



– Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

25 YEARS LATER – Among the murals at the recently renamed Lincoln Park – El Paso’s Chicano Park is the latest painting that commemorates the September 11, 2001 New York City Twin Towers tragedy. The commemorative mural was painted by Cesar Inostroza, a local muralist/ sculptor/ future space architect, above. He donated his time and resources to complete the artwork just in time for the special unveiling which was held Friday, September 11, 2026.

Exploring the history, culture and contributions of Hispanic Americans

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Hispanic Heritage Month, observed across the United States from September 15 to October 15, provides an opportunity to celebrate diversity, honor historical achievements, and foster cultural understanding of Americans with ancestry from Spain, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Mexico.

As of 2026, Hispanic Americans make up nearly 20 percent of the U.S. population, that’s over 62 million individuals, which makes them the nation’s largest ethnic minority group, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. And Americans of Mexican descent form the largest subgroup at more than 60 percent, or more than 37 million citizens.

Thus, the month-long celebration is an opportunity to showcase influential Hispanic figures and achievements in politics, science, literature, music, and the visual and culinary arts with events that reflect their heritage.

A site in the heart of El Paso County that offers a strong visual image of that cultural pride espoused by local Hispanics, who are mainly Americans of Mexican descent, is a park known for its vibrant murals that decorate the huge pillars holding up the Interstate-10 bridgeway interchange, referred to as the Spaghetti Bowl.

Recently renamed Lincoln-El Paso’s

Chicano Park (located at 4001 Durazno Avenue) by El Paso City Council leaders, the change is designed to preserve the park’s original name while also recognizing its importance to local Mexican Americans who identify themselves as Chicanos.

The 14-acre park is home to rows of murals that depict the Chicano culture and their Mexican roots, as well as historic figures such as Martin Luther King Jr., and the most recently added mural that commemorates the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 tragedy in New York City.

Adjacent to the park is the Lincoln Center building,

which is now owned by the Texas Department of Public Safety. The building dates back to the mid-1800s when it was used as a school for military kids of the Camp Concordia settlement. In the 1900’s the building was repurposed as the Lincoln Park School and served Mexican American and African American children when other schools did not allow them to attend.

City of El Paso District 2 Representative Josh Acevedo stated that he presented the name change based on a recommendation from the city’s Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Lincoln Park Conservation Committee, whose members had canvassed the neighborhood and gathered signatures in support of the change. Acevedo stated that the name change aims to honor the neighborhood’s 150-year history as well as reflect the region’s Chicano identity.

Adding the term Chicano to the park’s name acknowledges the existence of those individuals of Mexican descent who are born in the United States but are neither legitimately accepted by Mexico, who call them “pochos”, nor by the United States, who refer to them as immigrants, surmised one life-long borderland resident who frequents the park.

The name, Chicano, first came to prominence during the Mexican American civil rights movement of the 1960s. The term was meant to emphasize pride in their Native American roots along with their dual identities as both Mexicans and Americans. However, not all Mexican Americans identify as Chicanos.

The 1960s and 1970s saw the term ‘Chicano’ gain significance largely through the Chicano Movement. This was



DETAILS MATTER – Cesar Inostroza, above, puts the finishing touches to his work of art that honors the memory of the September 11, 2001 victims, survivors, and heroes. Inostroza is a celebrated local artist whose journey began at age 16, when he painted his first mural at Bowie High School. Born a first-generation American and raised in El Paso’s Segundo Barrio, Inostroza’s artwork reflects the challenges that shaped his fire, resilience, and vision as a Chicano artist.

See CULTURE, Page 4

Kaepernick’s position still remains unpersuasive

A decade later, Colin Kaepernick is as tiresome as ever. To mark the 10-year anniversary of his kneeling during the National Anthem, the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback is out with a new memoir, “The Perilous Fight.” (Get it?)

