



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

PAYING THE PIPER MAY CHANGE – The proposed changes to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program could have unintended consequences for students enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the country. Above, University of Texas at El Paso students walk through the campus courtyard to their next class.

Student loan forgiveness program is being revamped

Some borrowers fear being forced out of PSLF eligibility due to their employers’ activities

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – President Donald Trump’s administration plans to significantly overhaul the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program because it is concerned that federal funds have been used to support organizations that the administration views as acting outside the law, according to several news sources.

PSLF, which was established in 2007, allows government employees, including teachers, firefighters, and many who work for nonprofits, to have their student loans canceled after they’ve made payments for 10 years.

The proposed changes, however, could have unintended consequences and increased uncertainty for borrowers whose loan forgiveness depends on their employers’ continued eligibility. Education professionals worry that there could be a potential for subjective or politically motivated enforcement.

The Education Department’s (ED) proposal follows an executive order signed by Trump in March and is currently being reviewed through a regulatory process expected to conclude in July 2026.

The administration’s planned PSLF revisions would allow the ED to remove loan forgiveness eligibility from organizations it determines have engaged in illegal activities – that, according to government officials, include those related to immigration, terrorism, and transgender issues.

Government officials also reported that the ED’s draft proposal empowers the secretary to determine

which organizations have engaged in “illegal activities” and should be disqualified from PSLF. The proposal’s focus includes organizations that allegedly aid federal immigration law violations, support foreign terrorist organizations, or contravene anti-discrimination statutes.

Recently, the ED convened a 10-person advisory panel to draft regulatory language for the PSLF overhaul; but after days of negotiations, participants failed to reach consensus- leaving critical details undecided, according to recent news reports.

“For those currently enrolled in PSLF, now is the time to stay informed and connect with the entity overseeing your participation,” stated Alex Beene, a financial literacy instructor for the University of Tennessee at Martin. “While not all organizations will be affected, some could, and you don’t want to be caught in a situation where the rules for forgiveness change, and you’re unsure if you and your employer still qualify.”

Additionally, technical issues have surfaced that forced the ED to halt payment count tracking for PSLF borrowers on income-driven repayment (IDR) plans, reportedly due to system failures after laying off staff and facing reporting errors.

Presently, borrowers are unable to monitor progress toward forgiveness, and significant delays have emerged in updating PSLF statuses. While the PSLF tracker on StudentAid.gov remains online, updating remains inconsistent, further contributing to borrower uncertainty.

“Borrowers were left in the dark about their progress toward forgiveness. Add to that the layoffs within the Department of Education and the growing backlog of applications, and it’s clear the system is

An overview of PSLF

- The Public Service Loan Program (PSLF) was established 2007 to encourage individuals to pursue careers in public service by forgiving the remaining balance of their Direct Loans after they have made 120 qualifying monthly payments. The program is specifically designed for borrowers who are employed by government entities or qualifying nonprofit organizations.
- To qualify for PSLF, borrowers must work full-time for a qualifying employer, which includes federal, state, local, or tribal government organizations, as well as nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Full-time Americorps or Peace Corps volunteers also qualify.
- Only Direct Loans are eligible for forgiveness. Borrowers with Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL) or Perkins Loans may become eligible if they consolidate their loans into a Direct Consolidation Loan.
- Borrowers must make 120 monthly qualifying payments under a qualifying repayment plan, which typically includes Income Driven Repayment (IDR) plans. Payments do not need to be consecutive, but they must be made while employed by a qualifying employer.
- Borrowers log into their StudentAid.gov account to track their application status and the number of qualifying payments made.

under stress,” stated Kevin Thompson, the CEO of 9i Capital Group and the host of the 9innings podcast.

Thompson added, “That said, much of the PSLF program was created by Congress – meaning executive orders alone can’t fully dismantle it. While the administration may attempt to restrict access or redefine eligibility through regulatory changes, they

See LOAN, Page 3

The rioter’s white hood

Who is that masked man? Well, there’s a chance he’s an antisemitic rioter.

New York City and other jurisdictions are debating mask bans after face-coverings have become associated with acts of mayhem committed by people who hope to avoid recognition and evade criminal responsibility.

The most iconic image of the L.A. riots involves a man on a dirt bike waving a Mexican flag... in a mask.

It’s no surprise that he was wearing a mask. At this point, failing to wear a mask when engaging in lawless activity is a major faux pas. It’s like wearing white before Memorial Day or showing up at L.A.’s upscale restaurant 71Above in flip-flops.

Embattled New York City mayor Eric Adams

has been emphatic that there needs to be a return to the broad ban on masks that was repealed during the pandemic (the state just passed a more limited measure creating enhanced penalties for people wearing masks to conceal their identities while committing crimes).

The meaning of the mask has changed in recent years. Prior to COVID-19, wearing a surgical mask in public likely meant someone had a compromised immune system; during COVID-19, it usually meant someone was complying with the pandemic rules and associated social pressure; after COVID-19, it tends to indicate either someone is too neurotic to give up pandemic-era practices – or wants to harass Jews or throw rocks at the cops.

