

NEWSBRIEFS

Pools open

El Paso County swimming pools at Ascarate and the O'Donnell Park in Fabens are open for families to cool off. The Gallegos Park pool in Canutillo on the West Side opens June 6. The pools will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Admission fees for the pools are \$2 at Ascarate and \$1 for the O'Donnell pool in Fabens and the Gallegos pool. Family Fun Nights will be offered at Ascarate Park on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. For more information call 772-5605 during business hours.

In the Navy

Navy Seaman Recruit Audrey H. Ybarra, daughter of Angela R. and Ralphael Quezada of El Paso, Texas, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, Ybarra completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. Ybarra is a 2007 graduate of Del Valle High School.

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting the El Paso Police Department in locating the vehicle involved in a fatal hit and run, and its driver, making this the "Crime of the Week." On Monday night, May 5, just before 9:00 P.M., police officers responded to a hit and run collision at 10100 Cross Street in northeast El Paso. Unfortunately, it was a fatal hit and run. The preliminary investigation by officers from the Special Traffic Investigation unit revealed that 72-year-old Flavia Estrello was pushing her granddaughter, 2-year-old Aliana Gonzalez, in a stroller when they attempted to cross the street. A vehicle headed north on Cross struck both pedestrians, killing Estrello and seriously injuring the child. The vehicle then fled the scene, making a left turn from Cross onto Sun Valley Drive. Witnesses describe the suspect vehicle as dark colored and possibly a late model Ford Mustang. This vehicle should show damage to the windshield and to the right side of the front hood. If you have any information at all about the location of this vehicle or the identity of its driver, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.

The line between self-confidence and conceit is very narrow.

— Quips & Quotes

San Eli ISD 'Stars' honored at banquet

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

May 22 was a night of excitement and anticipation for the 15 teachers and employees



Meiissa Nunn

honored at the San Elizario Independent School District's 2008 Star Recognition Banquet. This select group of individuals was chosen by their peers for their efforts, creativity and contributions to their campuses. Out these exceptional candidates, three names were announced as winners of the Employee of the Year, Elementary Teacher of the Year, and Secondary Teacher of the Year. Receiving district-wide honors were Sylvia Vasquez as Employee of the Year; Kathrin Salazar as Elementary Teacher of the Year; and Melissa Nunn as Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Sylvia Vasquez is a security guard at San Elizario High School who has been involved with the district for over 18 years both on a volunteer basis and as an employee. Vasquez, who has been serving in her current position for under a year stated, "I feel extremely fortunate and happy because during such a short time of working at the high school I am being recognized."

Kathrin Salazar has been the computer lab teacher at Sambrano Elementary for two years teaching students in grades 1st through 5th how to make learning fun with technology. "I love being a teacher, and it doesn't feel like work when you love what you do," Salazar stated.

Melissa Nunn teaches English classes at San Elizario High School to 9th grade students,

See SAN ELI ISD, Page 2

Clint ISD recognizes Broadway, Molina and others

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

Clint ISD "Rolled out the Red Carpet" for the 2008 Teachers of the Year during a banquet on May 8, 2008 at Sunland Park Race-track and Casino. Over 280 guests were present at the event as Clint ISD announced the 2008 Elementary and Secondary Teacher of the Year for the District as well as the District Rookie Teacher of the Year.

For the fifth year in a row, a C.T. Welch Intermediate teacher holds the honor of District Elementary Teacher of the Year. Ashley Broadway, a reading teacher, was awarded the honor for 2008. The District Secondary Teacher of the Year honor was awarded to Gilbert Molina, a science teacher at Horizon Middle School. Both Molina and Broad-

way were presented with a plaque and a check for \$2,500 during the banquet co-sponsored by El Paso Area Teachers Federal Credit Union and ARTchitecture. Broadway and Molina will prepare over the next few months to represent Clint ISD in the Regional Teacher of the Year competition in July.

Yolanda Aceves was named the District Rookie Teacher of the Year. "Her attitude is incredible. She never complains and will do anything she is asked to do and then some," says Michael Mackeben, Red Sands Elementary Principal of Yolanda Aceves a first-year 5th grade teacher at Red Sands Elementary. Aceves received a trophy and a check for \$500 during the banquet.

