



NEWSBRIEFS

Bullies

With 20% of students ages 12-18 experience bullying, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2023's *States with the Biggest Bullying Problems*, as well as expert commentary. To identify the states where bullying is most pervasive, WalletHub compared 47 states and the District of Columbia across 20 key metrics, ranging from the bullying-incident rate to truancy costs for schools to the share of high school students bullied online. "At-risk children for bullying tend to be children who are unique in some way. This often means that the child is a different race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation than the majority of their peers, the child is differently abled, the child has a unique family composition, or the child is experiencing poverty," said Assistant Professor Rebekka Russell, MSW, LSW (Malone University) Texas was rated 17th in the report. Best vs. Worst:

- Delaware has the lowest share of high school students bullied on school property, 10.20 percent, which is 2.5 times lower than in Alaska, the highest at 25.50 percent.
- The District of Columbia has the lowest share of high school students bullied online, 8.90 percent, which is 2.4 times lower than in New Hampshire, the highest at 21.80 percent.
- Maine has the lowest share of high school students involved in a physical fight on school property, 3.20 percent, which is 4.6 times lower than in California, the highest at 14.70 percent.
- North Dakota has the lowest share of high school students who missed school because they felt unsafe at school, 4.90 percent, which is 3.5 times lower than in New Mexico and North Carolina, the highest at 17.00 percent.

Visit: <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-at-controlling-bullying/9920> for the full report.

— Diana Polk

If you want to see the rest of the world to go by, just drive within the legal speed limit.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy UTEP Marketing and Communications Department

PICKS IN HAND – UTEP officials and local dignitaries broke ground a little over a year ago for the new Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace Center. Participating in the ceremony were, from left, Paydirt Pete; UTEP President Heather Wilson; College of Engineering Dean Kenith Meissner; U.S. Rep. Veronica Escobar; UT System Chancellor J.B. Milliken; State Sen. Cesar Blanco; Associate Vice President of the Aerospace Center Ahsan Choudhuri; El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser; El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego; UT System Student Regent Naleesh C. "Neel" Mutyala; and UTEP Provost John Wiebe.

UTEP's new facility to house cutting edge research

UTEP offers 169 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs and is the only open-access, top-tier research university in America

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Construction work on the University of Texas at

El Paso's (UTEP) new Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace Center (AMAC) isn't expected to be completed until late 2025. But already school officials are looking forward to the possibilities that the \$80 million educational building will provide in cutting edge research for the university's College of Engineering. The four-story, 98,000-square

See UTEP, Page 4

Fabens band excels in area in compition

By Sofia Maciel
Special to the Courier

FABENS – The Fabens High School marching band earned a Division 1 for the third year running in the Region 22 UIL Marching Band Contest held on October 14, 2023, at the Socorro Activities Complex (SAC).

"I'm just very, very proud of the band! They gave it their all these last couple of weeks, and I think this one is very well deserved. We need to make some fixes for area, and hopefully, we can go to state," said Katie Dettman, Head Drum Major.

Assistant Drum Major Deven Gutierrez added, "To get to state level, we need to go over the music and make sure we have every little detail down and fix the little mistakes we had during this competition."

Band director Miguel Soto stated, "I am very proud of my students; they have worked hard every day and gave up their intersession break to earn this distinction. I am very pleased with the results and very happy for them."



— Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

BRINGING HOME THE PRIZE – From left are Assistant Drum Major Deven Gutierrez, Head Drum Major Katie Dettman – holding the hardware, and Flag Captain Leilana Rodriuez.

Fabens High School principal Dr. Aguayo was present at the competition. "The band has worked tirelessly to establish a tradition of excellence, as evident by their years of Division 1 ratings. Each band member represents the best of Fabens HS and their community," he said. The band will compete next at the UIL Area Marching Band Contest in Abilene, Texas, on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

Biden made worst VP pick in last 50 years

Poor Kamala Harris. The alleged misogyny that is tearing at her vice presidency apparently extends to highly partisan Democratic leaders such as Jamie Raskin and Nancy Pelosi.

Both of them caused ripples when their praise for Harris in recent TV interviews was notably cool, as if they were at a high-end fundraising dinner and hated the escargot but had to try to convince the hostess that they really loved it.

The Biden campaign reportedly contacted both Raskin and Pelosi. The Maryland congressman revised his remarks to say that Harris is “unquestionably the best running mate for President Biden in 2024,” while the former House Speaker’s office pointed to the favorable things she said about Harris in her initial interview.

What Raskin and Pelosi clearly know, if they can’t say it out loud, is that Joe Biden botched his vice-presidential pick; it is the worst pick in half a century and easily one of the worst in the last 80 years.

As Democrats begin to realize Biden’s political weakness, with Donald Trump barreling down the pike, Harris is one of the factors – although not the main one – keeping them from doing anything about it.

