



NEWSBRIEFS

Tickets reduced

The price of football tickets at Canutillo High School's home football games have been reduced. At a special school board meeting Aug. 19, CISD trustees voted to cut prices for adults and students. The new prices for tickets at the gate are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for students. Advanced ticket sales are \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. This is \$1 and 50 cents off, respectively, for adult and student tickets compared to last year's prices. Trustee Rafael Reyes had first proposed reducing ticket prices at the regular Aug. 10 board meeting. His concern was for families who might be unable to afford the higher ticket price. After discussion, Reyes withdrew his motion to cut prices until more information was available on the financial impact of such action. Advance tickets went on sale earlier this week at all district schools for the first home game. Canutillo hosts Cathedral this Friday at 7:30.

Fabens library rally

The Fabens, Clint and Tornillo communities want to keep the Fabens County Library, currently being considered in the budget process by El Paso County. A community rally will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 31, 6 p.m. at the Fabens Middle School to "support the library, our community and literacy," according to organizers. Information: 764-2246.

Horizon library open

For the first time the Horizon High School Library is opening its doors to the public according to HHS Principal Holly Fields. Public hours are 4-8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 14651 Horizon Blvd. An assortment of books for all ages and free internet access on nine computers are available. Library cards are free to Clint ISD residents, \$1 for all others. Long-range plans include starting a Friends of the Library group to secure donations for the facility.

In other news

■ The Socorro ISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously on Aug. 17 to approve a compensation package to give each teacher a \$1,360 raise, approximately a three percent average increase. Entry-level teachers in the district now have a \$35,360 starting salary. Other district employees will also receive a three percent increase in compensation.

■ All horseback riders are invited to join Ashton Graham, Suzanne Michaels, Jim Conway and others for the Morning Prayer on Horseback series, beginning the first Sunday of each month through December. On Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7 and Dec. 5 the group will meet at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 7050 McNutt Rd. from 9:15 to

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Anger is a state that starts with madness and ends with regret.

— Quips & Quotes

Socorro loses another councilman, cancelled election reset for Nov. 2

Courier Staff Reports

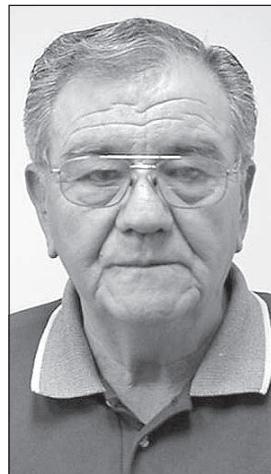
SOCORRO — It appeared to be a normal Socorro city council meeting on Thursday, Aug. 19 but it quickly turned out to be anything but normal.

Frustrated by the inability of the city to provide services to residents of Socorro, City Representative Joseph "Chito" Bowling resigned his seat on council and walked out of the meeting.

Bowling's resignation came during discussion of a contract with the El Paso Electric Company to install street lights. Bowling said he was frustrated because he was unable to improve services to his constituents due to lack of support from the rest of council.

In a written statement to the *Courier* this week Bowling said the current governing system in Socorro amounts to taxation without representation.

"We have not been able to work together as



Joseph "Chito" Bowling

a governing body and do what we were elected to do. Instead we fight, bicker, and never remember that the people put us there for a purpose — to serve," Bowling said. "We need to get down to business and forget our personal agendas and pay-back favors, and put our tax dollars to work on city projects that are beneficial to the people (who) are so frustrated with our inability to govern that they have given up. Eventually there will be no need to hold elections because their motto is 'Why vote if we get the same services?'"

Bowling said his efforts to improve parks, create walking trails, improve streets, and install street lights have gone nowhere while the sitting council has "created some good-paying jobs for some people, have let the colonias overcrowd our city and streets, (and) we have paid precious tax dollars on all sorts of (law)suits and other foolish manners."

He said his efforts to convert his salary into financing for street lights has gone nowhere

See SOCORRO, Page 4

EDHS patrons get spa treatment in cosmetology lab

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — It's probably one of the best places to find pretty girls.