In an interview with NBC News in advance of the book’s release, which he clearly imagines as part of a vindication tour, he proved himself as committed to woke racial politics as ever.

He told NBC that his protests were about fighting “police killing black folks” and “systemic oppression.” He added that he was thinking – not very modestly – about the Montgomery bus boycotts, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King while he took a knee.

It’s certainly true that Kaepernick sacrificed his

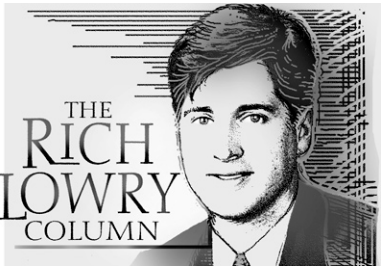
career to his protests, although he was a marginal player by the end. In his prime, Kaepernick was a top-notch athlete and electric performer. No one can take his exemplary 2012 and 2013 seasons away from him. In one playoff game in 2012, he passed for 263 yards and ran for 181, a single-game record for rushing by an NFL quarterback.

He couldn’t maintain this level of performance, though. In 2015, he lost his starting job to journeyman Blaine Gabbert. He won it back for a time in 2016, although he got benched during one game after throwing for all of 4 yards. In 2016 the 49ers went 1-10 when he started, and by one metric, he ranked 23rd out of 30 qualifying quarterbacks. So he was hardly the GOAT, but instead once-very-good, now-mediocre quarterback. Then there was

the issue that his style of play didn’t necessarily fit in most offensive schemes.

Layer on top of this the circus he’d bring to town with his kneeling and it’s understandable that teams didn’t find him an alluring proposition in 2017 when he was a free agent. There were myriad options available as backup quarterbacks who weren’t notorious for disrespecting the national anthem immediately prior to games.

None of this would have mattered if Kaepernick had maintained his 2012 level of play; in that



See LOWRY, Page 7

Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Nepal, September 11 and deadly surprises

Surprises can be deadly.

A devastating flood recently hit Nepal and China. A glacier collapse caused a massive flood that killed over 1,300 people and left more than 5,000 missing. The flood destroyed entire communities, including the border crossing between Nepal and China and caused over \$2.56 billion in damages. Rescue efforts are still underway, but the search area is divided into seven zones, with three remaining to be searched.

A devastating flood hit the Grand Canyon on August 29, killing two people and leaving one missing. The flood was caused by heavy rainfall and compound climate extremes, sweeping through Bright Angel Canyon and the Phantom Ranch area. It destroyed footbridges, trails and utilities, and damaged

the Trans canyon waterline, causing stage 4 water restrictions. The South Rim of the park is still open, but with limited access to water.

In July, 2025 a horrific Texas flood occurred. Heavy rainfall and a flash flood warning that came too late swept through a campsite in Texas, killing at least 120 people, with 160 still missing. The campsite Camp Mystic, lost 27 campers and counselors.

Hurricane Katrina was a category 3 storm that made landfall off the Louisiana coast on August 29, 2005 with maximum sustained wind speeds of 120 miles per hour. An estimated 1,200 people died as a direct result of the storm, which also cost an estimated \$108 billion in property damage making it the costliest hurricane on record. These events were surprising

and deadly. Who could have imagined such tragedies? These people were shockingly surprised. Surprises can happen to any of us at any time. It’s almost impossible to always be on guard. We can travel and live with a cautious attitude but weather conditions can rapidly change.