In an era of ubiquitous facial reconciliation

technology, a face mask is a bid to foil efforts by police to track down after the fact those who committed criminal acts. It’s not a get-out-of-jail card – masked rioters are sometimes arrested on the spot – but it’s a layer of protection for the person hoping to break or burn something and melt away without consequence.

This is why prior to COVID-19 masks outside of a medical context tended to have a negative connotation in the popular imagination. The Lone Ranger was the exception that proved the rule. Otherwise, the masked man was going to hold up



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Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

What makes you happy?

Peace and happiness have many variables.

We aren’t happy when we feel we do not have enough and then burdened if we have too much. We fret over not enough money or worry about what we will do if we have too much money. Most of us don’t have the latter problem.

We fret over not enough space or how we care for too much space. We accumulate and store up in our barns and build bigger barns to store up more stuff. We then don’t know what we will do with all the stuff.

How much does it take to bring you peace and make you happy? Can you be happy in a one room dwelling place? Does it take a 25-room house to make you feel good? How many cars do you need to make you feel satisfied? Or, is satisfaction only a remotely impossible concept? Many years ago, one popular song lamented, “I can’t get no satisfaction.”

Satisfaction and happiness may be claimed for a season. Possibly you are satisfied with your vocation, athletic accomplishments, family life, parenting success, fulfillment of life goals and ambitions? Often, we are but then those seasons pass. Careers end, athletic contests become history, retirement comes with memories that fade further and further into the past.

Too often most of us can look back and wonder, “what if?” we may say. The problem with “what if?” is that it doesn’t change anything. If it is in the past, you can’t relive it or change it regardless of how great you were or how bad you were.

All we have for certain, is

today. Even today is iffy. Since today is all we really have then it’s best to not mess it up by constantly looking over our shoulders. You can’t go forward always looking back. In the Bible there was a man named Lot. He and his wife were told not to look back at Sodom and Gomera. She did and turned into a pillar of salt. Looking back has a way of doing that to all us as we become immobilized in time.

What does it take to make you happy? Someone to love and someone who loves you? A few family members to care for who also care for you? Enough money to pay the light bill and keep food on the table? Something to do during the day that you enjoy? The only person who can answer these questions are you because only you know what it really takes to make you happy.

Happiness is very much happenstance. Things change every day. Health, sickness, the stock market, families, jobs and hobbies. Friends and loved ones move away or die. Lie is always changing. God never changes. Happiness may vary throughout the day or week, but your joy and peace that comes with faith in God and focusing on Him is something the world cannot give or take away.

Keep this verse in mind this day regardless of whether you feel happy or if you are down and blue. “You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.” Isaiah 26:3.

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.glennmollette.com or www.facebook.com/glennmollette.

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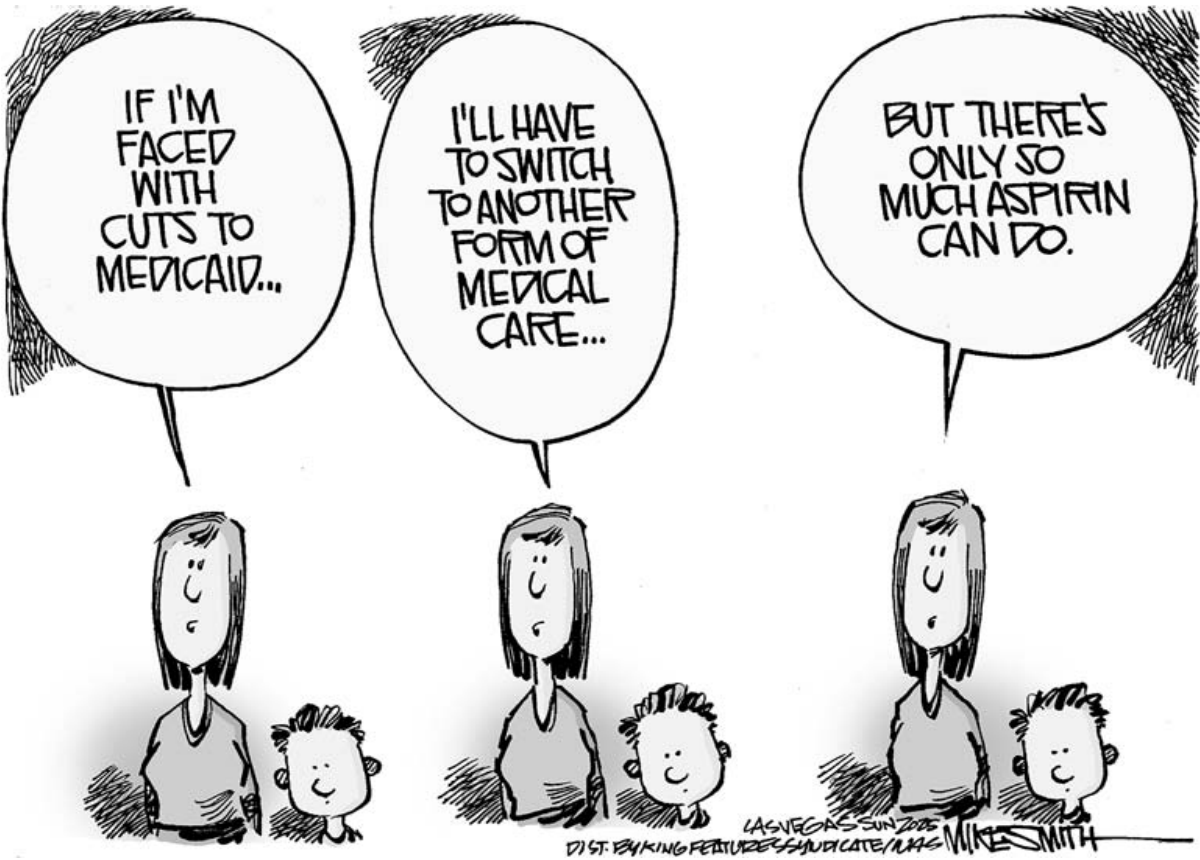
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Loan

From Page 1

can't eliminate the program without new legislation.”