At least, that's the philosophy of Montwood High School sophomore Javier Rodriguez, who is calmly letting Jessica Rodriguez cut and style his short hair.

Rodriguez is sitting in a chair in El Dorado High School's Cosmetology lab, one of the 15 customers the lab welcomed on Aug. 5 — its first day of providing grooming services to the public. The students have been training for a year and now the lab is open for business.

The lab is in Room B-109B of the new high school at 12401 Edgemere Boulevard; it serves clients from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Lab instructor Michelle Saucedo says the salon provides a variety of services — cuts, shampoos, hair highlights, finger- and toenail trimming, polishing and waxing.

"I have 18 experienced students and a new class of 22," Saucedo says. "We offer haircuts, highlighting, coloring, and we do nails, and the students do all of the work," adding that there has been a constant demand for the services during the past year.

Teacher and cheerleader sponsor Claudia Ornelas' hair is being washed in a sink. She has been a patron since the lab began training

Montwood High School students last year. "The girls know what they're doing and they're not afraid to do anything, either," she jokes.

El Dorado is growing into a four-year high school. Today, its students are 8th, 9th and 10th graders. But the Socorro School District was able to offer the cosmetology course to juniors and seniors at nearby Montwood High, and Saucedo's classes filled quickly.

Allen Long, the District's Director of Career and Technology Education, says he's excited about the El Dorado program because of the career opportunities it provides to students. "When they leave this program, the students will have 1,000 hours of training time and skills and are ready to take the state test to become a licensed professional cosmetologist. Plus, they hold a high school diploma accepted by any Texas college or university. Many of the students plan to use these cosmetology skills to help them pay for college," he said.

Money collected for the services goes back into the program to buy supplies. The students are not paid, but they accept tips.

With so many teachers working long hours, the cosmetology lab is a win-win proposition — providing a service for faculty, and training students in the art and science of hair.



A LITTLE HERE, A LITTLE THERE - Instructor Michelle Saucedo shows Jessica Rodriguez the fine points of cutting Javier Rodriguez' hair.



— Photo by Phillip Cortez

LOOKS GOOD, TASTES GOOD — San Elizario students Phillip Rogers, left, and his classmate Marco Madrid enjoy a healthy meal, Friday, Aug. 20, 2004. These lunch buddies belong to Sylvia Guerrero's Pre-K class at Loya Primary School.

Healthy bodies make for school-ready minds in San Elizario

By Phillip Cortez
 Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — What's in a name? In the San Elizario Independent School District, a lot, especially when it comes to the department formerly known as Food Services. The board of trustees approved a name change for the department, which will now be known as Child Nutrition Services, according to coordinator Raul Jacques.

"Our aim is to protect the health of our children by ensuring that they receive adequate nutrition at school," Jacques said. "We recognize that we play a vital role in providing their nutritional needs."

The stronger focus on a more nutritious meal can be seen in any of the San Elizario cafeterias. Last Friday, Loya Primary students enjoyed a healthy sandwich with fresh vegetables, an apple slice, milk and a cookie. Jacques says that one of the biggest changes people will see is the reduction of fried foods.

"There's also going to be more fresh fruits and vegetables, something," he said. "Before we used a lot of canned food items."

One of the ways Jacques says the school district will be able to get better quality foods at competitive prices is by way of the United States Department of Defense.

"We're using the Department of Defense's buying power in getting high quality foods," Jacques said.

The Child Nutrition Department will be focusing on eliminating fats and saturated fats, Jacques said, as well as focusing on the presentation of foods.

"Food needs to look more attractive," he said "and has to be more palatable for kids."

The department will be working closely with Region 19 Educational Service Center, Jacques added, "to analyze our menus so that by design we're ensuring that the meal meets nutritional standards.

"We're also developing party packs that will be available for class parties," he said, listing such items as fruit cups, trail mix, and frozen fruit bars as alternatives to the usual fare.

Not only will students benefit from the stronger emphasis on nutrition, but employees will see an increase in low-cal meal availability, as Jacques says every campus in the district will offer the alternative to district staff.

