

NEWSBRIEFS

Grape stompers

El Paso County keeps racking up historical credentials. Historians say that Spanish missionaries planted the first grape vines in the fertile valley of El Paso back in 1629, in the area of Socorro, and that wine was made in this area long before California tapped into the nation's wine industry. And interest hasn't waned since. To prepare a new generation of aspiring winemakers, the Texas Cooperative Extension and NMSU Cooperative Extension Service are co-sponsoring a workshop Aug. 9-10 at Zin Valle Vineyards in Canutillo. Topics of interest for both veteran growers and beginners will be offered, from irrigation, harvesting and fertilization, including a workshop especially for homeowners. Space is limited and pre-registration is recommended by calling Daphne Richards at 859-7725, ext. 235, e-mail drichards@ag.tamu.edu; or John White, 505-525-6649, e-mail whjohn@nmsu.edu.

New agents

The first installment of the 300 Border Patrol agents dedicated to the El Paso area during this fiscal year by the Department of Homeland Security as the El Paso Sector has been designated as a "focus sector." About 14 new agents have completed their training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy in Artesia, N.M. Of those, seven are set to deploy at Ft. Hancock and Fabens; seven will go to Deming and Lordsburg, New Mexico.

In other news

■ The Socorro school district welcomed students back to class on Monday, July 25, with 36,000 students in 35 schools across the district. Due to the district's year-round schedule it is the first El Paso County school district to resume classes for the 2005-06 school year. It will open two new schools this year — Hurshel Antwine School at 3830 Rich Beem opened to about 800 students; John Drugan School, 15000 Pelicano, will be opening early next year with a matrix of about 381 students already meeting under its auspices as a "school within a school" at Sierra Vista Elementary. The district plans to open nine more schools over the next five years due to fast growth, gaining between 1,500 and 2,000 students per year.

■ The Rio Grande Citizen's Forum of the International Boundary and Water Commission will meet on Thursday, Aug. 4, 6:30 p.m. at the Commons, Building C, 4171 N. Mesa in El Paso. A water quality update on the condition of the upper Rio Grande Basin will be discussed, and awards will be given to Wayne Belzar, Project Manager of the Clean Rivers Program and Cory Horan Project Manager of

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Patience strengthens the spirit, sweetens the temper, stifles anger, subdues pride, and bridles the tongue.

— Quips & Quotes

A little heat isn't slowing down the San Eli band this summer

By Phillip Cortez
 Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Talk about dedication. Members of the San Elizario High School

band are finding out what real dedication is, as they endure two weeks of band camp that will assure that the final weeks before school begins is spent at the school — from 8 in the morning to 9 o'clock at night on some days.

With the bright sun pounding on their faces combined with triple digit heat, band students looked to be in mid-season form as they went over cadences, marched to drills, following every command from a host of student squad leaders. According to Sharon Hittle, band director at the school, this is the first time the band will be utilizing the strengths of student squad leaders, a move she hopes will help build ownership amongst the ranks.

"We have 12 squad leaders," she said. "They want to feel like they have ownership in this.

The more they put in, the more they'll feel like this is theirs."

The responsibility that the squad leaders carry will transcend beyond the band room or the bleachers or the field, Hittle said.

"They'll be keeping an eye on their squads,



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

SHADES OF SUMMER — Members of the San Elizario High School band know how to have fun while braving the heat during band camp, July 25 – August 11, 2005

making sure they pass their classes, perform well," she said.

But band camp is not all work. Perhaps just as important as the work the students put in is the fun they get to have together, including a

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Socorro ISD prepares for another year with 'Mission of Excellence Conference'

By Carlos A. Briano
 Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — He made them smile, he made them laugh — and he made them think. Socorro Independent School District Superintendent Robert J. Durón was the keynote speaker for the Third Annual Mission of Excellence Conference.

With his proverbial lunchbox signifying the start of the new school year on the big screens at the Socorro High School Theatre, Dr. Durón

addressed approximately 2,000 teachers, librarians and counselors. He congratulated them on student progress over the past year and pointed to various ways Socorro ISD as a whole has improved.

"Our finances are in great shape, we have no problem recruiting teachers, the curriculum and instruction continues to be tightly aligned, improving each and every day and our construction is on time and under budget," Durón says. "Our commended ratings on the TAKS scores have gone up higher in more areas than

See CONFERENCE, Page 6



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

VOICES IN UNITY — Teachers from Helen Ball Elementary cheer at SISD's Third Annual Mission of Excellence Conference.

HCPD calls lights out on crime during annual Night Out

HORIZON CITY — The Horizon City Police will host the Sixth Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 2, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Horizon City Park located next to the Oz Glaze Senior Center, at the corner of Rodman and Veny Webb.

Plenty of room will be available for children to play, along with police cars and fire trucks for them to view. Food and refreshments will also be served, first come, first served. Police officers will be on hand to pass out information on Homeland Security, Neighborhood Watch Groups, the upcoming Citizens Police Academy and the new Emergency Services Disaster Association Post (Explorer Post) for the Horizon City Police and the Horizon Fire Department.

"Everyone is welcome" said Sgt. Ron Swenson. "There is no need to reserve a spot, just show up and have a good time." The event is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood watch spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting against crime and the use of illicit drugs.

For more information about the event or any of the listed programs, call HCPD at 852-1047 and ask for Sgt. Ron Swenson or Officer Luis Ruiz.

Jose Damian welcomes Porrás-Grant as principal

By Kim Guzman
 Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Jose Damian Elementary School will begin the 2005-2006 school year with a new principal. Canutillo ISD Superintendent Charles Hart announced

recently the selection of Margarita Porrás-Grant as the new principal.



M. Porrás-Grant

Porrás-Grant was the assistant principal at Canutillo Elementary School before being selected as the JDE principal. She brings 19 years of experience in education with her and has served as assistant principal at both CES

and Bill Childress Elementary in the Canutillo Independent School District. "Education is about helping students achieve success in their academics so that they may become highly literate and productive citizens. We also need to help them be grounded in who they are by providing opportunities for students to develop their own voices. I look forward to working with Damian Elementary School faculty and staff by building on their individual and

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One perspective

By Francis Shrum

I don't love your dog

Okay, I know people have blind spots.

In some ways, that can be a good thing. It helps you get through the rough spots with your kids, your mate, your friends. You simply refuse to recognize their faults. That's good if their faults include minor infractions like leaving their underwear in the bathroom floor, forgetting your birthday, slurping their soup, chewing gum with their mouths open, and missing the bus occasionally.

It's a really bad thing if their faults include domestic violence, illegal drug abuse and shoplifting. Sometimes people refuse to accept that the people they love are capable of destructive behavior.

Or their dogs. Just like I won't look the other way if I see your teenager breaking into a car or shooting up with a needle in the alley behind a convenience store, I won't hesitate to call the law if your pit bull is loose on the street, especially if it is growling at a child.

Because, you see, I don't love your dog.

I don't understand the motivation for regular folks to acquire and keep dangerous dogs, but it becomes incomprehensible if they don't make provision to keep those dogs on their own property — and I'm talking about good and sure and absolute provision, not just kinda, sorta.

The problem is, I think, that people have blind spots when it comes to how their dogs behave toward other people. Why, he's just a big, old softie. He wouldn't hurt a soul.

Well, maybe not anyone at your house.