What if someone did convince Biden to step aside for the good of the party? Well, that might open the way for Harris herself to become the nominee. In other words, out of the pan and into the fire.

Even if she lost in an open nominating process, it’d be quite the spectacle for Democrats to turn

away a potentially “historic” presidential nominee for someone else.

So, she’s at least a playing a role in the propping up of what may prove the weakest incumbent presidential candidate since George H.W. Bush.

This isn’t the only downside. Harris is going to be an issue next year because everyone realizes there’s a significant chance that Biden wouldn’t be able to serve out a full second term.

Typically, a vice president’s popularity matters only for his or her own political ambitions; this time,



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View from here

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

America in chaos

New York’s mayor Eric Adams has recently been on a trip to Mexico and parts of South America preaching the urgent message, “Don’t come to New York City!” It’s good that he is making this evangelistic crusade to convert those being fooled in third world countries. New York has become a migrant magnet with over 100,00 migrants housed in hotels or wherever they can find shelter.

This should be a trip for President Joe Biden. He seems totally indifferent to the chaos on America’s border. Chaos that has now taken over some of America’s cities. Mayors and Governors are going to have to lead this parade since we do not have a President who cares enough to do anything about the mass invasion of our country.

Mayor Adams went on

to declare, “Don’t count on working in NYC. Don’t plan on being housed in a five-star hotel. Life is going to be much more difficult than what is being falsely communicated on the Internet.”

Has Homeland Security become an oxymoron?

While chaos from the millions of illegal immigrants engulfs America, Congress, of course, cannot get their act together. For the first time in America’s history the Speaker of the House was ousted from his position. Kevin McCarthy was punished for trying to keep the country going for a couple of more weeks. Military personnel, Social Security recipients, government workers and more could go without pay. It is definitely time to make serious spending cuts and decisions but not at the



expense of America’s most vulnerable. Some of our leaders in Congress would rather make our nation’s elderly and military members suffer than to come up with a bipartisan plan.

While chaos erupts in Congress, our border and our cities, Fentanyl is killing more in America every day than Russia is killing in Ukraine. Over 106,000 drug related deaths were reported in 2021. The chaotic flow of drugs coming into this country must be stopped. Families are being shattered every

day in this nation because of America’s chaos.

While all this is happening, our auto workers, Kaiser health care workers, the Writer’s Guild and most everyone else is demanding more money. If enough people continue to strike for larger pay increases there won’t be enough business left in America to pay anybody anything.

We are in chaos in this country. We must have a change of leadership or Americans will be looking for someplace to go. Or, everybody will be fighting.

Then, that will be the end.

While all this craziness is happening, millions of Americans are breaking their necks trying to catch of glimpse of Taylor Swift at a football game.

Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of “Uncommon Sense” and 12 other books. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states. Learn more at www.glenmmollette.com or www.facebook.com/glenmmollette.

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Ortiz became an Eagle after major health scares

By Jeannie Meza-Chavez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) has had a special ambassador who continues to bring awareness regarding childhood cancer. As a first-year student at San Elizario High School (SEHS), Emiliano Ortiz is fourteen years of age; he knows the fight for his life to beat cancer has been the most critical challenge his young life has had to contend with. SEISD has permission from Emiliano’s mother, Cristina Esparza, to translate and share his story.

On March 7, 2023, Emiliano went to bed with what his mother recalls: “A cough that persisted very intensely and a high fever as the evening progressed.” The decision to take Emiliano to the doctor the following morning would prove life-saving and introduce a cancer diagnosis into Emiliano’s life journey. As described by Emiliano’s mother, Cristina, “The cancer was a tumor the size of twenty centimeters, which was pressing on Emiliano’s chest against his heart.”

To put this into perspective, the tumor size was approximately 7 inches. The diagnosis was so severe that Emiliano and his mother were flown to another hospital facility in Houston, Texas, within twenty-four hours of arriving at the El Paso Children’s Hospital. It was in Houston where Emiliano’s mother found out her son had tested positive for COVID-19, but that became a secondary concern as doctors feared that Emiliano would have a heart attack because of the pressure the tumor placed on his heart. Emiliano recalls feeling different emotions in his body. He states, “I knew about cancer; I heard the word but did not know what it meant.”

All this happened the week Emiliano went out for

spring break in his eighth-grade year at the Ann M. Garcia-Enriquez Middle School (GEMS). Emiliano went from being actively engaged in sports such as football, soccer, track, and wrestling to being unable to participate in any physical activity due to his delicate immune system. Emiliano’s chemotherapy treatments for cancer would cause him to feel weak and lose weight; his appetite was impacted, and he often felt nauseous. With tears rolling down his cheeks, he vividly recalls, “I asked God to help me.” He credits his faith and mother for helping him through the most challenging times.