"They'll also be able to check the menu online and call a low-cal hotline to order food," he said.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Moments like that

I'm feeling a little worn out this morning. I'm not alone.

When I pulled into our street this morning from taking the kids to school I saw that one of the neighbors had a trash malfunction. For whatever reason — carelessness or stray dogs — their week's worth of cast offs were being cast off by the

San Elizario ISD gets state help to handle growth

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — Growth was an underlying theme at the Aug. 11 meeting of the board of trustees of the San Elizario ISD — growth and expansion of the district's facilities as well as housing growth.

Faced with a time crunch for submission of necessary paperwork to the state, the board moved forward with plans for an addition to the high school library. It authorized the administration to advertise for a construction manager-at-risk who would oversee work on the addition. The board also went along with the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Mike Quatrini to hire the architectural firm of Wright and Dalbin which had designed the high school building originally. The superintendent felt it was appropriate to hire them for this project because the firm is familiar with the district and had worked with the board and administration on previous occasions.

The district's attorney, Larry Baskind, pointed out that the law requires advertising for a construction manager-at-risk, but does not apply to selecting an architect.

Baskind said SEISD was fortunate to be able to proceed with the construction project. It was one of only 16 or 17 economically disad-

vantaged Texas school districts to receive state IFA (Instructional Facilities Allotment) funding this year.

The district had applied for \$1.8 million back in June and had just received notice of approval. The attorney said the actual cost is expected to be in the \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million range. Deadline for submitting the final application is Dec. 13.

"We don't want to miss that deadline — we can't miss that deadline," Baskind says. "There is a whole lot to be done."

Underscored Quatrini, "We are on a tightrope."

Robert Longoria, assistant superintendent for support services, reported on accelerated growth of subdivisions in the San Elizario area, a growth of new homes that will translate into more students for the school district. He said there were six subdivisions that are in various stages of planning or early stages of actual development on site.

Quatrini said, on average, that means 3.5 students per house. He expects about four-fifths of that growth to be in the elementary schools and one-fifth each in the middle and high schools.

"I am comfortable with the space in the classrooms for the next two or three years."

Nevertheless, he said the administration was looking into land it owns for possible future expansion of the district.

wind all over our street. Everyone at their house goes to work early so I grabbed a pair of gloves.

Meanwhile, the Diablos baseball team has been sold. There won't be another local team fielded here until at least the 2007 season, according to the news boys, so there's some restaurants and other businesses in the area of Cohen Stadium that are feeling a little worn out this morning.

Congress passed a new law regulating overtime pay — who gets it, who doesn't, who doesn't even know. Some folks are scrambling to see if their paycheck is fixing to shrink, business owners are trying to find out if it really benefits them. Everybody is feeling a little worn out — except the lawyers, who love it.

All the area schools are pretty much back in session — but that doesn't mean that everything is hunky-dory. Far from it. The first several weeks are tumultuous for everybody, disastrous for some.

There are teachers who are wishing they could just go back to bed.

There are more than a few kids in tears this morning, some privately and some — horror of horrors! — in front of the other kids, trying to figure out their schedules, why they are getting shuffled around, who can they

depend on for a straight answer, if they should risk looking stupid by going out for sports, or why so-and-so is ignoring them.

They're young, and already feeling worn out.

It's simply a fact that life is like that. It seems that nothing in human society is straight-forward, black and white, easy to understand or predictable. In fact, the only thing we can really count on is that life will never be safe, easy, organized or efficient.

It's enough to make anybody feel worn out.

Life is hard and then you die, right?

But reality is that we all have to keep living it — the only choice we really have in the matter is what kind of attitude we're going to have while we do it.

I've always hated being around goodie-two-shoes kinds of people — you know, the Pollyanna's who say we should just smile through the day, ever mindful of silver-linings and constantly bolstering the world with a sunny smile as we pass by, breathing out shiny little pieces of glittering optimism into the air.