All Clint ISD Campus Teachers of the Year

See CLINT ISD, Page 8



OUTSTANDING — Ashley Broadway, Yolanda Aceves and Gilbert Molina.

— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

Anthony's mayor optimistic about future of town

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — The mayor has been busy in recent weeks wielding the ceremonial shovel in ground-breakings for new businesses in Anthony. They are a new Walgreens drug store, a KFC restaurant and Foxworth-



Art Franco

Galbraith which manufactures building supplies.

But those aren't the only ones.

Franco alludes to another business about which he is "99 percent sure" of coming in. However, he cannot divulge the name at this time.

There is still another potential industry that might dwarf the others in economic impact. It is a major enterprise that would bring many jobs and money to the area. Again, he cannot mention the name at this point because of early negotiations under way with officials.

To accommodate its residential and commercial growth, Franco says Anthony is taking preliminary steps to apply for a grant of approximately \$263,000 to build an above-ground water storage tank. The town is expecting approval in the first-quarter cycle funding in 2009. As a quality of life water issue, it has a high priority for state funding.

Work is expected to begin within a week on a 38-acre expansion of the old Anthony Municipal Park. It would bring the town's total park size to approximately 50 acres. The new park, which is expected to be finished in 2011, will have hiking trails, picnic areas, athletic fields and a skateboard park.

The new park, he says, will possibly be called something like the Anthony, TX Parks and Recreational Complex. The old and new park areas will be separated by Richard White Street and will be located near the new Walgreens.

Franco invites residents to donate landscaping plants or trees in memory of a loved one. Application forms are available at the Town Hall.

Speaking of the town hall, funding application plans are moving forward for construction of a new town hall at a cost of \$750,000 to \$1 million. It will incorporate not only municipal and police functions, but it will also include a community center.

The mayor hopes work can begin by late this year or early 2009.

He pointed out that a hotel/motel tax was enacted May 1st. It is expected to bring in \$30,000-\$45,000 a year. Proceeds will go to promote the town through promotional literature and billboards. The town is looking to form its own, independent chamber of commerce, he says.

With the new residential and commercial growth, he is "very optimistic" about the future of Anthony.

San Eli ISD

From Page 1

including Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) and Gifted and Talented (GT) students. Each nominee was featured in a special video and received a star award. "It is because of my students that I am the teacher that I am," Nunn reflected. These three winners were honored



Mike Quatrini

with a gleaming, silver star trophy and a check for \$500. Salazar and Nunn will now move on to represent the San Elizario Independent School District in the Region 19 Teacher of the Year competition this summer.

All the nominees received a star award and were featured in a special video at the banquet. The nominees for Employee of the Year were:

- Adam Starke — Administration;
- Cecilia Santiesteban — Loya Primary;
- Martha Ortega — Alarcon Elementary;
- Guadalupe Moctezuma — Borrego Elementary;
- Rebecca Morales — Sambrano Elementary;
- Alex Dominguez — Garcia-Enriquez Middle School;
- Eloy Anaya — Excell Academy; and
- Sylvia Vasquez — San Elizario High School.



Kathrin Salazar

The nominees for Teacher of the Year were:
Ivonne Ballesteros-Kearbey — Loya Primary;

- Christina Lara — Alarcon Elementary;
- Rosa Lina Garcia — Borrego Elementary;
- Kathrin Salazar — Sambrano Elementary;
- Soledad Gonzalez — Garcia-Enriquez Middle School;
- Annette Hathaway — Excell Academy; and
- Melissa Nunn — San Elizario High School.

Approximately 150 teachers, district personnel, relatives and other guests were present to witness the announcement of the 2007-2008 Employee and Teacher of the Year nominees and winners. San Elizario ISD Board President Irene Jaquez and Superintendent Dr. Michael Quatrini personally congratulated each of the winners and thanked all the nominees for their dedication to making both the students and the district shine. Also on hand to acknowledge the nominees



Sylvia Vasquez

were campus administrators. Meanwhile the San Elizario High School Jazz Band provided a spirited selection of music.