The Institute for College Access & Success in a public statement urged the ED to reverse course and ensure that PSLF eligibility is never subject to a political judgment by the Executive Branch alone. By doing so, the institute contended that the ED could match Congressional intent for the program and preserve guaranteed Constitutional freedoms for state and local governments, colleges, and non-profits across the nation.

While it appears that the PSLF program will continue to exist, the new administration, nonetheless, is taking steps to eliminate forgiveness privileges for certain nonprofits, hospitals, and state governments that are participating in illegal activities, although it is still not clear how this process will be implemented or exactly what activities qualify as illegal in the eyes of those revising the program.

The ED is currently soliciting public comments on the proposed PSLF regulations as the finalized rules are expected to be published and take effect next year.

Public Notice

Clint Independent School District 504 Child Find

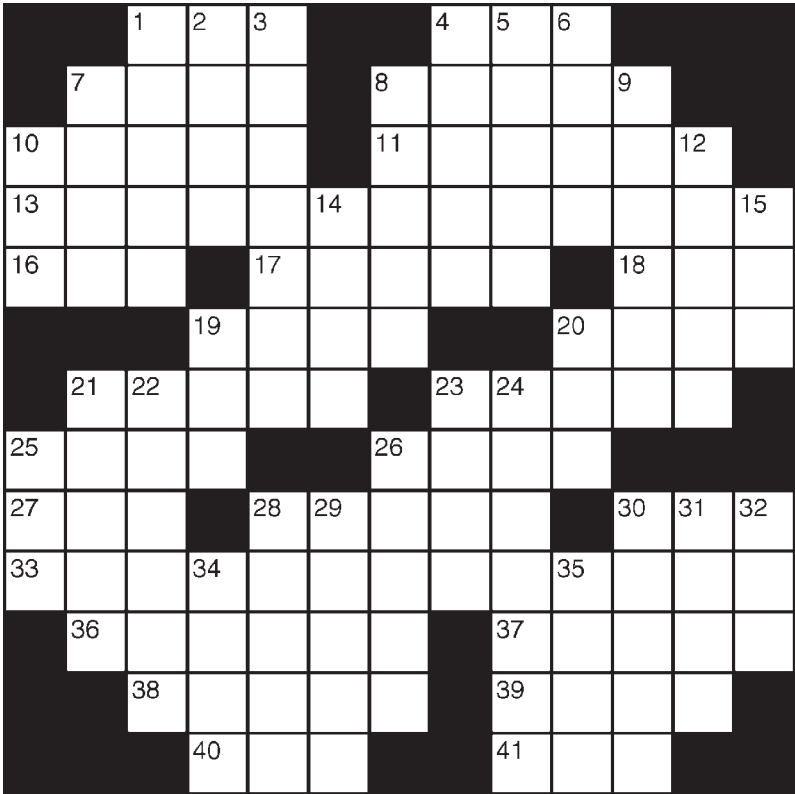
Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the District has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to disabled students. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504, please contact the Clint District's Section 504 Coordinator, Rodrigo Hernandez, Assistant Director Special Education, at 926-4031, or mail at 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, Texas 79928.

Aviso de Identificación de Estudiantes Incapacitados bajo la Sección 504

Bajo la Sección del Decreto de Rehabilitación de 1973, el Distrito Escolar esta obligado a identificar, referir, evaluar, y propocionar servicios educativos apropiados y gratuitos a los estudiantes incapacitados que califican bajo esta ley. Si usted desea mas información sobre los derechos de padres de niños incapacitados, o si tiene preguntas sobre la identificación, evaluación, y colocación de niños en el programa de Sección 504, favor de ponerse en contacto con la Coordinadora de 504 del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Clint, Rodrigo Hernandez, Subdirector/a de Educación Especial, al numero 926-4031, o por correo a la siguiente dirección: 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, Texas 79928.