Events can happen in our daily travel routine whether we are driving, flying or just going to the office. Such was the day of September 11, 2001. Hundreds of people had booked airplane tickets for a day of routine air travel that

ended up being their last life’s event. People in the World Trade Towers had reported in to carry out their daily work assignments, but it would be their last day of life. Officials at the Pentagon had shown up for a routine day of service. Terrorist hijackers of four planes successfully carried their surprise mission of death to over 3000 people. Their planning to hijack our planes and carry out their mission was successful. Most of us remember where we were that

See SURPRISES, Page 6

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WEST TEXAS COUNTY

COURIER

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Average Solve Time 24 Minutes

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14 Seniors' gp.
15 Manhattan, for one
17 China (Pref.)
18 "The Sopranos" restaurateur
19 Brunch fare
21 Thick chunk
24 TV spots
25 Ancient invader
28 Uber competitors
30 Mas' mates

33 Chef Garten
34 Bo of "10"
35 Pen filler
36 __ chi
37 Location
38 __ B'rith
39 Young fellow
41 "Absolutely!"
43 Texas city
46 Caravan stops
50 Big rackets
51 Pulled-back hairdo
54 Icelandic epic
55 Chang's brother
56 "Andor" actor
57 Optimistic
58 Tic-tac-toe loser
59 Mountain ht.

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3 Ad agcy. client
4 Debonair
5 Sheep call
6 Boxer Laila
7 Angelic light
8 Allayed
9 Severe decline
10 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
11 Espy
16 Aviv preceder
20 Mardi Gras wear
22 Computer brand
23 Exposés
25 "Shoo!"
26 __ tear (raging)
27 Hindmost parts
29 Boyfriend

31 Comic Gasteyer
32 Enjoy Aspen
34 June honorees
38 Ringo, for one
40 Analyze
42 Trigger's rider
43 Biblical feeder
44 Queen of Carthage
45 Pinnacle
47 Biblical king
48 Aachen article
49 Serb or Croat
52 Musician Yoko
53 Private aid gp.

Answer Page 4

CryptoQuip Answer

The petition was presented with the strongest protestors at the top. It's in dissenting order



El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District

CORRECTED Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The EL PASO COUNTY TORNILLO WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2026 on September 24, 2026 at 7:00 PM at 19225 Highland St., Tornillo, Texas 79853. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

- FOR** the proposal: Eusebio Villa, Jr. Hector Luna
Loretta Aguilar Alejandro Rodriguez
Ariel Lujan
- AGAINST** the proposal: NONE
- PRESENT** and not voting: NONE
- ABSENT:** Jorge Aguirre

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	\$0.080217/\$100	\$0.077830/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		– \$ 0.002387
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)		– 2.98%
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$ 132,366	\$ 141,205
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$ 132,366	\$ 141,205
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 106.18	\$ 109.90
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)		+ \$ 3.72
and percentage of increase (+/–)		+ 3.50%

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the governing body of EL PASO COUNTY TORNILLO WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of funding capital improvement projects.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Eight EPCC baseball players headed to Dallas games

By Beau Bagley
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Eight members of the El Paso Community College (EPCC) baseball team will go to Dallas this weekend for the opportunity of a lifetime. They will compete in the Texas-New Mexico Junior College All-Star weekend, representing Region 5 West, at Dallas Baptist University’s Horner Ballpark.

The eight sophomores are outfielder Nico Olea, catcher Nick Cortinas, infielder and catcher Miguel Maldonado, first baseman and outfielder Irvin Duarte, outfielder Pablo Vargas, first baseman and outfielder Gavin Massey, infielder Matt Martinez, pitchers Brandon Gomez and Jerethzael Pica.

EPCC Head Coach Julien Soucy, and assistant Manny Sierra, will travel with the players, using the weekend to meet with other coaches from Texas and New Mexico.

“This is the most that we’ve sent to the all-star game since I’ve been the coach here,” Soucy said. “It’s

awesome for the guys. They’re very excited to represent our city and college at such a great event.”

Top junior college (JUCO) baseball players from across Texas and New Mexico representing their respective programs and regions will play in the game. Region 5 West will take on Region 5 North on Friday, the 18th, at noon, then Region 5 West will meet Region 14 South on Saturday, the 19th at 10:30 a.m.



IT’S A DINGER – Tejanos pitcher and utility hitter Brandon Gomez, 15, is congratulated after his solo home run against New Mexico Junior College on September 11.