Nice work if you can get it, but it's not realistic. Everybody has to hit bottom sometimes.

Personally, I'd rather find some-

thing funny in the situation. And it's usually me. Generally speaking, if I can laugh at myself, I probably won't cry. And nobody wants me to get started crying. What a mess.

There's a saying that life is hard, so wear a helmet. That's good advice. Life is hard. It's made up of a lot more unpleasantness than the alternative. Death, illness, unexpected financial setbacks, age, wrinkles, other unpleasant human beings, job loss, unsuccessful relationships, accidents, incompetent help, broken appliances, faulty merchandise, laundry, weeds, scheduling conflicts, bills, irresponsible co-workers, transportation problems, bad food and the U.S. Postal Service are going to unavoidably clutter up our lives.

I've seen people — one of them in my own mirror — who expended way more energy trying to avoid the reality of life's difficulties than calmly and realistically finding a way to work through them.

When calmness and realism don't work, you can always fall back on a bad sense of humor. Next time your household has a crisis, try saying this: "Under life's load you can either grow old or grow up. If you're not in pain, you're probably dead."

Then duck.

Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

Get involved and make a difference

Building strong and united communities takes a lot more than just idle, good intentions. It requires commitment, dedication and a willingness to volunteer time and energy. Willingness to lend a helping hand when it is needed.

Volunteering to help others is part of the American culture. And there is perhaps no better example of people uniting and working for the common good of the community than in small towns in South and West Texas.

In small Texas towns people are naturally charitable. You folks haven't forgotten to make it a priority to give something back to your communities. And it's not like you

don't have anything else to do. You lead busy lives. You work, have families, go to church, etc., yet still make the time to volunteer.

Many people think heroes are the people who beat the odds and achieve the impossible. But the people who do succeed against the odds aren't the only heroes. America is full of them. Heroes are the people who not only recognize that the world is full of need, they do something about it. They get up in the morning and decide they are going to do something to make their community a better place.

There is nothing more satisfying than helping an impoverished child learn to read or delivering a good, hot

meal to an elderly grandmother. Not only do you bring smiles to the faces of those you volunteer to help, but you get a warm feeling in your heart that lasts a long time.

The opportunities to help are boundless. If you're not involved, get involved. Make the decision to just do it. Whether it's stopping along the highway and picking up trash, or organizing a fundraiser to donate money to charity. You can make a difference. And to those who are already doing it, a hearty thank you.



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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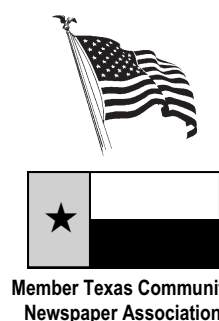
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Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Overtime overhaul bad for El Paso



Here in El Paso, we know all about working long hours and putting in overtime. And we know that overtime helps pay for important expenses like mortgages, health insurance premiums and co-payments, utility bills, and even groceries. Starting this week, though, employees in El Paso and across the country might not receive the overtime pay they have earned due to complex new overtime regulations that took effect on Monday.

These new regulations redefine which workers are eligible for time-and-a-half pay when they work over 40 hours a week and could potentially deprive an estimated 6,000 workers across the country — including nurses, restaurant managers and preschool teachers — of their right to overtime.

While the original overtime rules, created under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, need to be updated

to reflect current salaries and new career fields such as the computer industry, these new regulations neither strengthen our nation's workers nor the economy. By revising the types of jobs eligible for overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Labor Department is forcing employees to work off the clock and taking away rightfully earned wages that many families in El Paso depend on to make ends meet.

While the Administration touts that these regulations will clarify overtime laws and reduce lawsuits, employers — and their lawyers — will now have to review hundreds of pages of new rules to interpret who is eligible to receive this pay. The Labor Department says executives or managers will lose overtime; however, the Economic Policy Institute found that workers who do little supervision and lots of manual or routine work will be classified as "executives" and lose their right to overtime pay. Short-order cooks, reporters, administrative staff in financial services firms, IT

employees, and many other classifications of workers also stand to lose their extra pay, even if they have no supervisory duties at all.