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Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla



Hola, mi gente. It is hard to believe that we are almost in the month of June. This year is passing so fast. It seems that each year passes much faster than the previous ones. I know that many of you who are reading this article may have had a family member graduate from high school. To you and to the graduate, congratulations. I wish every graduate in El Paso county the best of success in the future whether they decide to enroll in higher education or pursue other careers.

However, it is important for graduates here in El Paso to continue their education. Once upon a

Grads: Guard your future

time, a high school diploma was a ticket to some prosperity. That is no longer the case. Without a college or university degree, an individual is cheating himself out of a lot of money in the future. There are just no jobs that pay well for high school graduates.

If you (or someone you know) are intending to forgo higher education immediately, please plan to go eventually. Sometimes it is important to experience some of what life has to offer outside of academia in order become a better student. The important thing is to plan to eventually go back to school.

Another part that we must remember at this time of the year is that our youngsters are out of school. Usually during the school year, there are few

students out during school hours and in the evenings. Please be aware that students will be everywhere during any time period in the day or evening. Don't let a careless moment create a situation that is regretful. Drive carefully at all times.

I hope that all of you had a very enjoyable Memorial Day Holiday and paid some homage to our veterans. The deserve it.

Most of all, I hope that the upcoming summer is a terrific one. For the students, enjoy the free time but remember that school is not that far away. It would be good to take part in some mental exercises to keep the mind sharp.

Have a great summer! Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend and public servant, Chente por la gente.



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Veterans remembered

Each year on the last Monday in May, millions of Americans come together to remember and honor those who have given their lives in defense of the ideals of this country. The debt we owe to our active duty servicemembers, our veterans, and all those who have gone before them is truly immeasurable. For more than a century, Memorial Day has served as a tribute to the sacrifices our servicemembers have made in serving our country. This past Memorial Day weekend, thousands of El Pasoans visited Fort Bliss National Cemetery to honor the men and women who served our country in the Armed Forces.

This Memorial Day our nation continues to be embroiled in conflicts across the globe — most notably in Iraq and Afghanistan where more than 4,500 service members have given their lives, and 32,000 have been wounded while serving our nation. Americans across the country honored the sacrifice of these coura-

geous men and women this past weekend by remembering those who continue to fight for our country and who will be our veterans of tomorrow.

In El Paso we take particular pride in honoring our veterans. With thousands of troops stationed at Fort Bliss, we are not strangers to the sorrow of losing loved ones in war. More than 50 El Paso service members have courageously given their lives in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. This Memorial Day, we mourned their loss; yet, in the midst of this sorrow, we celebrated their selflessness and remembered that Memorial Day is not simply a day for honor and mourning, it is also an opportunity to renew our efforts to keep our promises to the veterans who have made this country great.

My Democratic colleagues and I in the 110th Congress have been fighting to pass a new GI Bill that would provide funding for a full, four-year college education to help our returning veterans transition back to civilian life. Current benefits only pay for 70 percent of a public college education, and it is imperative

we provide full funding to ensure that our veterans are set on path toward economic prosperity. Furthermore, this Congress has made unprecedented investments in veterans' care. Last year, Congress approved the largest budget increase in the 77-year history of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The budget provided increased funding for veteran's healthcare, particularly for those who are suffering from mental health disorders such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) — the most common ailments of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As a Vietnam combat veteran, I know what it's like to fight for this country far from the comforts of home and family. Our service members deserve our thanks, our respect, and most importantly, they deserve our commitment to care for them and reintegrate them into the fabric of American society. There is no better time than Memorial Day to renew these commitments to our troops, without whom our nation would not live so freely.



El Paso County joins two border fence lawsuits

By Aracely Lazcano and Elhiu Dominguez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso County Commissioners Court approved a proposal to join two lawsuits against the federal government due to the construction of the border fence since, according to County Attorney José Rodríguez, it violates the US Constitution.

In a special meeting held today at the County Courthouse, Commissioners Court approved by a 4 to 1 vote to join the lawsuit initiated by the El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 and the Tigua Tribe, and also approved to join an existing lawsuit filed on May 16th by the Texas Border Coalition.