The EPCC players will be divided up to play in one just game. Some will play Friday and the others will play Saturday.

“Being selected for the All-Star Game is a dream come true for me because it was one of the goals I set for myself from the first day I arrived at EPCC,” Jerethzael Pica said. “I have worked hard for this opportunity, and I thank God for allowing me to accomplish this goal.”

“It feels amazing,” Miguel Maldonado said. “I’m really thankful for the opportunity to be here and compete with some of the best players. It’s something I’m proud of, and I’m excited to represent EPCC.”

“It feels great and it’s a big honor,” Irvin Duarte said. “I’m excited to represent my team and compete against some of the best players. I want to compete, learn from the coaches and players, and use this experience to keep getting better.”

“I hope to help my team make a playoff run which hasn’t been done in a while here,” Nick Cortinas said. “This group is very talented and I’m excited to see what we can do this upcoming season.”

Culture

From Page 1

a social and political movement by Mexican Americans to achieve empowerment and civil rights, addressing issues such as educational inequality, farm workers’ rights, and political representation.

Adopting the term “Chicano” was a way for Mexican Americans to assert their identity and pride, distinguishing themselves from the broader “Hispanic” or “Latino” categories while

emphasizing their unique historical and cultural experiences in the United States.

Today, however, with this country’s xenophobic sentiments boiling over, it is important to carry the connotations of activism and cultural pride to the broader sense championed by the Hispanic Heritage Month observance, which is that all Americans should join in the celebration of the cultural diversity that the Hispanic American communities have to offer.

Hispanic Heritage Month

The special observance began as Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968, which was introduced by California Congressman George E. Brown to recognize the contributions of Hispanic communities in the United States. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the recognition into law officially establishing the week. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded the federal legislation to a full month allowing more time to honor Hispanic Americans’ impact on U.S. society.

Origin of the term Chicano

Scholars suggest that the term “Chicano” stems from the word “Mexicano,” pronounced as “Meshicano” in Nahuatl, the language spoken by the Aztecs. Scholars suggest that over time, the sound morphed among Spanish speakers in Mexico, eventually becoming “Xicano” to denote people of Mexican origin living in the U.S. This label was anglicized to “Chicano” as it entered the English language.



Lincoln Park, located in El Paso County’s South-Central region, was recently renamed Lincoln Park – El Paso’s Chicano Park. It is home to an array of murals, above, that decorate numerous pillars supporting the Interstate-10 highway overpass bridges. Most of the paintings portray the special connection that Chicanos have to their indigenous roots.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• An isolated Israeli city with a high rate of deafness created their own sign language as a way of communicating.

• Pakistan was the first official Muslim nation in the world.

• An emoji of a building underneath a pink heart originally symbolized an invitation to meet at a Japanese “love hotel,” where rooms can be rented by the hour.

• At many European operas, whistling means boo.

• The Aetherius Society, a UFO religion, was founded by George King in 1955 after he claimed interplanetary sources instructed him to become “the Voice of Interplanetary Parliament.”

• Cats have more bones than humans.

• According to several legends, if someone was bitten by a suspected vampire, he or she should drink the ashes of a burned vampire.

• Rock climbing can improve emotional or attention problems, such as anxiety and ADHD.

• First performed in 1999, the Sandpaper Ballet includes a musical number that sounds just like someone scratching sandpaper.

• An EF-3 tornado near Pampa, Texas, was so strong that it drove a corn stalk into a car’s radiator.

• A mother admitted to attending her clique’s “chickenpox party,” a social gathering where parents expose unvaccinated children to the virus, even though her daughter had been vaccinated, because she feared rejection by the group if she didn’t show up.