WTCC: 07-17-25

King Crossword



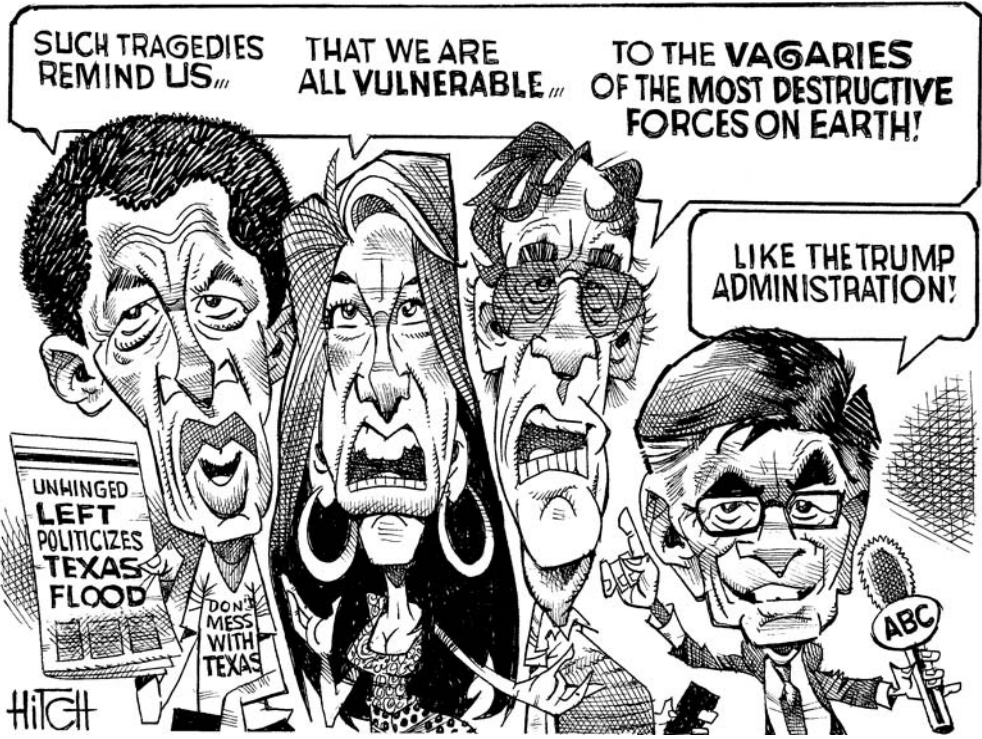
- Average Solve Time 24 Minutes

ACROSS

 - 1 Condo coolers
 - 4 Mornings, briefly
 - 7 Malaria symptom
 - 8 Daub
 - 10 Florida city
 - 11 Research
 - 13 Nocturnal birds
 - 16 Actor Cariou
 - 17 English horn cousins
 - 18 Actor McShane
 - 19 Stumble
 - 20 Part of A.D.
 - 21 Exams for future attys.
 - 23 Years
- 25 Deception
 - 26 Cousin's mom
 - 27 _ray Disc
 - 28 Soaks up the sun
 - 30 Prefix with gram or center
 - 33 Ancient
 - 36 "Hard as nails," for one
 - 37 More bizarre
 - 38 Auto style
 - 39 Clarinet insert
 - 40 Ballot markings
 - 41 Corn serving
- DOWN

 - 1 "Encore!"
 - 2 Robert of "I Spy"
 - 3 Stop on a cruise
 - 4 Love, to Luigi
 - 5 Cat calls?
 - 6 H.H. Munro's pen name
 - 7 Dull pain
 - 8 Sailing vessel
 - 9 Judge's decision
 - 10 Hooting bird
 - 12 Blueprints
 - 14 Kimono ties
 - 15 _cone
 - 19 Levy
 - 20 Busy insect
 - 21 Lounges
 - 22 Mecca residents
 - 23 Sci-fi's Skywalker
 - 24 By the beach
- 25 "Westworld" ainer
 - 26 Wan
 - 28 Back of a 45 record
 - 29 Book of maps
 - 30 Church leader
 - 31 Begged
 - 32 Leb. neighbor
 - 34 Visa rival, briefly
 - 35 Inventor's inspiration
- Answer Page 5

THE U.S. ALREADY HAS 3 PARTIES:



Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs at Clint Independent School District for 2025-2026 School Year

- 1) Clint Independent School District offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; Arts, A/V Technology and Communications; Business, Marketing, and Finance; Health Science; Hospitality and Tourism; Human Services; Law and Public Service; Manufacturing; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math; Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics. Admission to these programs is based on current enrollment in the Clint ISD and completion of any necessary prerequisites.
- 2) It is the policy of Clint ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 3) It is the policy of Clint ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of Education amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 4) Clint ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.
- 5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Rene Chavez at 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4061 and/or Section 504 Coordinator, Rodrigo Hernandez, Assistant Director Special Education, at 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4031.

Notificacion de no Discriminar en los Programas Educativos de Carrera y Tecnica Clint ISD por el año escolar del 2025-2026