"I support this lawsuit because is about overreaching the federal government and requires it to set clear policy and procedure to build the fence, something they have not done," said County Judge, Anthony Cobos.

Commissioner Veronica Escobar, which also voted in favor of joining both legal actions, said she expects the rights of the citizens of the communities along the US-Mexico border to be respected and honored just as it would be in any part of the country.

"The 700 mile fence is incredibly costly, it doesn't stop undocumented immigration or drug trafficking; it simply changes the migration pattern.

We need to continue to send a message to the federal government that we expect policy solutions that are meaningful and that enact reforms and change that get to the root causes of these problems," Escobar said.

Commissioner Luis Sariñana also stated that by joining both lawsuits, it did not intend to make the construction of the wall the main issue, but to ensure the protection of the rights of the citizens in the community.

Rodríguez advised the commissioners about the serious repercussions county residents could face if the border fence is built under the current proposal by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Rodríguez called "unprecedented and unconstitutional" to the act of waving all federal, state, and local laws imposed by the Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff.

"It deprives the county citizens of a normal appellate review for any actions taken by the federal agency that limits our ability to have a federal court determining if the Secretary of Homeland Security is acting consistently with the constitution or with other applicable federal law," Rodríguez stated.

Commissioner Daniel Haggerty voted against the proposal.

The joint lawsuit from El Paso County, El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 and the Tigua tribe, will be filed Friday, May 30, 2008 by the law firm Mayer Brown LLP of Washington D.C.

The Texas Border Coalition is formed by Counties, Cities, Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Departments along the US-Mexico border from the city of Brownsville to El Paso. Their class action lawsuit filed on May 16 by the Texas Border Coalition (TBC) against the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security (DHS) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) over the construction of the \$50 billion U.S.-Mexico border wall.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., and alleges that DHS and CBP have violated:

- Border landowners' statutory right to negotiation over a "reasonable" price prior to the taking of property for the purpose of building segments of fence along the 1,200-mile stretch of Texas-Mexico border.

- The due process rights of property owners by failing to issue and make public any rules, regulations, or directives on how negotiations should take place or how the government will determine a "reasonable" price for the property it wishes to seize.

- The equal protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment by giving certain politically well-connected property owners a pass on having the border fence built on their property.

- The 2008 DHS Appropriation law and the due process rights of property owners by failing to issue and make public any rules, regulations, or directives on how required "consultation" with property owners will take place and how the concerns of property owners will be considered.

The County will not be incurring any legal fees since the attorneys handling the litigation are not charging for their services.

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Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore May 28, 1924: The U.S. Border Patrol is established...and hey, a border is a border.

School board notes By Don Woodyard

Anthony ISD May 20

Band uniforms and TAKS test results were discussed.

After some musical selections from

band members, a lively discussion ensued about the pros and cons of various combinations of colors of the proposed new uniforms which are about 10 years old. The uniform sample showed by Mr. Porras, the band direc-

tor, was predominantly Navy blue with Columbia blue accent.

The darker uniform, one band member said, "makes us look taller and thinner." The band member was referring to appearance by judges during competition when the new uniforms would make the band look more professional. The lighter color shows more wear, more quickly, it

was pointed out.

Board members were concerned that approval of the band uniform would trigger a flood of requests for uniform changes by other school athletic teams.

After discussion, the board approved the purchase of 60 new uniforms at a cost of \$30,000. Delivery of the new uniforms would be in late September.

Without going into specifics, Superintendent Ron Haugen gave a preliminary report on TAKS testing.

Overall, he said the district did a "pretty good job" of bringing scores up. The high school did "a great job." There were 14 areas of increases and 11 areas of decreases, he told board members.

His report comes against the background of April's report in which he said that a summary report from the Texas Education Agency shows AISD ranks low in essential testing

areas statewide. He indicated at that time that the district needs good math and science teachers.

In canvassing the May election, the board certified that Chrissy Singh and Michelle Hernandez had won seats on the board. They were sworn in. Singh was later elected vice president. Mr. Chavez was elected secretary. Election of a board president ended in a tie. Election of the new president will be determined at a later time.

The board discussed regulation the possession and use of cell phones during the school day by students.