These new regulations come after months of debate and protest on Capitol Hill. For the past two years, my Democratic colleagues and I have fought these revisions and introduced amendments to the Labor Department spending bill that would block the overtime changes. While these amendments garnered bipartisan support, they ultimately failed. However, we will continue our efforts to ensure that middle income workers receive the wages they deserve.

All employees who receive notice from their employer that they are going to lose their overtime pay should make sure that I know about it. Families in El Paso and across the country have endured a sagging economy and slow job growth. The last thing they need is to lose income they have rightfully earned. This pay cut for America's workers must not be allowed to stand.

Local shooting team places second in nation

By Danelle Ivey
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Desert Valley 4H's Shooting Sports teams added a new trophy to their clubhouse wall last week by competing in Vandalia, Ohio during the 2004 Grand American World Trapshooting Championships. The Grand American was established in 1900 and is the premier shooting event in the world.

The Juniors Experienced shooting team took second place in the Amateur Trapshooting Association Hall of Fame Youth Program with team members Cody Ivey, Rene Chavez, Matthew Ivey, Caitlin Barney and King Ivey.

Brian Ivey, Jr. earned an individual award as the Class C Runner up in the Harlan Campbell, Jr. Singles Division.

To qualify for the Nationals, the Desert Valley 4H teams took first place in the Texas Scholastic Clay Target Program's Senior Experienced, Junior Experienced and Junior Novice Divisions in San Antonio in July as well as the Texas Hall of

Fame Junior Experienced title.

Brian Ivey, Jr. has also qualified for a place in the Junior Olympic Development Camp this September at the Olympic Training Complex in Colorado Springs.

During three days of competition in two tournaments the 15 members of Desert Valley 4H took aim at over 6000 3-inch targets. The teams had the opportunity to meet and receive pointers from the USA Shooting Team.

The Scholastic Clay Target Program provides school-age participants in grades 12 and under with the opportunity to showcase their competitive shooting skills and earn state and national recognition, while teaching safe firearms handling, responsibility, leadership and team-

work.

The Seniors Experienced Team is made up of Brian Ivey, Jr., Kyle Ivey, Anthony Garcia, Carlos Garcia and Zachary Lettunich.

Trevor Nelson, Jessica Ivey, Robbie Petrie, Mark Miller and Tyler Bott compete on the Junior Novice Team.

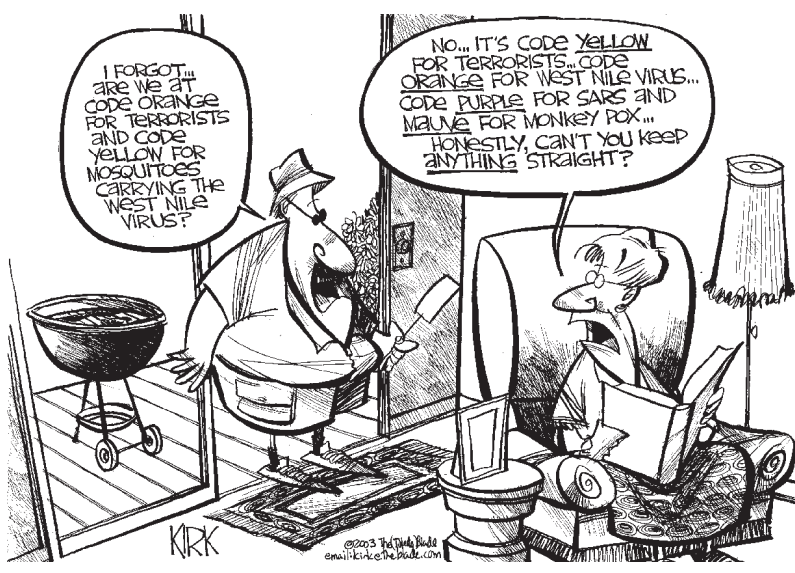
The coaching team is made up of Brian Ivey, Sr., Mike Ivey, Garry Barney, Warren Ivey, Adrienne Schultz and Sarah Ivey.