Thought for the Day: “The first wealth is health.”
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

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- On Sept. 14, 1964, author John Steinbeck was honored with the U.S. Medal of Freedom. He had previously received a number of other honors and awards for his work, including a Pulitzer Prize in 1940 for “The Grapes of Wrath” and a Nobel Prize in Literature in 1962.
- On Sept. 15, 1931, a small dirigible docked briefly at the mooring mast on top of the new Empire State Building before winds forced it away. While hopes were high for the creation of an airship port in midtown Manhattan, they were never realized.
- On Sept. 16, 1810, Catholic priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla launched the Mexican War of Independence with the issue of his Grito de Dolores (“Cry of Dolores”), a tract calling for the end of 300 years of Spanish rule in Mexico, redistribution of land and racial equality. Thousands assembled at his banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe and soon after a peasant army was marching to Mexico City.
- On Sept. 17, 1976, NASA publicly unveiled the Enterprise, its first space shuttle, in Palmdale, California. The following year it became the first space shuttle to fly freely when it was lifted to 25,000 feet by a Boeing 747 airplane and then released to glide back to Edwards Air Force Base.
- On Sept. 18, 1981, the 20,000-car parking lot at Canada’s West Edmonton Mall earned a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest parking lot in the world, a distinction it’s held for years, though some have disagreed, saying that because the lot is half indoors and half outdoors, it’s not one structure but two.
- On Sept. 19, 1955, after a decade-long rule, Argentine president Juan Domingo Perón was deposed in a military coup.
- On Sept. 20, 2012, 16 members of a dissident Amish group in Ohio were convicted of federal hate crimes and conspiracy for forcibly cutting the beards and hair of fellow Amish with whom they had religious differences.

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Send Your News To:
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Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Cutting expenses

Color me shocked when my most recent electric bill spiked nearly \$50 in one month. I immediately scrutinized the bill, wondering if they hadn’t credited the previous check I’d sent. But no, it was listed – and so was the increased cost of basic service, approved by the state’s public utilities commission. Which only added to the cost of air conditioning during our heat waves.

Once again it’s time to take a close look at ways I (and you) can save money.

Take a look through the list of TV streaming services you have and see if any are no longer worth keeping. I recently canceled a few services, while my library rents movies for free.

If you have a pet that’s due for a rabies or distemper vaccine, ask the animal shelter if they have low-cost vaccination days.

No matter what drug plan you have, ask your pharmacist for the lowest possible price on your drugs. You might be

surprised to learn that paying cash actually offers the lowest cost for your particular drug.

Cancel any credit cards that have a fee.

It’s not too early to start thinking about holiday gifts. Begin by making a list and a budget. Keep an eye on sales (such as Black Friday) over the next several months.

Become familiar with senior discount days in your area. Goodwill and Salvation Army stores offer varying discounts depending on the day and location.

Apply for SNAP benefits to help with food costs. You could receive varying amounts per month, depending on your income and the number of people in your household.

And what might be the most beneficial: Ask for a senior discount anywhere you spend money. Grocery loyalty card, auto insurance, hardware store, pet store, YMCA, cellphone service... it can all add up to significant savings.

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The Best Place to Start and Finish!



For once, UTEP played a little bullyball

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The UTEP Miners went to Oklahoma as a 41-point underdog and as we all know, they were eventually wiped out 51-0.

This coming weekend, the Miners are going to be a huge underdog against Michigan when they travel to the Big House to take on the Wolverines.

But in between those two “money games” (UTEP will receive about \$3.2 million total from Oklahoma and Michigan) the Miners found themselves in rarified air.

They were favored to beat Texas Southern by 25 points in their home-opener last Saturday night.

It isn’t often that the Miners get to strut around with their chest puffed out and pretend to be the big bully on the block.

But it has happened a few times in recent years.

Since 2000, UTEP has found themselves as the heavy favorite against seven “smaller” schools. But things haven’t always gone great in those games for the Miners.

No matter how small the program is, there’s never any guarantee the orange and blue will do to them, what the Oklahoma’s and Tennessee’s and

Nebraska’s and other big programs do to them.