Haugen proposed to adopt a local policy which will specify uses of and sanctions for such equipment by students. He said controls would be similar to policies in place by other school districts.

The board approved moving ahead with the development of a local policy.

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Elliott, 78, dies in Lubbock

Raymond Eugene Elliott, age 78, of Clovis, New Mexico, died Saturday, May 17, 2008, at Covenant Medical Center, in Lubbock, TX.

Elliott was born September 10, 1929, in Amarillo, Texas, to Roy and Maydine Elliott. He married Diana Bertrand Melton on November 25, 1951, in Acala, Texas. He served in the army during the Korean War.

Elliott lived in Fabens and Clint through the mid 1970s and attended Clint High School. He and his father operated Clint Motors. He raised his family in the valley before going to work for International Harvester. He worked as a Service Manager for International

Harvester Farm Equipment until his retirement. He enjoyed working on motors and anything mechanical. He liked helping others.



Elliott is survived by his wife, Diana, and three sisters, Betty Wiseman and Frances Thick of Fabens, Texas and Nell Williams of Red Rock, Texas. The Elliotts' four daughters are: Vicki Herrington (Milt) of Yukon, Okla-

homa, Carol Coleman (Bill) of Ada, Oklahoma, Beth Franks (Tommy) of Portales, New Mexico and Bettiruth McKee (Tom), of Ft. McLeod, Alberta Canada. They were blessed with 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

El Dorado program prepares students for bright future

By Irma Flores

Special to the Courier

For two years, the International Baccalaureate Program at El Dorado High School has been preparing students for a successful future. The long hours, the homework on top of regular school activities have paid off for four IB students. Not only have they completed an intensive program and are the first to graduate from the IB program, each have been admitted to an Ivy League school. El Dorado seniors Daniel Bell, Theresa Juarez, Julio Reyes and Jessica Wooten were accepted into Brown, Columbia, Cornell, and Dartmouth. They each credit the IB program and IB coordinator Lizett Shaw for helping them stand out to admission officers.

"I had Ms. Shaw as an English teacher and I really liked the way she works with students. She gets personal and helped me get where I am," said Julio Reyes who will go to Brown University and plans to go into the medical field.

"It made me go on beyond my abilities and do more work that I would have in the regular coursework. I would recommend this

program to anyone, you gain a lot and it's a close community," said Wooten, who was accepted into Dartmouth, MIT and Duke.

"It's good to know that we can compete with other students in the nation," said Juarez who is a Gates Millennium and will be attending Cal Tech in the fall. "A lot of schools recognize the IB program and know that as an IB student I am able to handle the curriculum along with regular school."

"The IB program prepares you for college and introduces you to a group of unique teachers. It makes you feel like you are in college" said Bell, who will head to New York to study at Columbia University. Bell is still deciding on his major but is considering the engineering field.

El Dorado Head Counselor Marshall Ponce said in addition to the Ivy League offers, students were also admitted to Tier 1 schools such as Stanford, Rice, Wellesley, Duke, M.I.T., Boston University, Carnegie Mellon, California Institute for Technology and Penn State.

"This program encourages El Dorado students along with students from across the world to become

See LEARNING, Page 6

Vista Del Sol nurse named as Region 19 School Nurse of the Year

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

School nurses go beyond the cuts and scrapes that come from the playground. They are child health care advocates and promoters of overall well being for students and staff. As the nation celebrates School Nurses Day on May 7, Vista del Sol School Nurse Ramona Garcia will have an additional recognition as Region 19 School Nurse of the Year. Garcia who has been with the District since 2001 works with a student body of 650 plus students ranging from 4 to 12 years old. In addition to her duties with children, Ramona also works with staff and faculty promoting healthy lifestyles. She has coordinated first aid and CPR classes at her school and provides classes for District personnel such as coaches, and physical education and fine art teachers. Garcia was recognized at the Texas School Nurses Conference held on April 26.

"It's always an honor to be considered and when I was told, I was shocked," said Garcia who has been in the nursing field for 27 years. "It means a lot to me to represent Socorro ISD."

