostly cloudy	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	Chance for a thunderstorm	Chance for a thunderstorm
96°	73°	96° / 72°	97° / 72°	100° / 72°	99° / 73°	96° / 72°	96° / 67°
RealFeel 103°	RealFeel 70°	RealFeel 94° / 70°	RealFeel 95° / 71°	RealFeel 96° / 68°	RealFeel 101° / 72°	RealFeel 102° / 73°	RealFeel 99° / 72°

The patented RealFeel Temperature® is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

### WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK

### IN THE SKY



Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	First	Full
Thu.	6:10 a.m.	8:13 p.m.	Thu.	1:29 p.m.	12:24 a.m.		
Fri.	6:11 a.m.	8:12 p.m.	Fri.	2:31 p.m.	12:52 a.m.	7/14	7/21
Sat.	6:11 a.m.	8:12 p.m.	Sat.	3:36 p.m.	1:24 a.m.	Last	New
Sun.	6:12 a.m.	8:11 p.m.	Sun.	4:45 p.m.	2:02 a.m.		
Mon.	6:12 a.m.	8:11 p.m.	Mon.	5:56 p.m.	2:49 a.m.	7/27	8/4
Tues.	6:13 a.m.	8:10 p.m.	Tues.	7:04 p.m.	3:47 a.m.		
Wed.	6:14 a.m.	8:10 p.m.	Wed.	8:05 p.m.	4:55 a.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2005

### REGIONAL CITIES

### U.S. CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W		HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	99	76	pc	102	74	s	100	73	s	97	74	s	Atlanta	88	72	t	84	72	t	88	71	t	89	71	t
Albuquerque, NM	95	69	t	95	69	t	95	68	s	96	69	s	Boston	85	67	t	85	67	pc	85	67	pc	88	68	pc
Amarillo, TX	93	68	s	95	69	s	97	66	s	95	68	s	Chicago	86	68	pc	86	70	pc	88	70	t	90	68	pc
Austin, TX	96	75	t	98	71	pc	100	71	pc	97	73	pc	Denver	94	62	s	94	62	s	90	60	s	91	62	s
Brownsville, TX	96	78	pc	95	78	sh	95	78	pc	94	77	t	Detroit	84	70	t	86	70	t	86	70	t	88	70	pc
Dodge City, KS	94	68	s	96	68	s	97	67	s	98	69	s	Houston	96	76	t	96	76	t	96	76	t	96	76	t
Jackson, MS	91	74	t	89	73	t	91	73	t	91	74	t	Indianapolis	81	71	t	85	70	t	88	72	t	87	72	t
Laredo, TX	108	80	pc	106	79	pc	106	78	pc	106	78	pc	Kansas City	92	70	s	92	73	s	92	72	s	94	74	t
Little Rock, AR	94	75	pc	91	73	t	92	74	t	94	76	pc	Los Angeles	82	64	pc	80	62	pc	80	62	pc	82	62	pc
Lubbock, TX	98	70	s	98	70	s	98	70	s	96	70	s	Miami	89	79	sh	89	79	sh	91	79	sh	91	78	sh
Memphis, TN	90	75	t	90	75	t	90	75	t	90	77	pc	Minneapolis	90	70	s	90	70	pc	90	68	pc	92	67	c
Midland, TX	98	73	t	100	74	s	100	72	s	96	73	s	New Orleans	90	77	t	91	77	t	91	77	t	92	77	t
Pueblo, CO	98	60	s	100	60	s	96	60	s	99	63	s	New York City	84	71	t	85	73	t	85	73	t	86	73	t
Roswell, NM	99	67	t	100	67	t	98	67	s	98	68	s	Omaha	92	68	s	94	70	s	94	68	s	95	72	pc
St. Louis, MO	86	71	sh	88	74	pc	90	75	pc	93	74	r	Phoenix	114	86	s	112	86	s	112	86	s	112	88	s
San Antonio, TX	96	76	t	96	76	pc	96	76	pc	95	75	s	San Francisco	76	56	pc	70	58	pc	72	57	pc	73	57	pc
Texarkana, AR	93	74	pc	95	74	pc	94	74	t	96	76	pc	Seattle	74	56	pc	74	54	pc	78	56	pc	82	58	s
Waco, TX	99	74	pc	98	73	pc	100	75	pc	98	76	pc	Washington	85	72	t	87	74	t	90	72	t	89	74	t
Wichita, KS	97	68	s	97	71	s	98	71	s	99	73	s													

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

# STIHL®

This is the brand the mass merchants don't want you to know about.



FS 55 R Trimmer  
**\$199<sup>99</sup>**

Versatile straight shaft trimmer.



EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

FS 45 Trimmer  
**\$149<sup>99</sup>**

Lightweight and fast cutting. Comes standard with STIHL EasySpool™ head.



LIMITED TIME OFFER!

MS 170 Chain Saw  
**\$159<sup>99</sup>**



14" bar

At participating dealers for a limited time.

Sold Only at Servicing Dealers!

Exclusively at your local STIHL dealer!

To find Your STIHL Dealer:

- Visit [stihlusa.com](http://stihlusa.com)
- Call 800•GO•STIHL



[stihlusa.com](http://stihlusa.com)

Premium Brand

Are you ready for a STIHL®?