He also thanks his GEMS peers for keeping his spirits high during this challenging period. He states, “My friends kept in contact with me as we played video games online. They always encouraged me to stay positive and keep fighting.” Emiliano concluded his chemotherapy a few weeks after he began his first year in high school and is being regularly monitored.

Emiliano is now a san Eli Eagle in high school. Remaining a student in San Elizario was important to Emiliano as his older siblings are all San Elizario alumni. His fight with cancer helped push him to keep fighting until he was healthy enough to return to school. Since returning to class, he is now among his friends. His mother reminds him, “Emiliano, you are here for a purpose.” Emiliano has taken every opportunity to bring awareness by sharing his cancer story. Most recently, he spoke to an audience of adults at the SEISD Mission Progressing Together Parent meeting about the importance of getting their children checked, even if they think it may

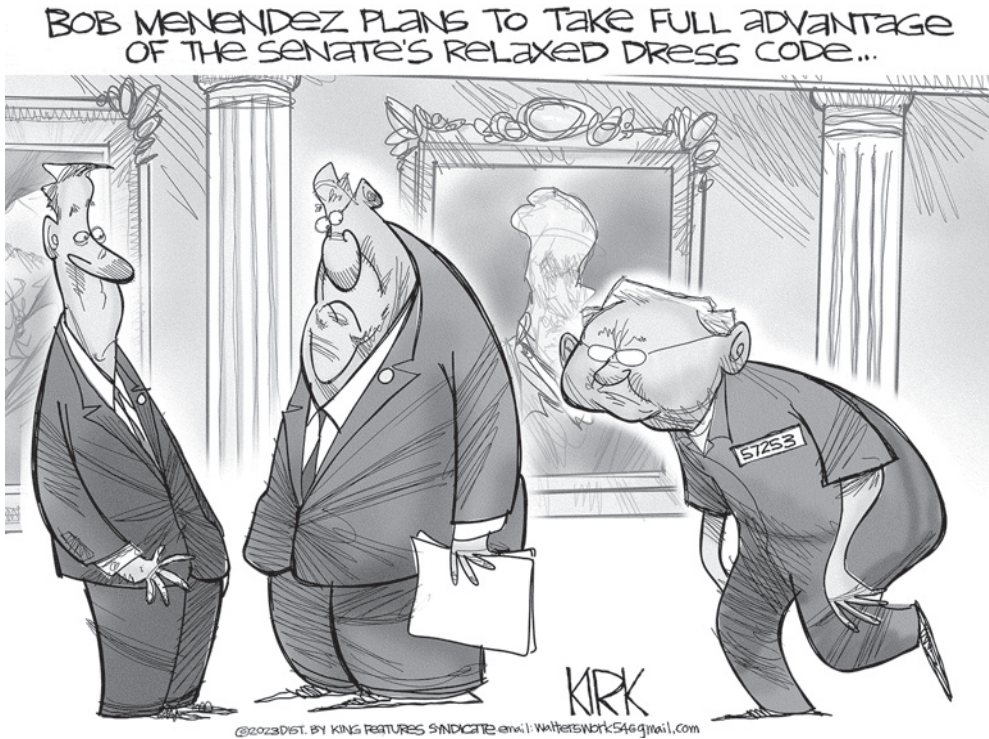


– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

Emiliano Ortiz

be allergies or a simple cough. Emiliano was also recently honored by the SEISD Board of Trustees at the September Meeting and will again be honored at the SEHS Homecoming Football game.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com





– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

BIG FACILITY – Construction of the Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace Center, above, is now underway on the northeast corner of Hawthorne Street and Rim Road. The completed four-story, 98,000-square foot building will match the campus’ Bhutanese-style architecture.

UTEP

From Page 1

foot building, which is designed to match the campus’ Bhutanese-style architecture, is being constructed on the northeast corner of Hawthorne Street and Rim Road. Plans are to open the center with two of UTEP’s premier institutes- the W.M. Keck Center for

3D Innovation and the Aerospace Center. “The Aerospace Center has grown from a 3,000-square-foot lab employing 30 students as research assistants to over 35,000 square feet in laboratory space and 8,000 acres of test facilities employing 200 students today and still growing,” said Ahsan Choudhuri, Ph.D., associate vice president of UTEP’s Aerospace Center.

The University of Texas at El Paso is America’s leading Hispanic-serving university. 84 percent of more than 24,000 students are Hispanic, of which half are the first in their families to go to college.

– UTEP Marketing and Communications

“This important investment by UT System honors two decades of determination and hard work by the Aerospace Center and our sister center, Keck, to expand our research capabilities and opportunities for students in aerospace, defense, energy and advanced manufacturing,” Choudhuri stated during the building’s groundbreaking ceremony “Our national research preeminence, our talent pipeline and our thought

leadership in the national ecosystem is now being leveraged to create jobs and business opportunity in our community,” he added.