"Ramona is an exceptional asset to Vista Del Sol, and Socorro ISD Health Services. She is totally dedicated to the health and well-being of the children and her fellow workers," said Sandra Beckford, RN, BSN, CSN, Socorro ISD School Nurse Coordinator. "She is always willing to listen to any child, parent teacher or co-worker. Many seek her out for medical and moral support. Ramona is the first Socorro ISD School Nurse to receive this honor."

In addition to setting up health fairs and blood drives at Vista del Sol Elementary for the past four years, Ramona, as a member of the Lower Valley School Nurses Association, assists in organizing and promoting the Family Fun Walk. She is also a part of the Vista Del Sol Special Olympics Booster Club where she provides first aid for the District's Special Needs students. Her commitment to health goes beyond the school campus.

"The students get a feel for the reward of helping others," said Garcia who also participates in the school's literacy night.

"The multiple roles of school nurses and the many services they provide makes them a valuable school and community resource. Every day school nurses like Ramona support the physical, mental, emo-

tional and social health of our students. We are proud of her work with students and faculty at Vista Del Sol and for her impact in this community," said SISD Superintendent Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson.

"As a school nurse, Ramona impacts the lives of students by helping them to meet their health care needs and helps create an optimal learning environment," said SISD Board President Charles E. Garcia.

National School Nurse Day is a time to celebrate the nursing profession and the specialty of school nursing. On May 7, 2008, the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) will recognize the contributions that school nurses have made over the past year. NASN improves the health and educational success of children and youth by developing and providing leadership to advance school nursing practice. School nursing is recognized as a specialized practice that advances the well-being, academic success, and life-long achievement of students. National School Nurse Day falls on the Wednesday during National Nurses Week, May 6 through 12, ending on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of nursing. School nurses help identify and remove or minimize health related barriers to student success. To this end, over 50,000 school nurses across the country promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student/family capacity for adaptation, self management, self advocacy, and learning.



— Photo by Stacy Kendrick / SISD

WEIGHING IN — Nurse Ramona Garcia puts Vista de Sol student Austin Bjorgo on the scale.

Public Notice Canutillo ISD Announces Summer Meal Program

Canutillo Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the summer food service program. Meals will be provided at all campuses/locations as listed below.

Meals will be provided as follows: Breakfast from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., Morning Snack from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Afternoon Snack from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Meals are free to all children ages one to eighteen years of age. Handicapped may be twenty-one. Adults may purchase meals ala carte.

CAMPUS	ADDRESS/PHONE	DATES
• Canutillo High School	6675 South Dessert / 877-7822	June 9- Aug. 14, 2008
• Canutillo Middle School	7311 Bosque Road / 877-7922	June 9-July 3, 2008
• Alderete Middle School	801 Talbot Road / 877-6622	June 9-July 3, 2008
• Canutillo ES	651 Canutillo Avenue / 877-7622	June 9-July 3, 2008
• Deanna Davenport ES	8401 Remington Road / 886-6422	June 9-July 3, 2008
• Gonzalo & Sofia Garcia ES	6550 Westside Road / 877-1222	June 9-July 3, 2008
• CISD Test Kitchen	7965 Artcraft Road / 877-7443	June 9-Aug. 14, 2008

Canutillo Independent School District Food Service Meal Programs do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY) USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Jackson decides to finish basketball career at UTEP

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Now be honest, did any of you really believe Stefon Jackson would be playing in the NBA next season?

To the relief of the UTEP coaching staff, teammates and Miners fans everywhere, Jackson announced last week that he was giving up his quest to be selected in the NBA draft and was returning for his senior season in El Paso.

DJ, as he is called by almost everyone, has

put the NBA and a few other highly-publicized legal problems behind him. Now his focus can be put squarely on the kind of season the Miners can have in 2008-09.

First of all, there is no question that Jackson made the right decision. As coach Tony Barbee told me at the end of the season that there were way too many quality underclassmen declaring for the draft.

Stefon was an itty bitty fish in a Don Haskins Center-sized pond. But now the 6-5 senior will stick out like never before.

Jackson will be on all the preseason watch lists. The only person in the country returning next season who scored more points than Stefon Jackson is Davidson's Stephen Curry.

This is a chance for Jackson to improve the facets of his game that must get better if he is going to get a serious shot at the next level.