At my house, in my backyard, in the street in front of my house, that's

a different story. It happens all the time. Big dogs of dangerous breeds get loose and, for whatever reason, get riled. The results are dire and irreversible — the injuries and scars don't evaporate in the glow of an owner's affection. The death of a child from dog attack is not something that is ever intended but it can't be changed once it happens. It is something that could have been prevented.

I took a rashing from a reader not long ago because I mentioned that we kept our dog on a chain. What I hadn't included in the mentioning was exactly why that dog was on a chain.

When our boxer was young, she had more energy than brains. She simply wouldn't stay in the yard. We tried various remedies to no avail. She either climbed, jumped, forced or dug her way out.

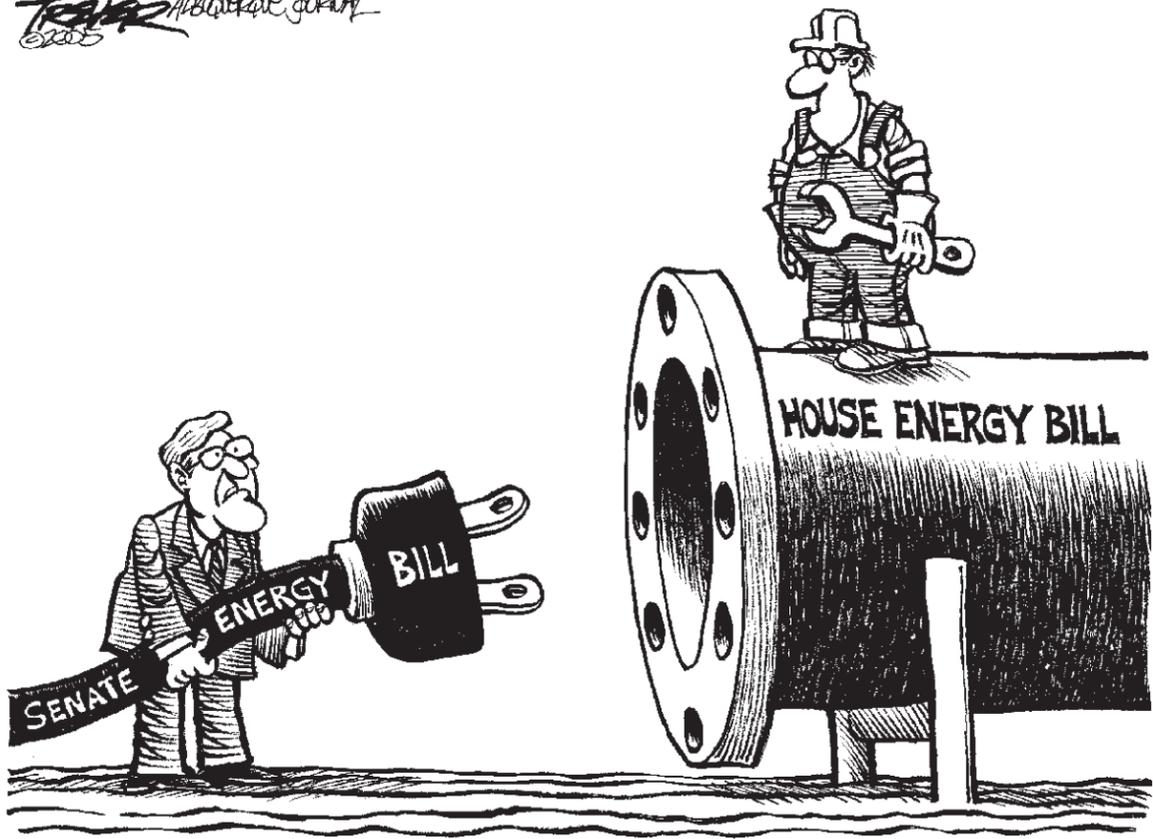
Worse yet, she kept bringing home evidence that her excursions into the night had not been innocent romps. Dirty diapers, burrito wrappers and various leftover bones from some hapless neighbor's trash were strewn across the lawn.

Now, I've found my own trash all over the street on more than one occasion, victim of someone else's wayfaring canine. I know how that feels. Besides, I wouldn't want to come face-to-face with our boxer loose on an empty street if she didn't know me. Something had to be done.

We weren't going to get rid of her and she wasn't coming indoors. Being the primary cleaner-upper in our household, I'd long ago prescribed to the theory that since people are

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TRAMP ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL 2005



TAKING A MOMENT TO HONOR A PUBLIC SERVANT BEFORE THINGS GET UGLY...

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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View from here

By Chris Bell

Texas should use this opportunity to improve education, not just finance it

We've got every state lawmaker and the Governor in Austin right now in special session, working under a court order to fix school finance, and all they can talk about are tax swap schemes. I'm a homeowner, so I won't turn down a property tax cut, but as a dad with two boys in public school, I think Texans are missing an historic opportunity to focus on reforming what we teach in schools and not merely on how we pay for them.

Texans don't need a pollster to tell them that education is the best economic development program ever created. Our state government needs to make a commitment that if parents do their part, then we'll do ours; we'll make sure that teachers have the freedom and the resources they need to teach our kids something more than how to take yet another standardized test. Increasingly, that's all we are doing in schools. The absurdity of "teaching to the test" is alarming, to say the least.

Taking time out of science or music classes to brush up on an upcoming TAKS test has become commonplace in Texas. Rice University pro-

fessor Dr. Linda McNeil found schools that hired test-prep consultants that taught kids how to pass reading comprehension tests — without even reading the passage. We've replaced a solid curriculum and real knowledge with how to best go about filling in little ovals with #2 pencils.

Dr. McNeil calls this "Enron-style accountability" because, like the notorious energy company that used its stock price as the sole measuring stick, our state government judges our kids based on one single number — their TAKS score. Whether Johnny reads books doesn't matter; it's all about whether he passed the TAKS test.

Using the TAKS test as the only measure of success is nothing less than one-size-fits-all education, and as a dad with two boys, I can tell you from experience that no two kids are alike. But the financial pressure on schools to get their students to pass the TAKS test is so great that administrators are treating some kids like Enron treated debt. Enron shipped its debt to dummy offshore corporations, but Dr. McNeil says that ad-

ministrators are systematically holding back students with lesser chances of passing the test knowing good and well that many if not most of those students will drop out.

The result is that the dropout rate is around 40 percent in this state — the worst in the country. It is time to stand up and say these are our children. We cannot stand idly by and watch almost half of each generation drop out of school.

Enron-style accountability has corrupted the curriculum and increased the dropout rate, and it's left our kids needing more remedial help when they are fortunate enough to get to college. But the powers that be in Austin want you to believe that we are on the right track to solving our education problems. Don't be fooled. The so-called "Texas Miracle" is nothing more than a politically expedient mirage.

We can no longer simply accept test-driven curriculums that are driving away our children in droves. We know how to improve

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BRACKINS RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH



"CONFIDENTIALLY, I'D TAKE THIS OUTRAGE TO THE SUPREME COURT... BUT THEY'RE THE ONES WHO DID THIS TO ME!"



Sports: Just try them!

In today's modern world our lives are becoming busier and busier with every passing day. Adults and children alike have become less active as we face long hours in front of the computer. Our children are often entertained by video games, television shows and the Internet when they get home from school. As our schedules fill-up, exercise is often the first thing we eliminate from our busy lives.

habits at a young age. It's also easier to establish good habits in our children by making these habits enjoyable. Find a sport your child enjoys and consider signing them up for a local sport league.



Eye on D.C.