- 1) El distrito escolar independiente de Clint ofrece programas de educación técnica y carreras en las áreas de Agricultura, Comida y Recursos Naturales; Arquitectura y Construcción; Artes; Tecnología Audio/Visual y Comunicaciones; Negocio, Mercadotecnia y Finanzas; Ciencias de Salubridad; Hospitalidad y Turismo; Servicios Humanos; Leyes y Servicio Público; Manufactura; Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería y Matemáticas; Transportación, Distribución y Logística. El ingreso a estos programas será basado en el número de estudiantes matriculados en el distrito escolar de Clint y se deberá cumplir con los requisitos necesarios de ingreso a estos programas.
- 2) El Distrito Escolar de Clint no discrimina por razones de raza, religión, color, origen nacional, sexo, género, edad o discapacidad al proveer servicios de educación, actividades, y programas, incluyendo programas vocacionales, de acuerdo con el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, y enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972; Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, enmienda.
- 3) El Distrito Escolar de Clint no discrimina por razones de raza, religión, color, origen nacional, sexo, género, edad, discapacidad, o cualquier otra base en sus prácticas de empleo, de acuerdo con el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, y enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972; la Acta de discriminacion por edad de 1975, enmienda; y la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, enmienda.
- 4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Clint tomara pasos para asegurar que la falta de ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y partipacion en todos los programas vocacionales, y educativos.
- 5) Para mas informacion de sus derechos y procedimiento de agravios, puede ponerse en contacto con el coordinador de Titulo IX, Rene Chavez, en 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4061 y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504, Rodrigo Hernandez, Subdirector/a de Educación Especial, en 14521 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas, 79928, 915-926-4031.

WTCC: 07-17-25



By Lucie Winborne

- Squirrels play a role in reforestation by forgetting some of the buried nuts and seeds they store, which then sprout into new trees.
 - In late 1800's Australia, some desperate sufferers of rheumatism climbed into a whale carcass in their search for relief, and were told to remain there for 20-30 hours, with occasional breaks. The heat and gases emitted by the decomposing animal were believed to create a sweat box of healing compounds.
 - Acrylic nails were invented in 1957 by a dentist experimenting with how to create an artificial fingernail to protect his thumb after he'd accidentally cut it.
 - The Inuit people used goggles made from bone, wood or other hard material to protect their eyes from UV rays more than 2,000 years ago, designed to cover the eye while leaving a small slit to see through. The slit narrowed and sharpened the wearer's field of vision while protecting their eyes from snow glare.
 - In 1980, Detroit gave Saddam Hussein a key to the city out of recognition of donations he had made to local churches.
 - School desks have 300 times more bacteria than a toilet seat.
 - Uranus rotates on its side, appearing to roll around the sun like a ball, according to NASA. The most likely explanation for this unusual orientation is that it experienced some type of massive collision in ancient times.
 - American Christians are more likely to take "morally neutral" risks when they think about God as a benevolent protector.
- Thought for the Day: "I'm all in favor of keeping dangerous weapons out of the hands of fools. Let's start with typewriters."
— Frank Lloyd Wright

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**Moments
in time**
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On July 14, 1953, the George Washington Carver National Monument, founded by Franklin Delano Roosevelt and created by Audrey Corwin in 1952, was dedicated in Missouri. It was the first such site to honor a Black American as well as a non-president.
- On July 15, 1997, while on a killing spree, Andrew Cunanan murdered world-renowned Italian fashion designer Gianni Versace with two gunshots to the head on the steps outside Versace's Miami mansion before fleeing the scene. Eight days later, he was discovered dead by suicide on a houseboat 40 blocks from the designer's home.
- On July 16, 1769, Father Junipero Serra, a Spanish Franciscan missionary, founded the first Catholic mission in California in what is present-day San Diego. After blessing his new outpost in a high mass, the Royal Standard of Spain was unfurled over the mission, which Serra christened San Diego de Alcala.
- On July 17, 1945, President Harry S. Truman recorded his initial impression of Joseph Stalin in his diary, describing their first meeting, a discussion of post-World War II policy in Europe, as "cordial" and closing the entry with the words, "I can deal with Stalin. He is honest, but smart as hell."
- On July 18, 1986, new close-up videotapes of the sunken ocean liner Titanic, taken from the first manned expedition to the wreck and showing one of the ship's grand staircases and a coral-covered chandelier, were released to the public.
- On July 19, 1952, air traffic controllers in Washington, D.C., detected UFOs over the White House and U.S. Capitol building. More appeared a week later, but the government dismissed the sightings as just a harmless weather phenomenon.
- On July 20, 1923, Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa died in a storm of 40 bullets while driving through Parral, Mexico. He was buried the next day, but three years later the grave was dug up and his skull was stolen. Officially, the identity of the robber remains a mystery, as does that of the person who ordered the assassination.

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CryptoQuip Answer

Renowned singer and avant-garde artist who's an authority on a meditative method: Yoga Ono.

New NCAA rules leave average colleges behind

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Many years ago, the great singer Bob Dylan told us over and over again that the times – they indeed are a ‘Changin’.

And they are, whether it’s entertainment or politics or education or social norms, everything seems to be going through a transition.

And in the world of sports, nothing seems to be changing faster than the way college athletes are being compensated for their play.

It seems like fresh news comes out of the NIL (Name, Image and Likeness) guys every other day.

We all know that for more than 100 years, college athletes were considered amateurs and couldn’t receive a dime for competing.

Back in the day, schools and coaches and administrators were fined or fired for giving a player just two bucks for a sandwich or a dollar to phone his parents back in the days before cell phones.

All that ended in 2021 when the courts determined that colleges and universities were pocketing billions of dollars that these students were generating through ticket sales, merchandise and TV deals.

The courts ruled it was unfair for the institutions to keep all the money while the players didn’t make a penny. They did get a scholarship to go to the school free, but the colleges were still making out like billionaire bandits.

Although they decided to remedy the situation, the only problem is that the smart guys in charge of the NCAA put all these new rules in place without making rules for the rules.