Jackson has to work on his ball handling, his outside shooting and his defense. Now he's got a whole season to prove his worth.

That is better for Stefon Jackson and that is better for the UTEP Miners.

Another thing that will make the Miners better is the recent trip to China by Claude Britten and Julyan Stone.

The chance for those two players to make that trip can only help mature them, both on the basketball court and as human beings.

One of the things Jackson always said he'd look forward to if he came back for his senior season was to lead the very talented group of players Barbee was assembling at UTEP.

Along with Britten and Stone, returning players like Randy Culpepper, Tavaris Watts, Gabriel McCulley and Wayne Portalatin, give the Miners some veterans they've sorely missed in recent years.

But just like prior to last season, UTEP fans can't wait to see how good the new players are, like Arnett Moultrie (6'11"), Jason Jones (6'6"), Blaise French (6'1") and Kareem Cooper (6'11").

The Miners won 19 games last season. Not bad, but it looks like Barbee has the chance to position his team for a run at the NCAA Tournament next year.

No — I'm not kidding.

Think of it, UTEP didn't have very many

offensive weapons last season and still went out and won 19 games. Stefon Jackson should average 20-25 points a game and you know Culpepper will average at least 15.

The biggest improvement for this team will be at point guard and big guys under the basket.

Barbee is starting to create his program in the image of John Calipari and the Memphis Tigers, and from what I've seen the last few years — that's not a bad thing.

Look for the Miners to give Memphis a serious run for the C-USA title next season. While the Miners keep adding quality players, Memphis keeps losing them.

And the biggest addition for next season's Miners basketball team is a player they're very familiar and comfortable with — Stefon Jackson.

MLB goes Japanese

Over the years, a whole bunch of American products, attitude and culture have been shipped overseas.

There's no doubt that American culture has made its way around the world, some of it good, some of it not so good.

One of the not-so-good aspects of American life has now found its way to Japan. The baseball drug culture has reared its ugly head in the Far East.

Former major leaguer Luis Gonzalez was suspended for one year by Japanese baseball for failing a drug test.

And for the record, this is not former star Luis "Gonzo" Gonzalez, this is a watered-down version.

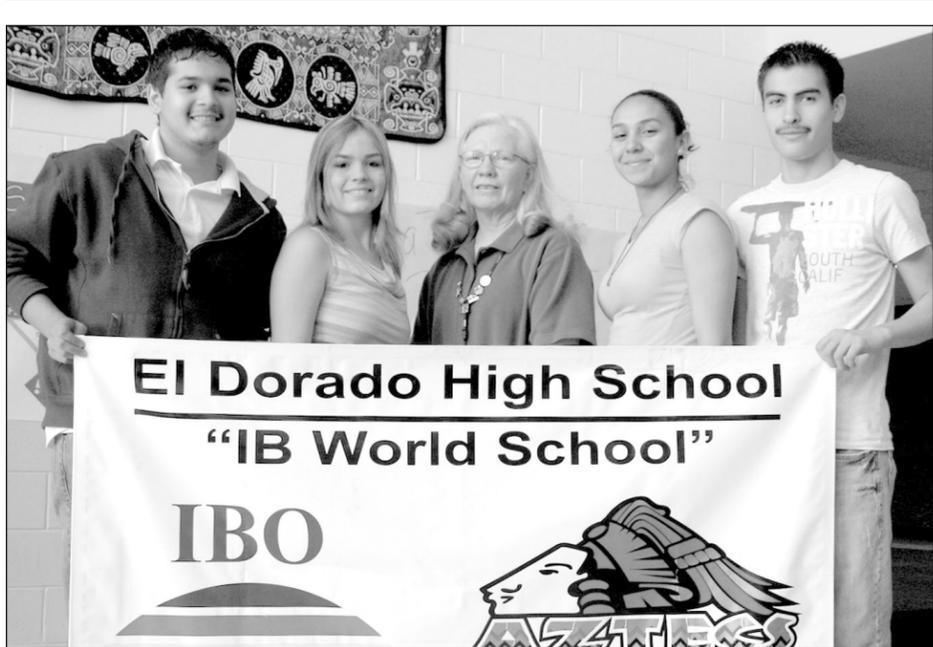
Gonzalez, who is an infielder with the Yomiuri Giants, once played with the Colorado Rockies and the San Francisco Giants. He tested positive for amphetamines.