By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

- Start a sports team at your office

The staff of my Washington, D.C. congressional office recently formed a softball team. "Team Bonilla" plays softball against other congressional offices every

Even heading to the gym sometimes seems tedious and time-consuming, especially when there's already so little time to spend with family and friends. So why not incorporate sports into your agenda. Sports make exercise enjoyable while enhancing friendships and providing quality family time. From swimming to playing a friendly game of flag football, there is a sport for every walk of life.

weekend. Although they may not win every game, they enjoy spending time together, being outdoors and getting a little exercise.

- Take personal initiative

There are dozens of sports you can play on your own. I enjoy visiting the

You'd be surprised at all the ways you can integrate sports into your life:

- Enjoy sports as a family

If you're headed to the park

for a family picnic, consider bringing a frisbee or football for a friendly game. The time before dinner is easily spent watching TV, but why not take time-out to shoot hoops or play catch. Who knows what kind of sports your family will enjoy together, so try out new team sports like soccer, tennis, or volleyball.

- Introduce sports to your children

It's much easier to develop good

driving range when I want to wind-down or think. Other great individual sports include jogging and walking, swimming and biking.

There is no better time than summer to start playing sports. Even a couple days a week can make all the difference in how you feel every day! I hope you'll take my advice and add a sport to your day — you'll be amazed at how good you feel!



TEAM BONILLA — Win or lose, the exercise is good.

Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes



OTMs and border security

During a meeting with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Michael Chertoff last week, I emphasized a critical immigration problem facing our country that — based on my experiences in the Border Patrol in the mid-1980s — has a practical and proven solution.

This year alone, more than 75,000 immigrants from countries other than Mexico — known as "Other than Mexicans" or OTMs — have illegally crossed the U.S.-Mexico border, with approximately 36,500 crossing in the Border Patrol's Rio Grande (formerly McAllen) sector. This is a 226 percent increase from the same time period in 2004.

Although they are initially detained by the U.S. Border Patrol, OTMs are released with merely a paper notice requiring them to return for a future hearing — a requirement that is largely ignored. This disjointed effort not only contributes to our

failed immigration policy, it poses a danger to the safety and security of our country.

The Border Patrol's "catch and release" policy for OTMs is well known among undocumented immigrants. In fact, upon crossing the border illegally, OTMs actually approach Border Patrol agents for their hearing papers, which provides them with a de facto pass into the country. This crisis exists because Immigration and Customs Enforcement claims it lacks detention space to house these undocumented immigrants prior to their hearings.

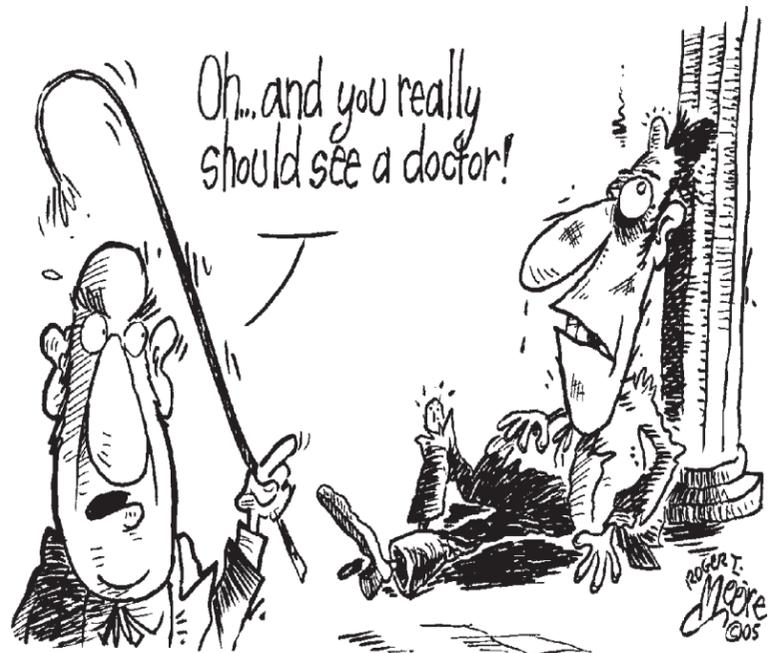
As Chief of the Border Patrol's McAllen (now Rio Grande) sector in the mid-1980s, I encountered an almost identical situation and addressed it by developing a plan and strategy to protect the border with an around-the-clock presence of Border Patrol agents, known as the original "Operation Hold the Line," and by expanding the detention space for illegal immigrants in South Texas on a temporary basis.

As a result of these measures, a large

number of OTMs entering Mexico were unable to cross the U.S.-Mexico border. The Mexican government was then forced to halt their efforts to help immigrants enter the U.S. and instead begin guarding their southern border to block immigrants from Central and South America from entering Mexico in the first place.

Moreover, given that statistics at the time revealed an almost 100 percent failure rate of OTMs appearing for immigration hearings, I had my agents detain OTMs rather than issue letters allowing OTMs to remain and travel anywhere they wish in the U.S. with only the promise they appear at a future immigration hearing.

Today's "catch and release" policy is not only dangerous and counter to our border control efforts, it is demoralizing our Border Patrol agents who feel their role patrolling the U.S.-Mexico border is counterproductive and perhaps irrelevant. Such emotion could lead to agents who might grow apathetic, uninterested or lack the attention to detail necessary for their critical mission and safety.



True Texas by Roger T. Moore, July 25, 1839: Doctor Ashbel Smith resigns as Surgeon General after "buggy whipping" Sen.S.H. Everett in the Senate Chamber.

I am calling for congressional hearings to address this problem and in our recent meeting, Secretary Chertoff also acknowledged the gravity of the situation and stated that DHS would act quickly to resolve it. In the post-September 11 world, al-

lowing OTMs into the country without proper documentation is of critical concern to our national security. I look forward to continuing to work with Secretary Chertoff to ensure that we no longer put ourselves at risk in this manner.

Socorro ISD principals prove there 'ain't no mountain high enough'

By Carlos A. Briano
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — When educators decide to take the responsibility of becoming a principal, they know there will be obstacles to overcome. But literally climbing a mountain was probably not what they had in mind.

Six Socorro ISD principals, Adalberto Garcia of Loma Verde, Rubina Rodriguez of Myrtle Cooper, Irma Rodriguez of Vista Del Sol, Isabel Andresen of Benito Martinez, Carmen Moran of O'Shea Keleher and Esther Gonzalez of H.D. Hilley did just that on June 17.

The group scaled the highest point of the Franklin Mountains near the Wyler Aerial Tramway as part of the "The Rock Challenge." The team-building exercise, designed by Dr. Marius Ruja of Alpha and Omega Wellness Center, was initially geared for local high school football teams. The players hike the difficult mountain trail while carrying a heavy rock. The goal is for each individual to reach the top as a team, helping one another along the way.

Anna Lisa Banegas Peña, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Instruction, asked Dr. Ruja to adapt "The Rock Challenge" for elemen-

tary principals. She facilitated the exercise as part of their summer staff development.

"One of the 'Core Values' of the

Socorro Independent School District is 'we believe in the discipline and power of teamwork,'" Banegas Peña says. "This 'Rock Challenge' really

helped us to pull together and help each other. For most of us, it was probably the hardest thing we have ever had to do. But it was very well

worth it."

Irma Rodriguez vividly remembers the difficulty of the exercise, since she took a fall coming down the mountain. Still, she would do it all again.