UTEP is a national leader in additive manufacturing in a wide range of materials and techniques. The university has particular expertise in the use, development and evaluation of laser-based metal additive manufacturing processes,

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Strange
BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- If you want to become a police officer in Norway, you'll need a B.A. from the Police University College. The program includes theoretical studies in criminal law, ethics and social sciences, plus a year of practical field training.
- Chloroform was once used in the treatment of asthma, cholera and gonorrhea, not to mention as a sweetener in medicines.
- Folks around the world really do love their soda – to the tune of about 6,700 cans per second, or enough to wrap around the earth every 17 hours. Be sure to recycle!
- International animal rights organization PETA asked musical duo the Pet Shop Boys to change their name to Rescue Shelter Boys. (Obviously, they refused.)

• During a Bulls vs. Jazz game in 1987, after basketball legend Michael Jordan dunked over John Stockton, a 6 foot, 1 inch guard, an upset fan yelled at him to “pick on someone your own size.” In response, Jordan next dunked over the 6 foot, 11 inch Mel Turpin, turned to his heckler, and asked, “Was he big enough?”

• Slave ants capture ants from other colonies to increase their workforce.

• If you measure it in terms of rainfall, a hurricane releases the force of 10,000 atomic bombs over an area about 413 miles wide.

• Thousands of years ago, keys were made from wood.

• During the “I smell a rat” scene in the Martin Scorsese flick “The Departed,” Jack Nicholson decided things didn't feel quite intense enough, so he improvised by pulling a real gun on co-star Leonardo DiCaprio.

Thought for the Day: “I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took any excuse.”
– Florence Nightingale

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Oct. 16, 1968, American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos sparked controversy at the Mexico City Olympics by giving “Black power” salutes during a victory ceremony after they’d won gold and bronze medals in the 200 meter race.
- On Oct. 17, 1933, Albert Einstein arrived in the United States as a refugee from Nazi Germany after renouncing his German citizenship. He had been barred from working at any universities in his homeland but would become a professor of theoretical physics at Princeton University.
- On Oct. 18, 1648, in response to complaints of shoddy workmanship performed by some members of their trade, the Boston Company of Shoemakers was authorized to form a guild to set a quality standard and protect their interests, resulting in the creation of the first American labor organization on record.
- On Oct. 19, 1990, Kevin Costner’s Western epic “Dances with Wolves” had its world premiere in Washington, D.C. The actor put up \$3 million of his own money to complete the film and was made an honorary member of the Sioux Nation after its release.
- On Oct. 20, 1990, a six-member jury in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, acquitted three members of the rap group 2 Live Crew of violating obscenity laws, stemming from their adults-only concert at a nightclub in nearby Hollywood the previous June. The prosecution’s only evidence was two garbled tape recordings of the event made by undercover deputies.
- On Oct. 21, 1805, a British fleet commanded by Admiral Horatio Nelson defeated a French-Spanish fleet in the Battle of Trafalgar. He was fatally felled by a bullet from an enemy sharpshooter that tore through his chest and lodged in his spine, Nelson lived long enough to follow the battle’s progress and realize his own victory.
- On Oct. 22, 1979, the U.S. government allowed the deposed Shah of Iran to travel to New York for medical treatment of his cancer. In response, the Ayatollah Khomeini incited Iranian militants to attack the U.S., and the American Embassy in Tehran was overrun on Nov. 4, with 66 employees taken as hostages.



– Image courtesy UTEP Marketing and Communications Department

BIG PRICE TAG – The rendition, above, depicts the University of Texas at El Paso’s new Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace Center. The \$80 million learning facility will provide the College of Engineering with educational space for cutting edge research.

UTEP

From Page 4

as well as embedding electronics and other functionality within 3D-printed materials, according to school officials.

In recent years, UTEP completed advanced manufacturing research worth more than \$100 million for sponsors including NASA, the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation and other agencies. UTEP also conducts significant research work with the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Energy, and other agencies on rocket propulsion, unmanned aerial vehicles, spacecraft

design and aircraft safety.

Additionally, programs in the College of Engineering maintain strategic partnerships with prominent names in aerospace and defense such as the U.S. Space Force, Lockheed Martin, Blue Origin, as well as other local and national government entities.

“The national and international reputation of UTEP’s College of Engineering and the demand for engineering professionals have continued to grow over the last 10 years,” said Kenith Meissner, Ph.D., dean of the College of Engineering.

“Our college of engineering produces approximately 900 graduates a year and has a strong foundation of partnerships

with industry. Building on the success of the W.M Keck Center and the Aerospace Center, the research capacity added by the AMAC Building will not only benefit manufacturing and aerospace research but will also expand our innovative translational and entrepreneurial activities, driving strong regional economic growth,” Meissner pointed out.

School officials stated that the AMAC will include space for research facilities, fabrication laboratories, administrative spaces, and more. UTEP expects to train over 600 graduate and undergraduate students annually in the new center.