In other words, where the money was coming from? How much a player

could make? Which players would get the money? Who was going to keep track of all the money? How much can each school spend?

Those are all really good questions, and in the early days, none of them had really good answers.

But the NCAA is scrambling to make new rules for the new rules.

First, they decided that colleges can now raise the money, keep it in their accounts and pay the athletes directly. For the first four years of NIL, colleges couldn’t do any of this; it was all done by outside Collectives.

Now colleges have more control.

But the agreement stated that Collectives can still be used to raise more money separately. UTEP still uses its Goldmine Collective.

However, it looks like that is about to change. The NCAA is considering getting rid of Collectives altogether.

And some big-name schools have already started. Collectives affiliated with Colorado, Alabama, Notre Dame and Georgia, along with others, have

announced they are shutting down their partnerships.

Don’t get me wrong, outside deals between athlete and sponsors are still permitted, but any deal worth \$600 or more would have to be vetted by a clearinghouse called NIL Go, that was established by the new College Sports Commission.

The College Sports Commission will act like the police force of NIL. It will (supposedly) keep an eye on schools or agents or players or coaches or anybody who tries to cheat the system.

The NCAA recently came to a legal agreement that it will allow colleges to share some of their revenue with the athletes. The money they get from ticket and concession and merchandise sales, media rights deals and profit sharing through their respective conferences, can now be used to recruit and pay athletes.

This was supposed to make things fairer for everyone.

But of course, the bigger schools

like Texas, Notre Dame, Alabama, Ohio State, Georgia, USC, LSU and all the others, will have a bigger piece of the pie to share with students.

So, they will get the better athletes because they can pay the most money.

How much money can they possibly make? Here are some examples.

Texas QB Arch Manning will make \$6.5 million, Duke basketball superstar Cooper Flagg made \$4.8 million, Miami QB Carson Beck will make \$4.3 million, Livvy Dunne of LSU gymnastics will make \$4.1 million and Ohio State WR Jeremiah Smith made \$4 million, just to name a very few.

You still think things are fair?

On Sept. 13, UTEP will take on the top guy on the money list, Arch Manning and the Texas Longhorns in Austin.

UTEP should get close to \$2 million for the game – that’s about a third of what they pay their quarterback alone.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

The dangers of bagged salad greens

Sometimes we just want to take the easy path and quickly grab a few things for dinner. Bagged salad greens are often on our list – but it’s the last place we should be taking a shortcut in meal prep.

Between contaminated water in the fields and many people involved in the processing, handling and storage, food safety experts are pointing to bagged salads as the item near the top of the list for safety concerns and outbreaks of E. coli. And that makes it a real risk for seniors or anyone with a compromised immune system.

How to avoid the dangers of E. coli? Buy whole head lettuce instead of bagged and throw away the outer leaves. Rinse the lettuce under running cold water and dry it with paper towels. Besides the force of the water during rinsing, the drying with paper towels can also help remove the E. coli contamination. Do the same with other leafy greens such as spinach.

However, if you do want to buy packaged salad greens,

the dilemma comes when the package claims that they have been pre-washed. “Triple washed! Ready to eat!” the package will proclaim. The question is: Should you believe it? Or should you go ahead and wash it? The experts, including the FDA and USDA, say not to wash it. The reason, they say, is that we at home are more likely to contaminate the greens ourselves with a dirty sink.

People on blogs across the internet are insulted, however, being told they would contaminate food in their own kitchens. They intend to wash all produce, even if the package says it’s not needed and even if it’s organic from a farmer’s market.

It’s difficult to know what to believe, but one thing is a fact: Seniors who develop an E. coli infection can become severely ill. Take care.