"All along the way we would stop and make connections to real life," she says. "When any of the team members was short of breath, we would all put our hand on that person. That was our ceremony to help give that person the strength and support to go on."

Dr. Ruja says principals often don't know how to unwind after a difficult day at school.

"The rock they carried up the mountain symbolized the issues they deal with everyday," he says. "But at the top they had to release those issues and come back down as a team. We want them to create a network, a cohesive type of environment where they will be more likely to communicate with one another to help one another."

Isabel Andresen says the experience brought the team together in a new way.

"It brought me closer to people I hadn't really interacted with before. And we're all principals," she says. "I think it did create a tighter relationship. We cheered for one another. And when the going got tough, we helped one another."



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

HE AIN'T HEAVY — Rock-toting principals included, bottom left: Dr. Marius Ruja, Irma Rodriguez, Anna Lisa Banegas Peña, Isabel Andresen. Middle left: Rubina Rodriguez and Carmen Moran. Top left: Adalberto Garcia and Esther Gonzalez.

Classified Ads

LEGAL

MAYFAIR 5 WATER COMPANY
P.O. BOX 104
CANUTILLO, TEXAS 79835

Notice to the public

Mayfair 5 Water Company, ID #0710147, failed to collect the required number of bacteriological samples for coliform monitoring of the water distribution system during March & April of 2005. This monitoring is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's "Drinking Water Standards" and the federal "Safe Drinking Water Act." Public Law 95-523.

Bacteriological samples are used to monitor water quality and indicate if the water is free of coliform bacteria. Our water system is required to submit one bacteriological sample each month. Failure to collect all required bacteriological samples is a violation of the monitoring requirements and we are required to notify you of this violation.

If you have any questions regarding this violation, you may contact Mayfair 5 Water Company, Merle Osborn Operator, at (505) 649-5921, or stop by our office at 7612 Doniphan

Drive.

WTCC: 07/28/05

CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

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

PEST CONTROL TREATMENT PROGRAM NOTICE

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

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

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

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

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRAM NOTICE

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

School Districts nationwide have expanded a great amount of effort and substantial number of dollars in identifying materials in our buildings which may contain even small amounts of asbestos. Many of these materials are the same materials we may have in our homes: some are located in areas not accessible to students or teachers; others are covered

with protective covering which restrict direct access. The intent of the government requirements is to identify these materials and develop a written document dealing with the ways of managing them to ensure that they continue to be non-threatening.

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

AVISO A TODAS LAS PERSONAS

INTERESADAS

Los programas sobre materiales reglamentados por el gobierno estatal y federal requieren que todos los estudiantes, personal, padres, y otras personas interesadas les sea provisto informacion tocante a estos programas obligatorios.

AVISO DEL PROGRAMA DE TRATAMIENTO PARA CONTROL DE PLAGAS

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

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

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

AVISO DEL PROGRAMA DEL PLAN PARA EL CONTROL DE ASBESTOS

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

Distritos Escolares a través del país han invertido una gran cantidad de esfuerzo y una cantidad sustancial de dólares en identificar aquellos materiales en nuestros edificios que pueden contener pequeñas cantidades de asbestos. Muchos de estos materiales son los mismos materiales que tenemos en nuestros hogares; algunos se encuentran en áreas que no son accesibles a los estudiantes o maestros, otros están

cubiertos con capas protectoras que no permiten el acceso directo. La intención de los reglamentos del gobierno es de identificar estos materiales y desarrollar un documento escrito que trate las maneras de controlarlos y así asegurar que no sean peligrosos.

Una reinspección obligatoria cada 3 años fue recientemente terminada y la información fue archivada en la oficina de Administración del distrito escolar y en cada escuela. La EPA (Agencia Protectora del Ambiente) requiere que las escuelas lleven a cabo inspecciones visuales y físicas de la condición de aquellos materiales que contienen asbesto, por medio de una vigilancia o inspección cada 6 meses, y una reinspección cada 3 años respectivamente. El control de asbesto en las escuelas es programado para facilitar todos los proyectos de renovación y de mantenimiento de proyectos en las escuelas donde hay asbesto. Todas las actividades que implican asbesto son anotados y archivadas en los planes de administración y pueden ser revisados durante

las horas de oficina de la escuela o en las Oficinas de Support Services, 7710 Cap Carter Rd. Se puede obtener copias por un costo bajo.

WTCC: 07/28/05

FABENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond

Sealed bids for Housekeeping Supplies, Consultation, and Related Support Services, Bid No. 083005, addressed to Mr. Gilbert Alarcon, Fabens Independent School District, 821 NE "G" Avenue or P O Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838, will be received at the above address until 10:00 a.m. Thursday, August 11, 2005, at which time they will be publicly opened. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained by calling (915) 764-2025.

WTCC: 07-28-05

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE on Friday-Saturday, July 29-30, 9-5, and Sunday, 10-2, at 15450 Horizon Blvd., one-half mile east of Ascension. 7/28

COUNSELING

SERVICES

D A M I A N M A U R E I R A , 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.

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

HOME with large mechanics shop. 3 bedroom, 1 full and 2 half baths. Large living area, two acres fenced land. Rental income included. \$350,000. Serious inquiries only at 852-4282. 7/28

RENTALS

MOBILE HOME, remodeled, 2-bdrm, one bath, \$450/month, \$500 deposit. Ideal for couple. Truck parking. 852-4282.

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 solucion. Informacion: 838-6264.

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
Windshield Repair Specialists
By appt. at your home or office:
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915-852-9082

BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Domestic and Foreign
852-3523
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Write stuff

Dear Editor:

The SYSA (Socorro Youth Sports Association) 14 and Under National All-Star Team would like to extend its sincere appreciation to those who gave donations to the team so that they could represent the City of Socorro at the San Angelo Qualifying Tournament this past weekend.

On Wednesday, July 13, the players hit the street at North Loop and Horizon with their helmets to collect money to pay for travel expenses. Thanks to all the motorist who gave what they could. From the 25-cent to \$20 donations, it made a difference.

Thanks to our corporate sponsors for their generous donations. Also to the numerous individuals who made donations.

Although the boys came home early, beating Borger and losing to Lubbock and North Concho, it was an awesome experience for them and one they will never forget. Once again thanks to all those who supported the Socorro All-Stars.

Joseph O'Hare
National Team Coach

Dear Editor:

The proposed Free Trade Areas of the Americas (FTAA), scheduled for Congressional debate in early 2005, is the framework for a socialist regional government modeled after the European Union (EU). The successor to NAFTA, the FTAA would entangle 34 Western Hemisphere nations in exactly the kind of sov-

ereignty-destroying arrangement in which nations in the (EU) now find themselves. Instead of promoting "free trade" it would decimate our economy, and seriously undermine our middle class along with our national independence. Americans will no longer have to worry about illegal immigration because there will be no effective borders, instead we will have to deal with "mass migration." Middle class Americans will be devastated by the lowering of wages from a "flood" of unskilled workers to the burden of massive increases in spending on social services.

This proposal promoting "free trade" calls for government-controlled — even internationally controlled commerce. This pact has little to do with freedom when it contains hundreds — even thousands of pages of regulations. U.S. citizens will be bound by regional courts, not our own legal system. A regional currency much like the Eurodollar will be instituted and our currency will be phased out!

Help protect our Nations sovereignty and culture from this so-called "free trade agreement." We must demand that Congress stop the FTAA!

Contact:
www.stoptheftaa.org (or call: 1-800-JBS-USA-1)-NOW for a free information packet.