“We deeply appreciate the support of The University of Texas Regents and the people of Texas who made this expansion of research space possible,” UTEP President Heather Wilson said during the building’s groundbreaking ceremony.

“UTEP is a leader in advanced manufacturing and aerospace research. A lot of the machines to do this work are very large. This new building will be a tremendous benefit to the region as we advance technology, attract private sector partners, and spin off new technologies into companies that create jobs,” Wilson stated.

“Across The University of Texas System, we work to shape research and academic programming to align with emerging industry needs. UTEP’s new Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace Center will enable the university to do just that – provide access to cutting edge technologies and tools in a dedicated facility that will enable new discoveries, while enriching student training and creating opportunities in these industries of growth.”

– UT System Chancellor James B. Milliken

Public catches a view of Ring of Fire eclipse

On October 14, 2023 El Paso Community College (EPCC) in collaboration with NASA’s GLOBE Program, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Geology and Physics departments, CasaSola Museum and Tornillo Elementary hosted an annular solar eclipse viewing. The public was able to view the solar eclipse safely with filtered telescopes and solar glasses.

EPCC participated with NASA in collecting valuable environmental data during the eclipse to help scientists learn more on how eclipses affect our environment. A guest speaker from the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) from Mexico City was streamed, discussing how eclipses have impacted societies, especially in the western hemisphere.

“We wanted people to enjoy the solar eclipse and learn about how this phenomenon affects our environment. The public was able to help NASA by collecting data during the event,” John Olgin, EPCC Professor and NASA GLOBE member said.

– Jim Heiney



– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

People lined up to get a view of the eclipse through high-end telescopes provided for the event.

Lillard’s decision changes the NBA landscape

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The 2023 National Basketball Association regular season gets underway this week and some experts feel the champion has already been crowned.

It was figured that the defending champion Denver Nuggets and the Boston Celtics were the top two choices to battle it out for the title.

After those two, teams like the Memphis Grizzlies, the Philadelphia 76ers, the Cleveland Cavs, the Sacramento Kings, the Phoenix Suns and the Miami Heat all have legitimate chances to make the finals.

But because they were knocked out of the playoffs so early last year, everybody forgets that the Milwaukee Bucks had the best record in the Eastern Conference.

And with players like Giannis Antetokounmpo, Khris Middleton and Brook Lopez, it’s no wonder the Bucks were expected to be in the mix again this season.

But the truth is, they are not expected to be in the mix this year – they’re now expected to win it all.

A couple of weeks ago when the Bucks announced they had signed NBA superstar Damian Lillard, everything changed.

Lillard, the 33-year-old former longtime Portland Trailblazer, who averaged 32.2 points and 7.3 assists a

game last season, has made the Bucks the odds-on favorite by the guys in Las Vegas to win another NBA championship.

Milwaukee won the title in 2021.

The combination of Lillard, Antetokounmpo, Middleton and Lopez make up the best 4-man tandem in the league.

The amazing thing is that the Bucks were able to get Lillard and still keep Middleton, but they did lose guard Jrue Holiday and his 19 points a game.

The tandem Milwaukee has put together is impressive, but how do the other contenders compare?

Denver puts out Nikola Jokic, Jamal Murray, Michael Porter Jr. and Aaron Gordan, which was good enough to win it all in 2022. But is it good enough to compete with the new Bucks?

The Celtics have the dynamic duo of Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown. They added Kristaps Porzingis but they lost their heart and soul, Marcus Smart, who will be tough to replace. This could but why Boston might lose a little ground.

The 76ers have the tandem of Joel

Embiid and James Harden, to go along with emerging star Tyrese Maxey. They will have a winning record for sure, but as far as any titles, I don’t think so.

Cleveland has a lot of young talent in Donovan Mitchell, Jarrett Allen, Darius Garland and Evan Mobley. The Cavs are one of the most exciting teams in the league and without any injuries, they could content for the top spot in the league.

Memphis is the most exciting team in the league, when they have their troubled superstar on the floor, which they won’t for the first 25 games of the season.

Ja Morant will serve his suspension to start the season, but the Grizzlies still have Desmond Bane, Jaren Jackson Jr. and Steven Adams.

That is enough to keep them in contention until Morant returns, but the acquisition of Boston’s Marcus Smart will really help the younger players learn how to win and learn how to act.

We haven’t forgotten that the Lakers still have LeBron James and Anthony

Davis, but this team is allergic to defense and that’s what will cost them again this season.

The Los Angeles Clippers have a couple of great players in Kawhi Leonard and Paul George, but they don’t have a whole lot after that and that will keep them from making a serious challenge.

The Suns have two of the best offensive weapons in the league in Kevin Durant and Devin Booker. They also added another scoring machine in Bradley Beal, but defense and a bench is crucial to winning and that can pose a problem for the Clippers.