4H shooting sports is a self-funded program and thanks to the support of the community through concessions, raffle tickets and direct donations, these Teams were able to reach for their dreams and represent their community with pride.

For more information on Desert Valley 4H, contact club manager, Sarah Ivey at 479-0695.



KEEP THE SAFETY ON — Matthew Ivey receives tips from USA Team Member, Brandie Neal.



TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Aug. 26, 1902: Water well drillers find oil instead on W.T. Waggoner's ranch. He said "Oil, hell! I need water for my cattle!"



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El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District 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 2004 on September 2, 2004, 6:30 pm, at 19211 Cobb St., Tornillo, Texas 79853. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR the proposal: Soria, Ivey, Escalante, Bosquez, Vega
- AGAINST the proposal: NONE
- PRESENT and not voting: NONE
- ABSENT: Boehmeyer, Luna

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)	\$ 0.0627	\$0.66343
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		+\$0.003643
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		+ 5.81%
Average appraised value	\$ 30,153	\$ 30,779
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions)	0	0
Average taxable value	\$ 30,110	\$ 30,746
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 18.88	\$ 20.40
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		+\$ 1.52
and percentage of increase (+/-)		+ 8%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

County approaches Canutillo to take over Gallegos Park

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — The Canutillo ISD is non-committal about a proposal for it to take over operation of Gallegos Park from El Paso County.

County Commissioner Dan Haggerty made the suggestion Aug. 19 in a meeting with Canutillo ISD Superintendent Charles Hart. Gallegos Park is located on Bosque Road near the high school.

When asked about the proposal, administration officials declined comment, saying it was a determi-

nation the board of trustees would have to make.

The next school board meeting is Sept. 14.

"The administration hasn't fully digested the proposal," said board president Joe Villarreal last Monday. "So it would be premature for me to comment on it at this time."

"We are looking at it very cautiously and very carefully," said Alfredo Vasquez, public information officer for the district. "It sounds enticing, (but) it would be quite a large financial undertaking," he added. "It is ultimately the board's decision."

Vasquez pointed out that the school

district is in the business of educating the youth of the community.

A source that asked to remain anonymous, but who is familiar with district operations, pointed out that it would be a large financial burden for the district. It would necessitate the hiring of maintenance personnel plus provision and maintenance of equipment.

Haggerty said he made the offer to the school district because he believes county government needs to shed some of the "non-mandated" projects it now administers, projects that carry a price tag of more than \$26 million a year.

"We are bad at it," he frankly admits, referring to how the county ad-

ministers these areas that include Ascarate Park and the east side sports complex. "We don't know how to run these things."

To make the offer more "enticing" to Canutillo ISD, Haggerty is offering the district \$1.8 million, comprised of a \$500,000 state grant and \$1.3 million in quality of life bond issue money to operate the park.

He said his proposal to Canutillo would be on the Commissioners Court agenda on Sept. 20. He said the county may also pursue negotiations with county water districts to take over management and maintenance of various park facilities for which the county now carries responsibility.

Socorro

From Page 1

and his repeated requests for an internal audit of the city affairs has gone unresolved.

"I feel very shameful because I ran on a platform to do something for Socorro and its people, but failed. At the time I didn't know it would be so impossible. Had I known it, I would not have entered the race," Bowling said.

He included a list of issues he said the city has failed to resolve during his tenure on council including borrowing funds against a virtually non-existent museum; raising property taxes without sufficient public notice; neglecting parks, streets and lighting; making appointments to city boards and commissions on the basis of pay-back or friendship, not by qualifications; inadequate and unequal enforcement of city ordinances; failure to enforce health-related ordinances; spending inordinate amounts of tax money for attorney fees, legal suits, and salaries; and failure to train employees and require they serve the public in a professional and community-oriented manner.

Bowling said that respectfully resigning his office was his only option at this point, and added, "I hope and pray that someone will be elected (that) will be able to accomplish what I was unable to do."