Sincerely,
Larry Swanberg
Victorville CA
larryswanberg@stoptheftaanow.com

Dog

From Page 2

hard enough to clean up after, I don't need animals in the house. I can't make the kids stay out in the backyard but I can the pets.

Finally, we ran a long, strong wire across the yard and through a sturdy chain and collar. She had full range of most of the backyard with access to food, water and shelter but she couldn't jump out anymore.

Cruel? I don't think so. It was the only responsible thing to do.

I watched a cop show the other day in which this woman's pit bull and Rottweiler had been over in the yard of a neighbor at least six times, behaving in a more aggressive manner each time, according to witnesses. Asking her to control her dogs had proved futile so they finally called animal control. The pit bull backed off and ran home but the Rottweiler didn't. Restraining him was some kind of fearsome sight.

When the police told the woman that they had to take her dog away, she cried and fawned over the dog, now safely caged in the back of a paddy wagon.

What struck me was that, despite repeated complaints, she still had only a rickety net-wire fence around her yard that couldn't have restrained a sick kitten, let alone the burly dogs she was keeping. I wondered if she would have been equally touched if her neighbor's arm had been partially severed by her darling.

The excuses for Fido's bad behavior are also incredible — if their dog is handled appropriately by those with which they come into contact, they won't become aggressive. Well, I don't think that a person's ignorance of what to do when they run across a big, snarly dog is an offense that deserves having the flesh torn from their limbs.

You own it, you exercise control over it — that is the underlying sentiment of every ordinance ever enacted, because, unfortunately, some folks out there can't seem to understand that I just don't love their dog.

Schools

From Page 2

our schools. We need to put principals and teachers back in control of schools and classrooms, give them textbooks that aren't censored by cynical word police, the materials they need to teach, the technology needed for kids to learn — and then we might really witness a miracle.

Testing isn't the answer; it's just

another way to ask the question. The folks running schools by remote control from Austin think they can use tests to make our kids smarter. Tests don't make our kids smarter any more than a ruler will make you taller, but politicians and the lobbyists for the testing companies either don't get it or hope you won't figure it out.

Chris Bell is a former Member of Congress and an at-large Houston City Councilman who is exploring a campaign for Texas Governor.

New immunization requirements take effect Sept. 1

By Emily Palmer
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — A new law effective Sept. 1 requires that children attending child-care centers and enrolled in early childhood programs be vaccinated against invasive pneumococcal and hepatitis A diseases, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

Pneumococcal disease is caused by a bacteria that often leads to middle ear infections, pneumonia, blood stream infections, sinus infections and meningitis. The vaccine is required for all children age two months through 59 months attending child-care facilities and pre-kindergarten programs.

Hepatitis A is a liver disease that is spread from person to person, often by putting objects in the mouth that have been contaminated with the stool of a person with hepatitis A. Children in child-care centers and pre-kindergarten programs who are two years old or older will need two doses of hepatitis A vaccine given six to 18 months apart.

To attend child-care facilities and pre-kindergarten programs, a child also must be immunized

against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, varicella (chicken pox) and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) at the appropriate age. If children do not have at least the first dose of the required vaccines by Sept. 1, they may be excluded from child-care facilities and pre-kindergarten programs.

New this year for school children are expanded requirements for hepatitis B and varicella immunizations. Students in kindergarten through 11th grade must have received hepatitis B vaccine. Those in kindergarten through fifth and seventh through 11th grades must have received the varicella vaccine before the start of school.

"Parents should be sure their children are in compliance with all school-enrollment vaccination requirements prior to the start of school," said Monica Gamez of the DSHS Immunization Branch. State rules require that school students be vaccinated against nine illnesses: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B and varicella.

In addition, hepatitis A vaccine is required for students in kindergarten

through third grade who attend school in a county with a high incidence rate. These counties include El Paso and Hudspeth.

Routine vaccination recommendations call for most of the vaccine doses required for school attendance to be given by age two with boosters between ages four and six. Catch-up schedules are available for students who did not receive the vaccines when younger.

Military dependents, homeless students and certain students transferring from other Texas schools will be granted temporary enrollment regardless of vaccination status. Some students are exempt from vaccination requirements for medical reasons or for reasons of conscience.

Specific vaccination requirements for school attendance are available from schools, physicians' offices and local public health departments. The information also is available online at www.ImmunizeTexas.com or by calling DSHS toll free at 1-800-252-9152.

Vaccination requirements apply to students in all public and private primary and secondary schools, those in registered child-care facilities and students enrolled in pre-kindergarten programs in Texas.

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Football: Where the paycheck is mightier than the word

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

I know it's only late July but there's no hiding it — football season is just around the corner.

And the king of all football, of course, is played in the National Football League.

And the NFL has certainly been in the news lately. Well, two NFL players have really been in the news lately.

Both are star-quality players, both play for teams with rich traditions and both players make enough money they'll never have to work again.

Oh, and both are about as selfish as they come.

I'm talking about Terrell Owens and Ricky Williams.

T.O., as he is now known, may have the most appropriate nickname in sports because, like my three-year-old niece, the man needs a time out.

You've all heard the story. Owens has a brilliant year with the Philadelphia Eagles and demands to be paid more money, though he is

still under contract.

The man signs a seven-year deal worth \$47-million and says he's underpaid.

Let's think about that for a second. He signs a contract — and as far as I know it wasn't inked with a gun against his skull. He plays well and takes the Eagles exactly one game further than the team has managed each of the two years prior to his arrival.

And for that, he thinks he's entitled to more.

A month ago Owens declared that he would not play a single down if he didn't get more money. He stood with his chest out, a defiant look on his face, determined to squeeze the Eagles.

This week Owens, looking a little squished himself, decided to report to camp. He said he wasn't stupid and wasn't going to pay the hefty fines and lose those *welfare checks* the Eagles were going to pay him to *play* football.

It's funny how the biggest talkers fold like a cheap suit once you call their bluff.

Here's to you Philadelphia Eagles, for having the guts to stand up to a whiney little brat who cares for absolutely nothing but his own interests.

May other NFL teams follow your lead —

teams other than the Miami Dolphins, anyway.

The Dolphins were humiliated by Ricky Williams last year, quitting just before the start of the season for — it's still hard to believe — the chance to lay out on the beach and smoke more dope.

Now there's a dedicated man. Williams left the team vowing never to return — liar!

And the Dolphins vowed never to have him back — liars!

Talk about a match made in heaven. Not since, ah, well, a month ago when Phil Jackson returned to the Lakers, have I encountered a more questionable reunion.

What happened to the party? I thought Williams had lost all his desire to play the game of football. Maybe he had a change of heart, maybe he matured in the last year, maybe it was the millions in signing bonus money he was going to have to return to the Dolphins.

And what about the Dolphins, or should I say Jellyfish? They *said* they were going to stand strong for all the guys who didn't quit the team.

Terrell Owens and Ricky Williams, two very different characters who share the same profile — dumb punks with sports agents.

Heisman jinx

With college football just beyond the horizon it isn't too early to start thinking about this year's big winner.

USC's Matt Leinart is the odds on favorite to win the thing again this year but I'm not so sure that would be a good idea.

I don't know if it's a coincidence but over the last 15 years or so, the Heisman Trophy winners have been, well, horrible NFL players.

Case in point, from 1976 to 1988 the Heisman winners included names like Tony Dorsett, Earl Campbell, Billy Sims, George Rogers, Marcus Allen, Herschel Walker, Doug Flutie, Bo Jackson, Vinny Testaverde, Tim Brown and Barry Sanders.