Shockingly, when first questioned about the possibility of drug use, Gonzalez denied he'd ever used anything illegal. That sounds awfully familiar.

This is a very sad commentary on the game of baseball.

And it's embarrassing that America's negative influence has to be exported to Japan.

Why couldn't we export something else — like gangster rap, soy burgers or Rosie O'Donnell?



— Photo by Stacy Kendrick / SISD

GETTING AHEAD — El Dorado seniors, from left, Daniel Bell, Jessica Wooten, with IB coordinator Lizett Shaw, Theresa Juarez and Julio Reyes participate in an accelerated learning program that helps them go to top tier colleges.

Learning

From Page 4

active, compassionate and lifelong learners," said SISD Superintendent Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson.

The Diploma Program, which is widely recognized by the world's leading universities and geared for students aged 16 to 19, is a demanding two-year curriculum leading to final examinations and a qualification that is welcomed by leading universities around the world. The IB offers a continuum of high-quality education that encourages international-mindedness and a positive attitude to learning. The curriculum represents the best from many different countries rather than the exported national system of any one.

Through the IB program students develop a community awareness and concern as well as develop a sense of responsibility. At El Dorado along with a rigorous course work, students are encouraged to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports and community service work.

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

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199-0605-8081 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:30 P.M.

UNDERWRITER SERVICES RFP NO. 199-0605-8082 ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Proposals are also available at the District's website: www.sisd.net WTCC-05/22/08

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 6

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I've been getting Social Security disability benefits for a few years now. I'm scheduled for a medical review next month. What should I expect?

A: As a part of your medical review, you will be asked to provide information about your medical treatment and any changes in your medical condition, as well as information on any work you may have done. Then a team consisting of a disability examiner and a doctor will review your file and request your medical reports. You might be asked to have a special examination, which Social Security will pay for. When the review is complete, Social Security will send you a letter telling you whether you still qualify to continue receiving disability benefits. If the decision is made to discontinue benefits, you have the right to appeal that decision. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: I'm 43 years old, unemployed and disabled. I'd like to apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). What documents or other things do I need to apply for SSI?

A: Each case is different, so what you need may depend on your situation. Generally, you will need to provide your:

- Social Security number;
- Birth certificate or other proof of age;
- Housing information, such as a rent receipt or lease and landlord's name;
- Names, addresses and phone numbers of doctors, hospitals and clinics that treated you; and
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or non-citizen status.

These items will help us process your case faster and more efficiently. We'll also need information on your medical condition and treatment, past and current work, income and financial resources. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: I'll turn 65 years old later this year. When should I apply for my Medicare card?

A: Generally, we advise people to file for Medicare benefits 3 months before age 65. If you are already receiving Social Security, you will automatically be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B without an additional application. However, because you must pay a premium for Part B coverage, you have the option of turning it down. You will receive a Medicare card about two months before age 65.

If you would like to file for Medicare only, you can apply by calling 1-800-772-1213. Our representatives there can make an appointment for you at any convenient Social Security office and advise you what to bring with you. To learn more about the Medicare program, read our electronic publication at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10043.html or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.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.

Clint ISD

From Page 1

were recognized during the banquet ceremonies. Ricardo Estrada, Superintendent, presented each with plaque and a check for \$1,000. The Campus Teachers of the Year are: Chris Gee, Clint High School; Hilda Ulloa, Mountain View High School; Rosie Rodriguez, Clint Junior High School;

Barbara Fourzan, East Montana Middle School; Juan Amador, Horizon High School; Gilbert Molina, Horizon Middle School; Ashley Broadway, C. T. Welch Intermediate; Beatriz Darancou, W.D. Surratt Elementary; Lorena Sublasky, Montana Vista Elementary; Brenda Valles, Desert Hills Elementary; Maria Sanchez, Red Sands Elementary; Lucy Delacruz, Frank Macias Elementary; and Efren Tarango, DAEP.

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