The election to which Bowling referred was set by ordinance during that meeting to be held Nov. 2, 2004, to elect a mayor and five councilmen for the City of Socorro.

Bowling's seat will remain vacant and the Socorro council will operate with three representatives and the mayor until the election. One other seat was left vacant earlier this year with the death of Sam Brewster.

Sources said the council has operated substantially on a "lame duck" basis following its failure to bring about an election when it was previously scheduled in the spring, because the city failed to re-draw the boundaries of its voting districts to appropriately represent the population distribution.

In other business, council approved participation in the TxDOT's Scofflaw Program, in which persons with outstanding municipal warrants would be required to pay those warrants before registering their vehicle through the El Paso County Tax Office. County Tax Assessor Victor Flores introduced the program and David Marquez explained how it works — a three-way partnership between the City of Socorro, the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector's office and the Texas Department of Transportation.

Currently, Socorro has approximately 2,000 outstanding warrants averaging about \$225, about \$450,000 in revenue which the city is not collecting. This program would be of minimal cost to the city in comparison to the monies collected from the outstanding warrants. Cost would be .24 cents to flag and clear each warrant and if all 2000 warrants were resolved, the total cost would be \$526. The county would assess a fee of \$30 per fine collected and an additional \$3.46 per inquiry.

The Scofflaw Program is also being considered by the Village of Anthony and there are plans to approach other outlying cities.

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2004 PROPERTY TAX RATES Town of Clint Small Taxing Unit Notice

The Town of Clint will hold a meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 7, 2004 at the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd. to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2004. The proposed tax rate is \$0.39803 per \$100 of value.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Town of Clint by 6%.

WTCC: 08/26/04

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Fabens Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 15, 2004 in the boardroom of the Fabens ISD Administration Building, 821 NE "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Fabens Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 08/26/04 & 09/02/04

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss San Elizario Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

The San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 8, 2004 in the boardroom of the San Elizario ISD Administration Building, 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, San Elizario, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss San Elizario Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 08/26/04 & 09/02/04

Clint Independent School District PUBLIC NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Clint Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Clint Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Section 504 Coordinator or Title IX Coordinator, at 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, Texas 79928, or call (915) 926-4000.

NOTIFICACION PUBLICA

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de Clint prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o discapacidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Clint esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Discapacidades.

Para información tocante a sus derechos comuníquese con Coordinadora de la Sección 504 o el Coordinador del Título IX, en la dirección 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, Texas 79928, o al numero (915) 926-4000.

WTCC: 08/26/04

Briefs

From Page 1

9:40 a.m. For more information call Father Jeff Lambert at 505-874-3972.

■ The sights, sounds and celebration of Fiesta San Elizario will be in the air on Sept. 10, 11, 12 in the San Elizario Placita, 6 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday and after 10 a.m. mass on Sunday. Even though the fun is right around the corner, there are still vacancies for vendors. For information call 851-3105.

■ Following a public hearing at which no opposition was voiced, the Canutillo ISD board of trustees last Monday night approved the proposed budget for the 2004-05 school year. The board approved the \$34.8 million budget by a 4-2 vote. The new budget represents a 6.6 percent increase over last year. Budget approval was the first of three required votes. The other two required votes, which carried by identical margins, came on the two components of a proposed tax rate of \$1.74 per \$100 of property valuation. M&O (Maintenance and Operation) and I&S (Interest and Sinking fund) comprise the overall tax rate. Of the \$1.74, \$1.50 goes to M&O. The remainder goes to I&S that handles debt servicing.

■ The official 2005 Pets Alive-El Paso No-Kill Calendar Kick-Off & PAWtograph Party will be held on Thursday, Sept. 2, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at La Hacienda Restaurant 1720 W. Paisano (at W. Yandell). Free to the public, this event offers the 2005 Pets Alive-El Paso No-Kill Calendar featuring lovable local pets, free tacos and cash bar, PAWtograph signing by featured pets, Pet Care-A-Van Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic tours, music by Manny's Jukebox and more. All proceeds from sales of the \$15 calendars will benefit the El Paso Health & Environmental District's Pet Care-A-Van Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic, to deliver free and low-cost spay/neuter services to low-income pet guardians living in the colonias and other areas with

large stray dog and cat populations and where poverty and lack of transportation are major barriers to access to veterinary services for many residents. For more information call Jennie Van Cleef at (915) 204-0657.