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Super Crossword

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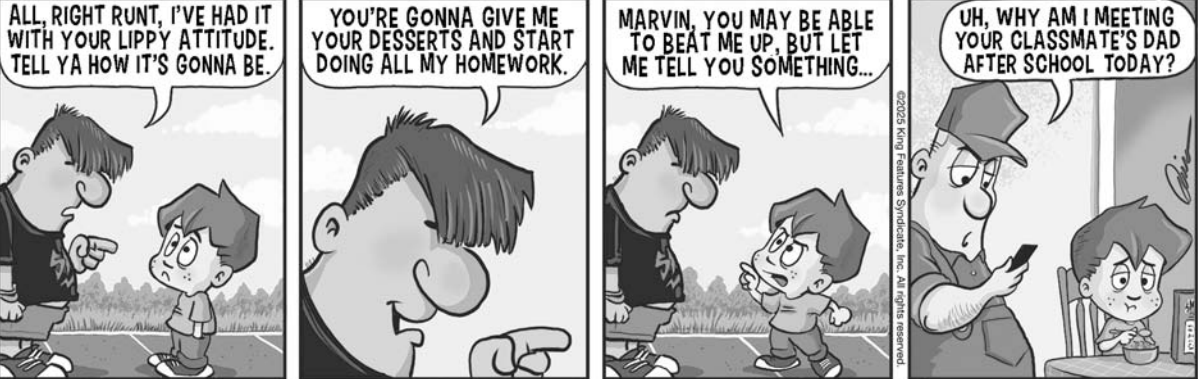
NEW ORDER OF BIRDS ACROSS	three	107 Neighbor of Okla.
1 They're filled at filling stations	52 Single's first half	109 "You did not just say that!"
9 Causes of some winter roof leaks	54 Response to "You weren't!"	115 Will of "The Waltons"
16 Two or three	55 Jazz great Fitzgerald	116 Jacket with bird hues?
20 Its capital is Springfield	58 Give a bird a monetary reward?	120 Coastal eagle
21 Good time to shop and save	60 "God Love Us" rapper	121 100% correct
22 1977 hit for Electric Light Orchestra	61 Pecans and cashews	122 Overpraises
23 Bird hanging around power-generating structures?	64 Eggs	123 Old booming jets, in brief
25 Bottom-of-the-barrel bit	65 Slow-moving reptile with a bird on its back?	124 Catholic prayer books
26 "Grace and Frankie" co-star Lily	73 Aussie critter	125 Pre-release software trial
27 Me, in Mame	74 Outer surface	
28 Take a chair	75 911 VIP	DOWN
29 Spike for a rock climber	76 Waterway full of birds?	1 Central idea
30 Icky food	82 Billfold bills	2 Certain sax
33 Bird with a pronounced lower back?	83 Employee welfare agcy.	3 Skinny
36 Elite police unit	84 Daisy type	4 Cash drawer
41 35mm camera type	85 Daisy of "Li'l Abner"	5 Opposer
42 Holy Week follower	88 Old paper sections	6 One who's hardly saintly
43 Bird with an affliction?	89 Bub	7 Tool set, e.g.
48 Lead-in to lateral	90 Share employment hours with a bird?	8 Guyana-to-Bolivia dir.
49 It flows through Koeln	95 Actress Clarke or Fox	9 "Money _ object"
50 Rocker Ocasek	98 Boating blade	10 Escalade
51 "Ammonium" has	99 "Are we out of danger?"	11 Wood for dartboards
	100 Bird starring in "The Birds"?	12 Certain belief in God
	104 Wise _ owl	13 Impromptu
	105 Novelist Loos	14 Country south of Sicily
	106 Two times LI	15 _ admin
		16 Extra installations
		17 Courage in adversity
		18 Big surprise

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

the stagecoach, rob a bank or burn a cross on someone’s lawn.

A 1990 Georgia Supreme Court ruling upholding a mask ban said, “A nameless, faceless figure strikes terror in the human heart.”

Certainly, after seeing what’s gone down on the streets after the killing of George Floyd and on the campuses since Oct. 7, everyone should be on edge when encountering masked protestors. If nothing else, it’s not reassuring when people are afraid of being associated with their own cause, or the means with which they are going to agitate for it.

New York first banned masks in the 1840s in response to protestors harassing landlords. Later, in the 20th century, states prohibited face coverings to address the depredations of the KKK.

The bans were either not enforced or repealed during covid. Masks went from being a symbol of outlaw behavior to becoming the sine qua non of good citizenship according to

Dr. Fauci and other public-health authorities. The snugly fitted N95, or even better, an elastomeric respirator with replaceable filters, showed a heroic commitment to your own health and the well-being of others.

The clashing perspectives of the last two governors of New York indicate how the debate on masks has turned. Then-Gov. Andrew Cuomo in 2020 urged protestors to mask up. “You have a right to demonstrate,” he declared, “You don’t have a right to infect other people.” Cuomo’s successor, Gov. Kathy Hochul, went in the opposite direction after seeing masked protestors menace Jewish riders on the subway last year. She came out in favor of restricting masks and supports the watered-down change recently passed by the legislature.

With a long, hot summer in the offing, the issue won’t go away in New York, or anywhere else. The mask is now part of the kit of rioters, as useful, indispensable and emblematic as a Klansman’s white hood.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. ©2025 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Immunity to rubella does not mean immunity to measles

DEAR DR. ROACH: I read a recent column of yours in which you said that everyone my age can assume we’ve had measles. I remember having measles in the second grade but have a vague memory of my parents calling it German measles, which I believe is rubella. If a person has had either, do they have immunity to both types of measles? – S.F.

to
your
good
health
WITH
Dr. Keith
Roach

If you were born before 1957, you are likely but not 100% sure to be immune to measles (sometimes called red measles) and mumps. However, rubella (German measles) is a different disease, and immunity to one does not ensure immunity to the other.

The biggest health concern with rubella is when a woman of childbearing age contracts it as the potential damage to her developing fetus can be severe. So, every woman who could get pregnant is tested for immunity at the earliest opportunity. All health care workers should have documented immunity to measles, mumps and rubella.

The United States is in the middle of a large measles outbreak now, and those living in an area with transmission should be sure that they are immune to measles. This can be done by checking blood antibody levels or giving an extra dose to those who have already been immunized (or two doses to those who have never been immunized).

At the time that I write this, there is no rubella outbreak in the U.S., but if there is, the advice will be similar to demonstrating immunity to rubella as it is for measles.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Would you say a 1/2 teaspoon of baking soda in my water every morning would give me a more alkaline system? – L.M.