Last year, UT Martin came to town, and the Miners trounced them 42-17, however, when they took on Louisiana-Monroe a couple weeks later, the Miners were upset 31-25.

In 2024, UTEP was shocked by Southern Utah 27-24, in 2023 the Miners got by Incarnate Word 28-14, in 2021 UTEP had a tough time but knocked off Bethune-Cookman 38-28, and in 2020 UTEP got close victories over Stephen F. Austin 24-14 and Abilene Christian 17-13.

Last Saturday, UTEP took on another of those smaller programs

And for nearly the entire first half, it appeared as if the Miners were going to fail miserably to a team they should handle easily.

But from that point forward – the Miners handled them easily.

Trailing 10-7 with just over 5:00 to go before halftime, UTEP put on their big boy pads and went on to score the game’s next 44 points and dominated the Texas Southern Tigers 51-10.

This was an impressive performance by the Miners, who hadn’t looked this good in the coach Scotty Walden era.

Of course, there are some people who will say the win wasn’t that impressive, that that’s what you’re supposed to do to an inferior team.

that drains us and many more.

Typically, if we know, we can handle the situation. We can move to higher ground, or take shelter. We can try to avoid bad people if we know where they are and what they are up to. We can seek medical care if we have advanced information. What brings us the most grief is when we are surprised.

May we all remember the families impacted by these deadly events. May we be very aware that we are not immune to such events and live our lives prayerfully and as intuitively as possible.

And that’s true, but as we’ve seen in the past, how many times do the Miners beat up on a team their supposed to?

How many times are the Miners favored by a bunch of points and actually cover the spread?

Not often. But this time they crushed the spread and did what they were supposed to do.

Heck, UTEP has had that done to them plenty of times.

The Miners had many heroes. Quarterback EJ Colson threw four touchdown passes and rushed for another.

Backup quarterback Raymond Moore came in and used his exceptional speed to race 79 yards for a late touchdown.

Former Burges High star Tavorus Jones rushed for 104 yards and a touchdown.

The pass-catching Cheeks brothers, Cash (2 TDs) and Carver (1 TD), contributed to the win.

The Miners’ star receiver Kam Thomas only had two catches, but one of them was an 83-yard touchdown bomb on UTEP’s first

play of the game.

UTEP’s defense got going after the first quarter. Texas Southern appeared to be headed toward a big offensive night with 142 total yards in the first quarter alone. UTEP’s D held the Tigers to just 69 yards the rest of the game – 211 total.

Now there’s a likely chance that the Miners could come crashing back down to Earth this Saturday at Michigan. Especially after the Wolverines rebounded from that horrible display against Western Michigan, to upset Oklahoma 17-10 last weekend.

Michigan is on the same kind of high the Miners are on.

One thing for certain is that UTEP, after this big win, will have a ton more confidence in themselves.

And even though the Sun Bowl was just half full with 24,580 in attendance, the Miners put on a show that might end up bringing in plenty more in two weeks against a tough Oregon State squad.

The Miners looked great for one night. UTEP fans would settle for just “good” the rest of the season.



Surprises

From Page 2

day and the terror of that day.

Just last week a demented woman with a knife took the life of another woman in Times Square in New York City. The demented woman was shot by police and killed but her surprise attack injured one woman while killing another.