A lot of Hall of Famers in that group. Since 1988 the list of winners include Andre Ware, Ty Detmer, Desmond Howard, Gino Torretta, Charlie Ward, Rashaam Salaam, Danny Wuerffel, Ron Dayne, Chris Weinke, and Eric Couch.

Now that's a list only a mother could love.

Matt Leinart, listen to me, have a very good year — but not a great one.

Principal

From Page 1

collective strengths to enhance the tremendous work they have already accomplished," said Porras-Grant.

The new JDE principal received her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Permian Basin in Odessa, a master's degree in Bilingual Education and Special Education, and her Principal's Licensure from the University of Texas at El Paso. Porras-Grant is also a graduate from Canutillo High School, which gives her additional insight into the diversity of the students that attend the Canutillo schools.

Jose Damian Elementary School serves nearly 750 students and employs 52 teachers and 21 staff members.

Band

From Page 1

water balloon fight that took place on the first day.

Stop by and watch the band practice and one gets the combination of seeing kids having fun while working hard. Trips to the bowling alley as well as going swimming are planned during the camp. It's all an effort to create a bond — to become a group of students banded together to produce good music that will make San Elizario High School proud as well as the community.

And so far, the community has become a major force behind the band's current success, Hittle said. A gordita fundraiser recently sponsored by the SEHS Band Booster Association was a huge success, Hittle said. Her take on the parental involvement thus far, especially from new parents following their kids from the Middle School could be summed up in one word.

"Wow!"

Strong community support will allow the students to concentrate on the new music they must learn, which will be downloadable for every member of the band on a program that even includes a virtual rendition of what their performance is supposed to look like. This year the group boasts new uniforms that feature three interchangeable designs as well as brand new marching horns and baritones. And judging by the excitement and the enthusiasm from band campers' faces — they could be heard yelling above the library construction crew on the other side of the building — 2005-2006 is going to be a strong year for music in San Elizario.

Conference

From Page 1

the state. We've made those gains due to the hard work of our teachers."

Joni Jordan, fourth grade teacher at Lujan-Chavez Elementary, was glad Durón pointed out the accomplishments of their work. "I appreciate that he sees our efforts," she says. "We do work hard to help the children succeed. I appreciate that he notices that."

On Thursday and Friday, July 21-22, educators attended various training sessions throughout the district

in preparation for the start of the school year July 25.

"The goal of the Mission of Excellence Conference is to provide high quality, relevant professional development which meets the needs of our teachers," says Dr. Debra Melton-Livingston, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction. "They, in turn, meet the academic needs of our students."

Irma Mejia, a bilingual fourth grade teacher at Elfida P. Chavez Elementary, said the Mission of Excellence is worth the invested time. "It motivates us and sets the tone for the school year," she says. "We all have the same vision and walk along with the same purpose."

Briefs

From Page 1

the Clean Rivers Program. An overview of the El Paso County Water Improvement District #1 will be given by Jesus "Chuy" Reyes, general manager. For information contact Sally Spener at 915-832-4175 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov.

■ The U.S. Department of Housing of Urban Development (HUD) has awarded the following three federal grants to the El Paso community, according to Congressman Silvestre Reyes, announced today:
• \$10,481,904 to the Housing Authority of the City of El Paso
• \$157,197 to the El Paso County Housing Authority
• \$46,025 to the Housing Authority of Anthony
"The Housing Authorities of the

El Paso region provide safety and shelter to residents at a time when they need it most," said Reyes. "This federal funding will allow the Housing Authorities to improve and expand their services and I applaud HUD for recognizing this critical need in El Paso." HUD awarded these grants through their fiscal year 2005 Capital Fund Program. Housing Authorities will use these funds for modernization, development, financing and management improvements.

■ El Paso Mayor John Cook will roll the first ball at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 30, when bowlers and donors team up to fight pet overpopulation at Fiesta Lanes, 5850 Onix in west El Paso, during the El Paso Paralegal Association's Bowl-a-Thon. With games starting at 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., teams compete for donated prizes while raising funds for Pets Alive El Paso's spay/neuter programs. To register or donate funds, call (915)

546-8315. Tax receipts issued upon request for donations of \$20 or more. The non-profit Pets Alive El Paso works to help El Paso become a "No Kill" of adoptable pets community by covering costs of spay/neuter services through a variety of sponsored programs. More than 25,000 dogs and cats were killed in El Paso animal shelters last year, most of these at El Paso Animal Regulation and Disease Control.

■ Marine Corps Cpl. Carlos R. Barraza Cabrera, son of Maria D. and Vicente Barraza of El Paso, County recently received a Letter of Appreciation while assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Okinawa, Japan. Cabrera was instrumental in the safe movement of more than 861 Marines, Sailors, distinguished visitors, veterans and guests during the 60th Commemoration of the Battle of Iwo Jima. He is a 2002 graduate of Socorro High School.



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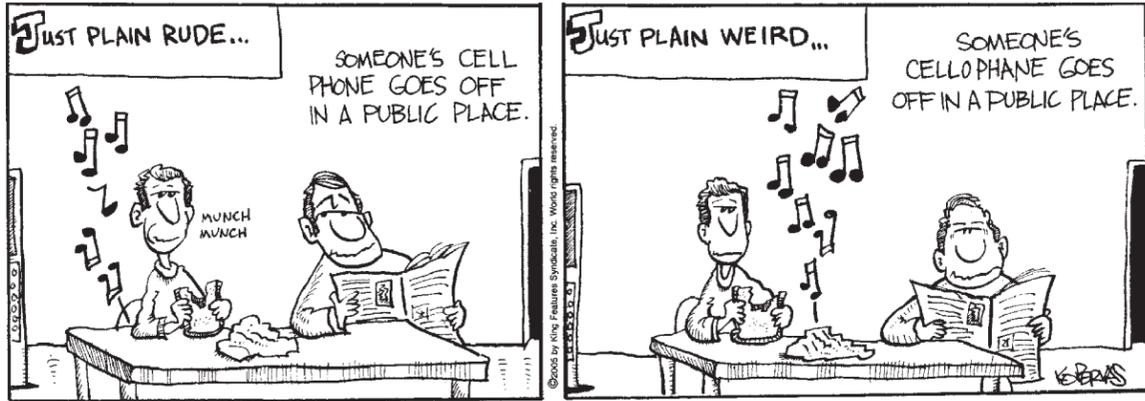
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Female driver rattles racers

By Don Flood

Maybe the next big Indy Racing League event should start like this: "Gentlemen, start your whining."

Racer Robby Gordon recently complained about Danica Patrick, the female driver who finished fourth in this year's Indianapolis 500. His beef: She weighs less, giving her car an advantage.

"I won't race against her until the IRL does something to take that advantage away," he declared.

Afterward, he slunk to his tree fort, the one with the big "No Girls Allowed!" sign in front.

Here's one possible solution. You could have a Major League for women and some of the more competitive men, and a Minor League for men who are not quite up to the challenge.

But while Gordon's comments seem a tad churlish, they were not the most peculiar remarks made about Miss Patrick.

That distinction belongs to Formula One boss Bernie Ecclestone. He said in an interview and then repeated to Patrick in a congratulatory phone call the following jaw-dropper:

"Women should be all dressed in white, like all other domestic appliances."