Baking soda is basic or alkali on the pH scale. If you put a 1/2 teaspoon in a large glass of water, the pH of the resulting solution will be around 8.3 or so. However, as soon as you drink it, the acid in your stomach will overwhelm the baking soda since stomach acid is a lot stronger an acid than baking soda is a base.

Furthermore, your body has robust systems to keep your body’s pH regulated at just around 7.4. Your kidneys and lungs will quickly act to maintain your body’s pH, whether you take in a lot of alkaline like baking soda or a whole lot of acid like lemon juice or lemonade.

These pH regulatory systems have evolved to keep the blood pH at a slightly alkaline level, and even small changes from this level usually represent serious illness. You don’t want to change your blood pH.

DR. ROACH WRITES:

A recent column on Raynaud’s phenomenon generated several comments from readers. One person was disappointed I didn’t mention that Raynaud’s can affect the feet, and, they are right that it can.

Another person noted relief by taking fish oil twice daily. The medical literature suggests that this can be of benefit for those with primary Raynaud’s – meaning when it’s not in combination with a rheumatologic disease.

Another suggestion was magnesium, which helped another reader out. Since fish oil and magnesium are low-risk interventions, I wanted to pass these on with thanks to the readers who wrote in with their experiences.

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. ©2025 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
Texas can legally be split into 5 states.

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: C equals N

FHCBXCHN TYCJHF MCN MSMCA-
JMFNH MFAYTA XRB'T MC
MGARBFYAL BC M WHNYAMAYSH
WHARBN: LBJM BCB.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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 5

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Help for homeless veterans



by Freddy Groves

Organizations across the country that help homeless veterans are set to share in grants that total \$42 million. Each grant, if approved, can be worth as much as \$500,000 and will fund them for two years, beginning in October.

The grants, through the VA's Legal Services for Veterans Grant Program, will help organizations that assist veterans with custody and child support problems, help veterans get their benefits, run interference with tenant-landlord issues and more. All of these services are for the purpose of helping homeless veterans or those who are in danger of becoming homeless.

Last year there were over 32,000 homeless veterans. Though that number is a bit smaller than the previous year, it's still too big. Once a veteran is homeless, because of substance abuse,

mental health issues, eviction, job loss or any other reason, it's difficult to break the cycle without help.

If you're a homeless veteran or if you're in danger of becoming homeless, help is as near as your phone.

Call the VA medical center nearest you and ask for the homeless coordinator. To find the nearest VA facility to you, go to www.va.gov/directory.

Call the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans at 1-800-VET-HELP (838-4357). They can help with substance abuse and mental health counseling, job training and placement, health care and permanent housing.

You might qualify for a voucher through the VA Supportive Housing (VASH), where they pay part of your rent directly to the landlord. The goal of the program is to get veterans into permanent housing and hooked up with support services so the housing remains stable, all with the help of a case manager.

Call the homeless veteran hotline at 877-424-3838 to

talk to a trained counselor. They're open 24/7, and the call is free and confidential.

If you need help now or will in the near future, don't wait until the last minute. Reach out as soon as you suspect you're going to be homeless.

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• “Check your mower to see if you are cutting your lawn to the optimum height. Generally, cutting grass to two and a half inches will allow it to retain more moisture, requiring less watering.” – O.F. in Alabama

• Want to make that summer at-home pedicure last? Don't skip the base coat or a UV topcoat. The base coat will allow the color to adhere evenly and better. Then the topcoat will protect the color from the sun while giving it a little extra shine.

• Did you know you can curl your hair with straws? Wind sections of damp hair around a plastic straw and secure the ends with a bobby pin. Allow to dry in the sun or use a hair dryer on low heat. Remove and spritz with hair spray.

• Remove all of the air from a plastic storage bag with a drinking straw. Slip the straw into the bag and close as much as possible. Then suck any air out through the straw, and quickly pull out and close in a single motion. Your leftovers will stay fresh longer, and foods may stack better in the freezer.

• “Necklaces can be stored together without tangling if you thread each one through a straw. You can cut the straw to a shorter length for bracelets or choker-length necklaces.” – I.A. in Arizona

• If you need a long, straight line, never fear. Grab a ball of yarn or string, and cut what you need. Then rub the whole length over a piece of chalkboard chalk. With a partner, you can hold the string taut and snap it down, like a rubber band. It will leave a line of chalk behind.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. ©2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

GO FIGURE!

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.

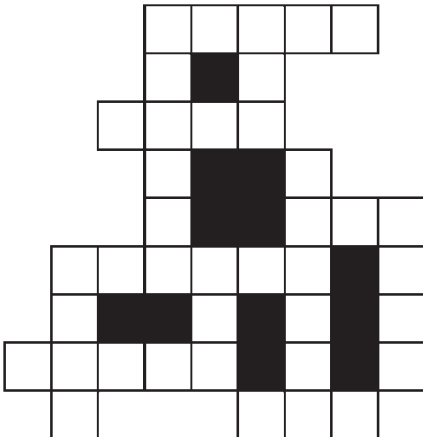
Answer Page 4

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	+		-		= 5			
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	+		-		= 3			
÷		+		-				
	+		×		= 54			
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PFO
ARMCLE
♥ERLFI
♥IRTO
LEWUFO
ALM
♥HWTE
♥APRCE
♥TPA
AFENIC
OMPT
♥MPLA



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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