So often, it is the surprises that we can’t handle. A motorist who is drinking intoxicated. The surprise medical report. A financial surprise

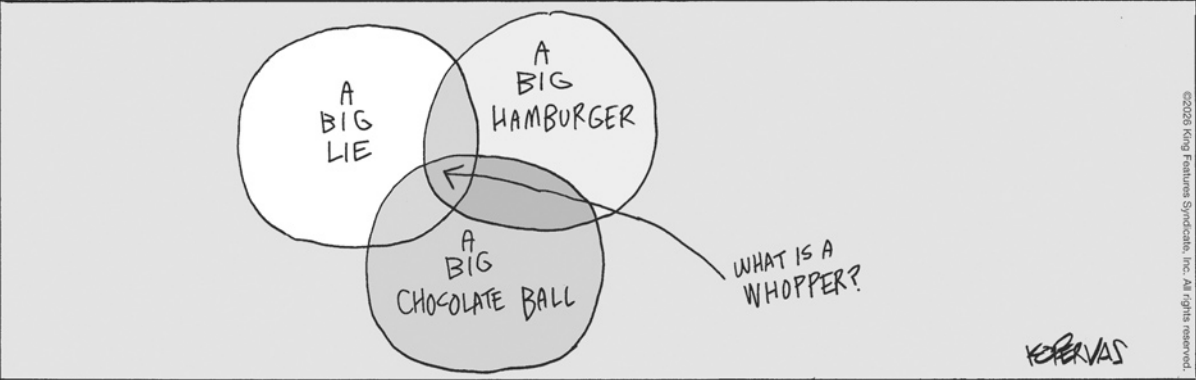
FELINE FROM AFAR										DOWN									
ACROSS																			
1	More serious, as a	62	Riddle, part 3	1	Chew like a rat	39	L-P link	82	Apple discard	2	Horror film director	40	Mag VIPs	84	Bro's sibling	3	Emollient plant	41	Big Mac base
7	It's hidden by head	68	Pen name	70	Tiny, informally	71	Riddle, part 4	85	Hearty laugh	42	Wombs	43	Fill with steam	86	Three in "maximum"	74	Really binges, briefly	44	Mag revenue sources
12	Quivered	77	Atlanta-to-Tampa dir.	78	Dog's tether	79	Edict	88	"Botch-_" (1952 hit)	45	Mag revenue	46	Cry to a baby who makes a boo-boo	89	Pro _ (for now)	80	Expend all of	47	Potentially offensive, in brief
20	Sure to succeed, as a proposition	82	Lay (down)	83	84-Down of Bart Simpson	85	"Indubitably!"	90	Pigs' hangout	52	Potentially aggressive	53	Attacked	93	Sneaker, e.g.	94	Horn honkers	54	Business coll. subject
21	Marisa of "Cyrus"	87	Dazzling effects	91	End of the riddle	92	Start of a riddle	96	Longtime depilatory brand	55	Repair	57	Neighbor of Nor. and Fin.	99	A baker may wear a mitt to handle one	95	Shakespeare	58	Dir. 45 degrees from 77-Across
22	Cesar Ritz or Conrad Hilton	93	Signs up	97	Fishing line attachments	98	Seat of Kansas' Allen County	101	Singer Patti or Sam	59	"Madam Secretary" star	60	Perturb	102	Greyhound transports	104	Deputy	61	Until now
23	Immediately	99	Private school	100	Personal manner	101	Chimney stuff	102	Body part with a cap	62	Rig on a road	63	Panther	106	Brooklyn Bridge's river	107	Legendary snow beast	64	Dots on ocean maps
24	Of the hipbone	102	Skewed view	103	Riddle's answer	113	Egyptian carrier until 2021	116	Makes level	117	Disappear without _	118	Least narrow	119	Fix, as a bow	120	Papal crowns	121	Cutting parts of some cutting tools
25	With great happiness	122	Sulky states	123	Accompany for security	124	Deputy: Abbr.	125	Hairy TV cousin	126	Whoop-de- _	127	Co. VIP	128	Owens, to	129	Said "guilty" or "not	130	Answer Page 2

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								
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				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				123					

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

hypothetical, teams would have signed him even if he started to do the black power salute during huddles.

Kaepernick has now worked himself into a position where he’s compared NFL players to enslaved people – in an absurd Netflix documentary – and he’s bitter that he isn’t numbered among them as a 38-year-old who hasn’t played in 10 years.