Where to begin? First, not to put too fine a point on it, but women, biologically speaking, are not appliances. An appliance is defined by the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language as "a device or instrument designed to perform a specific function, especially an electrical device, such as a toaster, for household use."

For her job, Patrick does perform a specific function — drive a race car — but most observers would agree her skills are beyond that of a toaster, blender or even a microwave oven.

Not that Robby Gordon would

be caught dead racing a toaster either: "Are you kidding? That toaster only weighs 18 ounces! I'm not racing that toaster until the IRL addresses the weight issue!"

(A publicist later confirmed, however, that he would welcome challenges from heavier appliances such as washing machines. "Bring 'em on!" is how the publicist put it.)

So, how to explain Ecclestone's remarks? One possibility is that he is not a particularly discerning individual and so the subtle differences between women and, for example, vacuum cleaners have escaped him.

(Tip for Mr. Ecclestone and others: Generally speaking, appliances are plugged into electrical outlets, unlike women, who function without them.)

Another explanation is that the women in Ecclestone's life are electrical devices.

Then there's the issue of all women wearing white.

If Ecclestone were to explore why Danica is so popular, he might want to check out a magazine spread of her provocatively posed in front of a car wearing a red bikini. (She's the one wearing the red bikini, Mr. Ecclestone, not the car.)

No, she's not wearing white, but I have a feeling most race fans would forgive her transgression.

It's also unlikely they would mistake her for a domestic appliance.

And since when are all domestic appliances white? But I digress too much, because I want to get to my final point, which is:

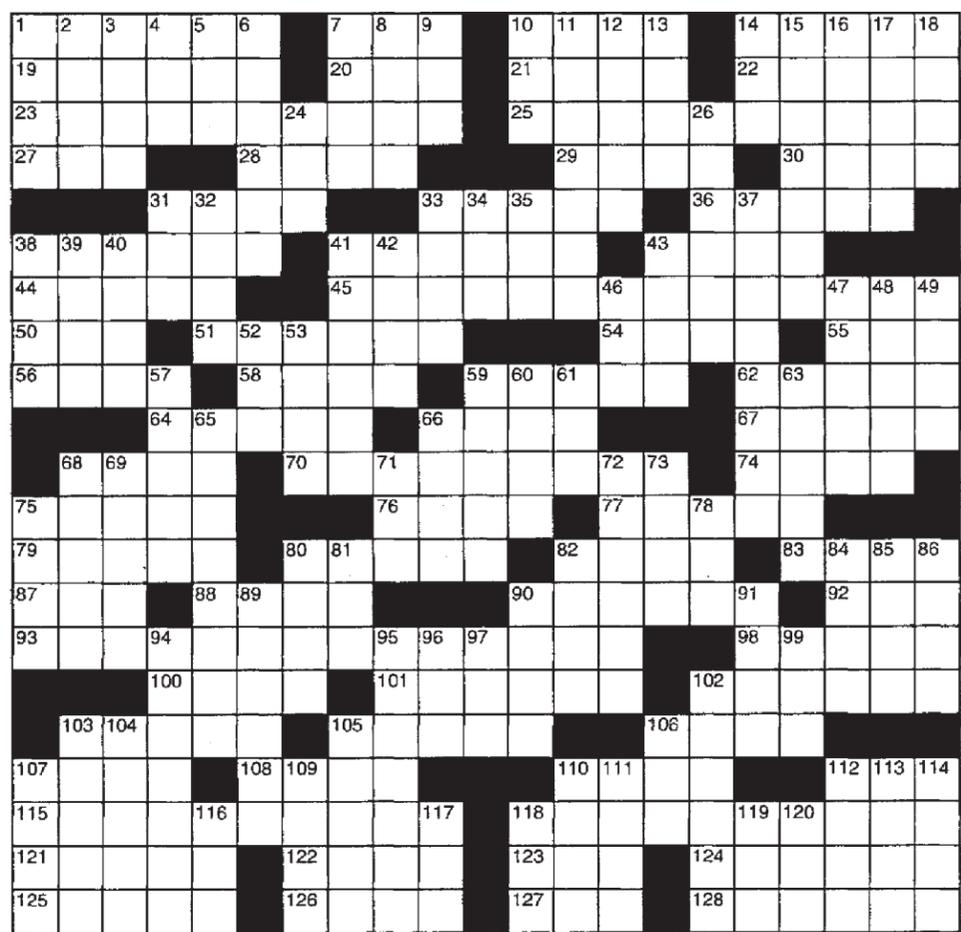
YOU BONEHEADS, SHE'S THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO YOUR STUPID SPORT SINCE THE AGE OF DINOSAURS!

Gentlemen, shut your mouths.

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King Super Crossword

- DESTINY'S CHILD**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Scamp
- 7 Weimarner's warning
- 10 Corrida victim
- 14 Cheerleader's maneuver
- 19 '59 Marty Robbins hit
- 20 Caviar
- 21 The Four _
- 22 Stadium
- 23 Speaker of a remark at 45 Across
- 25 Dashboard feature
- 27 Corpulent
- 28 Docile
- 29 Laugh loudly
- 30 "Comin' _ the Rye"
- 31 Impressed immensely
- 33 "The Stepford Wives" author
- 36 "Carmen" composer
- 38 Jose of "Moulin Rouge"
- 41 Rock's Iron _
- 43 Jeroboam contents
- 44 Gentle as _
- 45 Start of remark
- 50 Fireplace fuel
- 51 "Rodeo," for one
- 54 _ brakes
- 55 "_ volente"
- 56 Willingly, once
- 58 Journalist Jacob Plot
- 62 Link
- 64 Delibes opera
- 66 "Spartacus" setting
- 67 Persian, presently
- 68 Make a necklace
- 70 Part 2 of remark
- 74 Glen
- 75 Cookbook author
- Smith
- 76 Yemeni seaport
- 77 February forecast
- 79 Dismay
- 80 Composer
- Copland
- 82 Paint layer
- 83 Recedes
- 87 Sodom escapee
- 88 Cantata composer
- 90 Shook up
- 92 Palindromic
- preposition
- 93 Part 3 of remark
- 98 Sgt. Bilko
- 100 "An apple _ ..."
- 101 Fancy
- 102 Jacket style
- 103 Lid
- 105 Masters' "_ River Anthology"
- 106 Palliative
- 107 "Rule Britannia" composer
- 108 QE II section
- 110 Epps or Vizquel
- 112 Officeholders
- 115 "Samson and Delilah" composer
- 118 End of remark
- 121 Right a wrong
- 122 Social climber
- 123 Crowd
- 124 January stoat
- 125 Correctional
- 126 Sundance's sweetie
- 127 Use a crowbar
- 128 Kant subject
- DOWN**
- 1 Scuba site
- 2 - mater
- 3 Primer pooch
- 4 Mushroom part
- 5 Hibachi residue
- 6 Hang around
- 7 Harsh
- 8 Something to skip?
- 9 Musical syllables
- 10 Make lace
- 11 Wind instrument
- 12 Scout's job
- 13 Dept. of Labor div.
- 14 Houston or Huff
- 15 Twisted treat
- 16 Mythical river
- 17 Like some gases
- 18 Tropical tuber
- 24 Youngster
- 26 Runs circles around?
- 31 Prepare for combat
- 32 "Dragnet" star
- 33 Navel store?
- 34 Maestro de Waart
- 35 Filly physician
- 37 Sedentary
- 38 Hairpiece
- 39 "The Time Machine" people
- 40 Frenzy
- 41 Sphere
- 42 Singer/actor Ed
- 43 Keen
- 46 Regulatory agcy.
- 47 Unimprovable
- 48 Notre Dame's river
- 49 Basil or Braxton
- 52 Joan Van _
- 53 Branch
- 57 Panache
- 59 Bewitching bunch
- 60 Mass communication?
- 61 Golfer Hogan
- 63 Beside oneself
- 65 George Eliot novel
- 66 Change the decor
- 68 Subordinate to
- 69 Gladden
- 71 Paving material
- 72 Wagner heroine
- 73 Inispid
- 75 Spanish surrealist
- 78 Nice time of year
- 80 Sore
- 81 "So that's your game!"
- 82 Stallion's son
- 84 German auto engineer
- 85 Cheeseboard choice
- 86 Cassandra or Merlin
- 89 Tony, Oscar, and Edgar
- 90 Don _
- 91 Farmer's place
- 94 Italian city
- 95 Quail feature
- 96 _-Magnon
- 97 Lennon's lady
- 99 Computer acronym
- 102 He runs a clip joint
- 103 Pack peppers
- 104 Soubise ingredient
- 105 Perfume
- 106 Lea lament
- 107 PDQ, politely
- 109 Vacation sensation
- 110 Aroma
- 111 Melville title start
- 112 Medical suffix
- 113 Tempo or Rota
- 114 WWII gun
- 116 _ Aviv
- 117 Federal agcy.
- 118 Mischief-maker
- 119 Bonanza material
- 120 Actress Thurman