And then there are the Miami Heat, who aren’t loaded with a bunch of stars but play great team basketball and have one star in Jimmy Butler and a great coach in Erik Spoelstra. Don’t be shocked if they make another run toward the finals.

It is going to be very interesting to see if the new-look Bucks can hang with the champion Nuggets.

I believe it’ll be those two teams in the finals with the Nuggets making it two in a row.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Scam almost worked

Ooops. I came very close to falling for a scam just like the ones I always warn against in this column.

The text message on my phone appeared to come from the local pharmacy. The words said that they had questions and would I please call. Included in the text was a link to touch that would dial the number for me...

At the last minute I pulled my hand away and studied the message more closely.

The pharmacy was in the chain where I do business, but it was from the branch in the next town, not where my prescriptions are. And when I looked closely at the number in the link to click, I realized it was from an area code in a completely different state.

I put the phone down and got on the internet. Sure enough, that linked number was fake and was used in all manner of scams, including ones that could have instantly downloaded

malware onto my phone. I called the pharmacy in question (from my other phone) just to be sure they hadn’t sent it. No, they hadn’t. I very carefully deleted that scam message, being sure not to touch that link.

So all is well, but I’m a bit unnerved by just how close I came to blithely clicking that link because I didn’t initially question the message.

Save yourself some potential trouble by looking closely at any text messages you get on your phone.

Scammers are getting wiser, but they’re not infallible. The pharmacy used in my text message was genuine, a logical request from a specific local company.

What they didn’t realize was that they were working from an old list. We now have a branch of that pharmacy here in town. I would not have used the pharmacy in the next town, and that was my clue.

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STARTING SUBGENRES ACROSS

1 Worker welfare gp.

5 Bark syllables

11 Perform a dynamic crowd action in a stadium

20 Hospital bed attachment

21 Nomadic type

22 Turpentine, for one

23 1983-2014 periodical for adolescents

25 Reins are parts of them

26 The first task on the to-do list

27 Help-wanted, e.g.

29 Musician Nugent

30 Musician DiFranco

31 Africa's Sierra _

33 No-problem advancement

37 What a biting sarcastic person has

41 Ostrich lookalike

42 Olympic swimmer Tom

43 Royal heirs, often

44 Veep's boss

45 NYC subway org.

46 Shocking fish, at times

47 Stuff causing a blowup

48 Conservative moral principles

55 Like Ikea assemblies, for short

56 Sitcom alien

57 Sloop, e.g.

58 Sch. group

59 Summits

62 Smell terrible

65 Splendid

67 Special times

68 Span rotating horizontally to allow ships through

70 Sci-fi guru

71 Natives of Palermo or Catania

73 Runs slowly

74 Peeled

75 Above, in poems

76 Meara of "Southie"

77 Photo lab blowup: Abbr.

78 Ryder vehicle

79 Alternative to bifocals

85 Naples loc.

88 Deep, as a voice

89 Month, to Manuela

90 Put a rip in

91 Luau favors

92 De Mille of choreography

95 Game-airing channel

97 Welcome wind on a hot day

99 Entry at no charge

102 Key just above D

103 Tell untruths

104 Strike caller

105 "... boy _ girl?"

106 Trial blasts, for short

109 They die hard, it's said

113 Bob Fosse film title relevant to the starts of eight answers in this puzzle

117 Distributes in shares

118 Shape-fitting game

119 For _ (not pro bono)

120 Young superhero of DC Comics

121 Off the mark

122 Road curve

DOWN

1 Globe

2 _ Paulo

3 Coxa, more familiarly

4 Some nuts

5 Jason's ship

6 Horse hue

7 Perturb

8 Parisian bud

9 Title anew

10 One of the Corleones in "The Godfather"

11 Cry from Homer

12 City in Kansas

13 Actress Wright

14 Fit carmaker

15 Up 'til

16 "Cursed" director

Craven

17 Really attack

18 Capital of Austria

19 Junior naval officer

24 Assist illicitly

28 More or less

31 Keep going

32 Business coll. topic

33 Rocker Quatro

34 Lighter _ air

35 Imagine

36 Laze about

38 Grand Ole _

39 Firearm rights org.

40 H.S.-level exam

45 Popular dog biscuits

46 Shirk

48 "_ the season..."

49 Sharp taste

50 Place to live

51 Pines

52 Willing to participate in

53 Musical exercise

54 Mixed greens

55 Lover of Lucy

59 Fable penner

60 Town shouter

61 User's shortcut

62 Relatives of geese

63 Rake parts

64 Those elected

65 Rapper _ Khalifa

66 Actress Meg

68 Tendon

69 Croissant, e.g.

72 Crooner Julius

74 Dads

77 "Yeah, but still..."