Then there’s the substance of his advocacy. The high-water mark for Kaepernick’s anti-police worldview came in the aftermath of the killing of George Floyd, when the NFL basically apologized for not listening to his supposed wisdom and the police were put on their back foot in many cities around the country.

The result was an increase in violent crime that, of course, disproportionately victimized black people. The country has now recovered from this idiocy – based on the lie that the police indiscriminately kill black people – and the country is much safer for the people that Kaepernick purports to care most about. If we

ever go anywhere near his preferred policy of abolishing the police and prisons, we’d instantly create the worst crime wave in the country’s history.

Kaepernick is sometimes compared to Muhammad Ali. The legendary boxer sacrificed part of his career by claiming conscientious objector status during the Vietnam War. Ali was hated for a time, but his true greatness as a boxer, his incandescent charisma and his outsized place in the culture allowed him to transcend that political controversy and become a beloved American figure.

That is not going to happen to Colin Kaepernick, whose claim to fame is kneeling on the sidelines during some NFL games. He’s very dismissive of the enduring change wrought in the NFL by his protests and the tumult after 2020. The league has painted the words “End Racism” in end zones. Kaepernick rightly considers these pointless messages performative, but so was his scorn for the anthem of his own country a decade ago.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. ©2026 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Searching for a word is common as people age

DEAR DR. ROACH: I’m a healthy 70-year-old female who still works full-time and plays tennis regularly. I’m 5 feet, 6 inches tall and weigh 140 pounds. My concern is my memory, especially my speech. English is my second language, but I’ve been in the United States for over 40 years. Words often disappear from me when I need them and come back later when the subject is closed. When I shared my concern with my friend, I was told that nicotine patches are helpful for memory loss, even though I’m no longer a smoker. I quit smoking 15 years ago after decades of smoking. What’s your opinion on nicotine patches for memory loss? -- M.M.



First, occasional word-recall difficulty isn’t abnormal for healthy 70-year-olds, even native English speakers. Many people who are aging normally have tip-of-the-tongue word-recall problems and usually find the word that they’re looking for later. Unless you have significant progression with this problem or have other memory or thinking problems, this may be nothing to worry about.

To answer your question, nicotine patches were shown to have small improvements in memory and attention in healthy older people and in people with mild cognitive impairment (some but not all of whom will develop dementia later). But they aren’t approved by the Food and Drug Administration for this purpose.

These findings are small and aren’t replicated. An ongoing trial is underway and may be published soon. In the meantime, I don’t recommend nicotine patches for memory, attention or word recall.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I’m a 76-year-old man, and I have to urinate at least every 2 hours every night. My urologist did a digital check on my prostate and found that it was of normal size. He recommended a cystoscopy. He said that they numb the penis beforehand, but I’m concerned about the pain. I forgot to ask the doctor if I could be given a strong sedative. Can they give me a sedative before this procedure? -- K.O.B.

They absolutely can give you sedation for this procedure. I personally think that people shouldn’t feel compelled to try to get through medical procedures without medication to make the procedure less painful, uncomfortable or scary, especially because procedures can sometimes seem this way.

Men in particular seem to have a hard time asking for relief. On the other hand, physicians are less likely to offer pain relief to women during procedures. Both men and women deserve a discussion about their options to reduce pain and discomfort.

You should discuss this well ahead of time with your urologist, who may want to have an anesthesiologist administer the sedative. People who undergo moderate sedation should have someone to help them get home and get information about how the procedure went. The sedative can make it hard for a patient to form new memories for a while, meaning that patients may forget some of the explanation they get after the procedure.

Additionally, your urologist can take steps to make the procedure more comfortable, such as adjusting the pressure of the fluid that flows through the cystoscope; allowing you to watch what’s happening on the screen if you want; and allowing you to choose the music that you’d like during the procedure. These are relatively simple steps that have been proven to reduce pain, discomfort and anxiety.

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. ©2026 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