Answer Page 4

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: My aunt receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and is, I think, beginning to show signs of Alzheimer's disease. I'm also worried that she's becoming unable to manage her benefit payments. Can anything be done to help her?

efits. For more information, see the publication, A Guide For Representative Payees. You can get a copy by visiting our website.

Q: Last month my husband and I got a letter and an application from Social Security about some extra help that might be available for the new Medicare prescription drug plan. But I think we might have thrown it away by mistake. Can we get another application?

A: Yes. Social Security wants ev-

eryone who might be eligible for the extra help with their Medicare prescription drug costs to apply. You can complete the Application online or call the local social security office for a replacement application. Please do not photocopy applications.

Q: My parents are retired, on Medicare, and rely almost totally on their Social Security checks to get by. They have been using their savings to help pay for their prescription drug costs. I have read about the new Medicare prescription drug plan, and about extra help that will be available to help pay monthly premiums, annual

deductibles and prescription co-payments. Can my parents qualify?

A: In order to qualify for the extra help that is available under the Medicare prescription drug coverage, individuals and couples have to meet certain income and resource limits. Generally speaking, married couples living together can have \$19,245 in combined annual income. In addition, their bank accounts, investments, cash and other countable resources must be less than \$20,000. This limit can be slightly higher (an additional \$1,500 per person) if they will be using some of their money for

burial expenses. If you have questions about what is and is not counted as income or a resource, visit our website. After applying for extra help, beneficiaries also will need to enroll in a Medicare-approved prescription drug plan between November 15, 2005 and May 15, 2006.

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.

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Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Chance for a thunderstorm	Mostly cloudy, t-storms	A thunderstorm possible	Partial sunshine	A p.m. t-storm possible	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny and hot	Mostly sunny
86°	69°	91° 71°	92° 71°	94° 72°	93° 72°	95° 72°	95° 70°
RealFeel 88°	RealFeel 64°	RealFeel 88° 67°	RealFeel 89° 68°	RealFeel 92° 69°	RealFeel 100° 74°	RealFeel 99° 72°	RealFeel 99° 69°

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WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK

IN THE SKY

Temperatures

Precipitation



Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Last	New
Thu.	6:19 a.m.	8:05 p.m.	Thu.	12:18 a.m.	2:11 p.m.		
Fri.	6:19 a.m.	8:04 p.m.	Fri.	12:51 a.m.	3:13 p.m.	7/27	8/4
Sat.	6:20 a.m.	8:04 p.m.	Sat.	1:29 a.m.	4:14 p.m.	First	Full
Sun.	6:21 a.m.	8:03 p.m.	Sun.	2:11 a.m.	5:12 p.m.		
Mon.	6:21 a.m.	8:02 p.m.	Mon.	2:59 a.m.	6:06 p.m.	8/12	8/19
Tues.	6:22 a.m.	8:01 p.m.	Tues.	3:52 a.m.	6:53 p.m.		
Wed.	6:23 a.m.	8:01 p.m.	Wed.	4:48 a.m.	7:35 p.m.		

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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	88	69	t	90	70	pc	94	71	s	94	72	s	Atlanta	90	73	t	87	70	t	85	67	t	85	67	t
Albuquerque, NM	90	66	pc	92	67	t	94	68	pc	94	67	s	Boston	72	60	sh	76	62	pc	80	64	pc	81	63	pc
Amarillo, TX	88	62	pc	91	67	s	91	67	s	93	67	s	Chicago	82	60	s	84	62	s	84	64	s	86	64	t
Austin, TX	93	72	t	94	70	t	96	71	t	96	70	s	Denver	88	59	s	90	60	s	90	62	pc	91	61	c
Brownsville, TX	95	76	sh	94	75	sh	94	75	t	95	77	s	Detroit	80	60	s	82	60	pc	82	62	s	84	64	s
Dodge City, KS	91	63	pc	96	66	s	96	66	s	95	68	pc	Houston	94	76	t	92	74	t	94	74	t	96	74	s
Jackson, MS	93	69	t	91	68	t	92	68	t	93	68	t	Indianapolis	80	59	s	85	61	s	81	60	s	83	64	c
Laredo, TX	103	78	t	102	78	pc	101	78	pc	103	77	s	Kansas City	86	64	s	88	66	s	90	68	s	91	71	c
Little Rock, AR	88	68	pc	91	66	s	91	68	pc	94	71	pc	Los Angeles	82	64	pc	84	66	pc	84	68	pc	84	68	pc
Lubbock, TX	86	65	sh	90	68	pc	92	70	s	94	68	s	Miami	91	79	t	91	79	t	90	79	t	90	79	t
Memphis, TN	85	67	s	88	68	s	90	71	t	91	73	pc	Minneapolis	78	62	pc	82	64	s	88	68	s	87	68	s
Midland, TX	86	68	t	91	70	t	93	71	s	95	71	pc	New Orleans	91	76	t	91	77	t	90	75	t	93	75	t
Pueblo, CO	97	59	s	97	60	pc	97	60	pc	96	62	pc	New York City	78	65	sh	79	67	c	83	69	pc	83	69	pc
Roswell, NM	91	63	t	91	66	t	95	68	pc	96	67	c	Omaha	86	66	s	88	66	s	92	68	s	91	71	s
St. Louis, MO	83	65	s	86	67	s	85	66	s	87	70	s	Phoenix	108	86	s	106	87	t	104	85	t	103	85	c
San Antonio, TX	94	75	t	93	74	t	95	75	t	96	73	s	San Francisco	73	58	pc	74	58	pc	73	56	pc	73	57	s
Texarkana, AR	88	69	pc	93	69	pc	95	70	pc	93	71	pc	Seattle	78	58	s	76	56	s	74	54	s	74	54	pc
Waco, TX	91	71	t	95	72	t	98	73	pc	98	73	s	Washington	84	70	t	84	68	sh	84	68	pc	83	68	pc
Wichita, KS	89	62	pc	94	68	s	94	68	s	96	69	pc													

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

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