78 Noun follower, often

80 Open delight

81 Devilkins

82 School in Berkshire

83 Natal lead-in

84 Bando of baseball

85 Sense no danger

86 Oscar winner Minnelli

87 Play _ (enjoy some tennis)

91 Alternative to a right hook

92 Drifting at sea

93 Car part between headlights

94 Acupuncture item

95 NFL rusher Smith

96 Savor pekoe, say

97 Certain fuel-carrying ship

98 Take a break

100 Burj Khalifa locale

101 Super-angry

106 Razor brand

107 Skinny

108 Toward dawn

110 Sweetie

111 Make a move

112 IRS ID

114 Env. insert

115 Buddhist discipline

116 Brits' alphabet ender

Super Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20					21							22									
23				24								25									
		26							27		28		29					30			
31	32								33			34				35	36				
37					38	39	40				41					42					
43					44					45					46						
47				48						49				50	51				52	53	54
			55						56				57					58			
59	60	61				62	63	64				65					66				
67					68						69						70				
71				72						73						74					
75				76						77					78						
79				80					81				82	83	84			85	86	87	
			88					89				90					91				
92	93	94				95	96				97					98					
99					100					101						102					
103					104				105				106	107	108						
109				110	111				112		113		114						115	116	
117											118						119				
120											121						122				

Answer Page 4

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



TIGER By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

it could make a difference in the presidential race because her standing is, in a word, abysmal.

In the new NBC News poll, the theme of which is that Biden and Trump are both abidingly unpopular, Harris is right there with them. At 31%, her positive rating is lower than both of theirs, and her negative rating, 51%, is higher than Biden's.

The bar Biden needed to clear in his vice-presidential pick wasn't high. He either needed a political nonentity or a popular entity who ideally had some governing credibility; instead, he went with the unpopular nonentity.

How does this rank with prior bad choices? As it happens (funny how this works), the most maligned recent picks are all Republicans.

Let's run through them. Sarah Palin was not suited to be president of the United States but was a Hail Mary in a basically unwinnable race, so we should discount that pick for inconsequence. Dick Cheney was a governing choice who, despite all the obloquy heaped

on him, performed admirably. Dan Quayle's reputation was destroyed by the press, but he didn't play into George H.W. Bush's fate one way or the other.

I think to find a worse major-party pick – and actual vice president – you have to go back to Spiro Agnew. At least, as far as we know, Harris hasn't been taking kickbacks that will force her to resign – in fact, she may be the relatively ethical half of the Biden-Harris ticket.

Prior to that, you probably have to go back to Henry Wallace, whom Democrats thankfully dumped in 1944 after he served one term as FDR's vice president. Wallace's views on the Soviet Union were criminally naive and disqualifying for any high official of the United States.

Wherever you rank Kamala Harris, there's no doubt that she's a poor selection that Democrats will almost certainly have to tolerate because of an ideological trap of their own making.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2023 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Turmeric can be helpful for some arthritis pain

Why was fen-phen taken off the market?

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a 71-year-old healthy female who has struggled with my weight all my life. In the '90s, I thought I had finally found the solution in fen-phen. It was like a miracle! It took all the nagging thoughts of food out of my brain. My question is, with all the drug ads on TV every day blithely showing the many side effects leading up to – and including – death, why can't we use fen-phen? I worked in a hospital where a very large number of employees were taking it with great results. I never heard a hint about anything that could affect someone's health. Also, I talked to many of the other patients at the doctor's office where I was receiving it. Everyone was overjoyed with the results. I had no temptations and no constant yammering in my brain to eat something. As I said, it was a miracle. I felt like a normal person. So, why are all of these drug companies allowed to advertise their products, but one drug that truly worked had to get snatched away from us? – M.H.



Fen-phen was a combination of fenfluramine and phentermine, which was approved for use in 1986. Approximately 18 million prescriptions were written for this medicine until 1987, when an association was made between the use of fen-phen and valve diseases of the heart. These cases were reported with fenfluramine or with the related dexfenfluramine alone, but never with phentermine alone. (Phentermine remains on the market.) Approximately 150 cases were reported.

Subsequent studies estimated that seven out of 10,000 people who took fenfluramine or fen-phen for less than four months developed valve disease, while 35 in 10,000 people who took fenfluramine or fen-phen for more than four months developed valve disease. They were compared to people who either took phentermine alone or did not use a weight-loss medicine.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration determined that the risk of valve disease (some being severe enough to prompt valve replacement surgery) was too high, so the FDA asked manufacturers to remove these drugs from the market.

I fully understand your perspective. Some people are willing to take the risk of a side effect because the benefit of the medicine is so great. In my opinion, people should have the option of making their own decision, but in this case, the FDA felt that the risk was too high.

I have not seen a medicine for weight loss as effective as fen-phen until recently, when semaglutide (Wegovy and Ozempic) and tirzepatide (Mounjaro, not yet approved for weight loss) became available. Just as you say, many of my patients report that they were able to easily control their eating while on these medicines, and as of the time I am writing, there have not been any serious adverse effects of taking these drugs, although there are plenty of milder effects.

However, these medicines only work when you continue to take them, and stopping them generally results in rapid regain of the weight that was lost. It's important to realize that if you take a weight-loss drug, you're making a commitment to a long-term treatment.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2023 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
October 19, 2012: The longtime “greeter” at the State Fair Of Texas, the 52 foot giant BIG TEX is destroyed by fire.

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **P** equals **D**

TPP VFHJRQVY CZDARQRVY BZT
BRWW TYWD VQQHCS CVDFHYSA
RY RAJVHWR MVYNYTSHA:
PTQSTJ AZHNHW.

Answer Page 4
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	7				3			2
9				6				4
		4	1			5		
3				9				5
	8				1	4		
		5	6					1
7			4			9		
		1			8			6
	3			2				7

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
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Answer Page 4
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Holiday party at the VA 2023

VETERANS
★ POST ★
by Freddy Groves

Have you given thought to how you’re going to step up this holiday season and give a hand to other veterans? If you’re in a veterans group such as American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars, you’re in a perfect position to pull off a holiday party at the closest Department of Veterans Affairs medical center. Your first step (after getting group consensus) will be to contact Voluntary Services and let them know you’d like to host a party on one of the wards. (Suggestion: Long-term care has veterans who’ve been there far too long.) Get their permission and input for the best path to take going forward. Perhaps a lunch on a certain December date? Perhaps pizza, soft drinks and holiday cookies? Is there a large day room on the medical ward? With tables and chairs?

Do you want to consider gifts? Contact the nursing station on your designated floor and ask about small gifts of things like puzzle books, mechanical pencils, military caps, handheld games, T-shirts, candy, handkerchiefs, small bedside calendars and so forth. Get a head count (and add a few extra in case more patients check in) to make sure each veteran gets a little wrapped gift. Contact a local pizza shop and arrange for several types of pizza (plus the paper plates and napkins) to be delivered at a certain time. You might even get a big discount if the owner or manager is a veteran. Don’t forget cups and ice for the drinks. Borrow a CD player and all the holiday tunes you can find to play in the background. If there’s a base near you, ask for volunteers to come help at the party, in addition to your own group. The more the merrier. What will be most appreciated at your party is listening. Sitting with the veterans in the hospital and

sharing your experiences and listening to theirs might well be the highlight of their holiday season. You might be the only visitors they get.

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• You can use self-stick notes to organize your errands. Use a note for each location, with instructions or shopping lists on each. Then put the notes in order: e.g., drop kids off at Grandma’s, shoe store, hardware store, grocery store, home, etc. You will be less likely to forget a stop, and you can make the best use of your time and gas!

• Two tips for sewing buttons: First, for pants buttons, use unwaxed dental floss. It’s incredibly strong and can take a lot of abuse. Second, slip a pin between the button and the fabric before sewing on. When you’re finished, remove the pin. The button has some room behind it, and it will last longer.

• “This is a tip for us singletons. I love whipped topping on my hot chocolate, but it doesn’t always last in my fridge. I buy a tub of it, and spoon it into mug-size dollops on a cookie sheet lined with wax paper. When the sheet is full, I freeze them. They can be peeled off easily and slipped in a container or plastic bag. When I make my hot chocolate, I plop one in straight from the freezer. It takes only minutes to soften and melt. And it’s delicious!” – F.D. in Michigan

• “If you cut the entire top and one of the top corners off a cereal box, then tape the bottom closed, it’s almost the same as the magazine holders they sell in stores. I covered mine with fancy paper. I keep it in my kitchen for cooking magazines.” – R.R. in Indiana

• Gifts a school-age kid can make: Bookmarks! Cut strips of cardstock into bookmark lengths. Have your child decorate one side and write a nice message on the other. Laminate if possible. Great gift from your child.

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

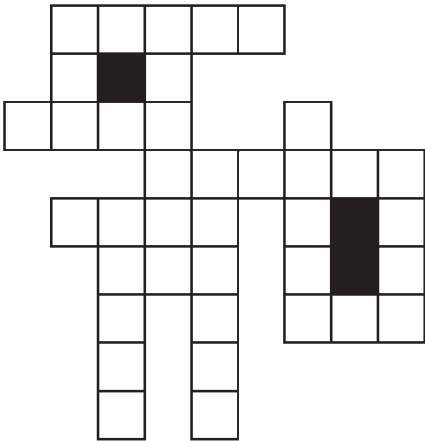
DIFFICULTY: ★★
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!
Answer Page 4

	+		×		22			
÷		×		×				
	×		-		19			
+		-		+				
	+		+		25			
11		11		19				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9

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MEH
RUDMEE
OKMHU
OKWN
BUDEMN
♥EOD
♥REUC
DELNO
OWM
CLUKON
♥HMRCA
RBME



Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string’s word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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