■ Socorro ISD's Board of Trustees approved the appointment of four administrators during its Aug. 17 meeting. Kim Baxter, an assistant principal at Col. John O. Ensor Middle School, will move to Montwood High School as an assistant principal. Montwood High School teacher Roberta Abdo was also promoted to an assistant principal position at Montwood High. Dinah Lopez, a teacher at Jane A. Hambric School will move to another pre-K-8 campus, Paso del Norte, as an additional assistant principal. Martha Serna was selected as a new Director of Community Services, responsible for the District's adult education programs. Serna had previously been coordinator of the District's Even Start program. Previously, the board approved the selection of Dr. Rachel Cervantes as the District's new Director of Special Programs, returning to El Paso from the Albertville, Alabama City Schools where she was that district's assistant superintendent.

■ New overtime rules, issued by the U.S. Department of Labor to simplify regulations for small businesses, became effective this month. "One of the pillars of President Bush's small business agenda is to reduce regulatory barriers for small businesses," said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto. "Previous rules had not been updated in decades, causing confusion and litigation for these entrepreneurs. These new rules will make it easier for small businesses to comply with overtime regulation." The new rules guarantee overtime protections to 6.7 million workers earning \$23,660 per year or less. About 1.3 million salaried white collar workers will gain up to \$375 million in additional earnings per year. Another 5.4 million salaried workers will get a guarantee of overtime rights. For additional details on the new overtime rules, please visit: www.dol.gov.

Groundbreaking held for new Clint ISD middle school

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

HORIZON — The Clint Independent School District held a ceremonial ground breaking for their twelfth campus on Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the new site in Horizon.

Attendees included Clint ISD Board of Trustees President Jim Pendell, trustees Mary Macias, Paul James, Fred Martinez, Alfred Gonzalez, Janice Armstrong, Superintendent Dr. Donna Smith, the new Horizon Middle School Principal Josie Perez and district administration and staff. Tony Marquez from Venegas Engineering Management and Construction (VEMAC), Jim Suerken from SMS Architects and Ernesto Armendariz from Arcon Group were also in attendance. The ceremony was hosted by VEMAC.

Horizon Middle School will be located in Horizon City on Eastlake adjacent to Desert Hills Elementary. SMS Architects and Arcon Group designed the new campus which will accommodate 1500 students. Based

on current enrollment projections the school will open in 2005 with approximately 900 students. The construction of the new campus will cost an estimated \$9 million dollars. The district will utilize the last of the October 2001 Bond & Maintenance Tax to fund the construction of the school.

A committee of teachers, administrators, and students met to nominate and develop recommendations for the school name, colors and mascot that were approved by the Clint ISD Board of Trustees. Horizon Middle School will be home of the Hawks and the first group of fifth, sixth and seventh graders will sport the school colors, silver, black and burgundy.

With the addition of Horizon



IN ANTICIPATION — Preparing groundwork for a new Clint ISD middle school are shown, from left, Trustee Mary Macias, Superintendent Dr. Donna Smith, Trustee Jim Pendell, Trustee Paul James, Principal Josie Perez, Trustee Fred Martinez, Trustee Janice Armstrong, and Trustee Alfred Gonzalez.

Middle School, the Horizon High School feeder pattern will experience some change in 2005-2006 as well. Frank Macias Elementary and Desert Hills Elementary and C. T. Welch will serve grades pre-K through fifth grade. Horizon Middle school will serve grade 6 through 8. Students in grades 9 through 12 will attend Horizon High School.

**Homestead Municipal Utility District
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate**

The Homestead Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2004 on September 2, 2004 at 3668 Desert Meadows Dr., El Paso, Texas 79938 at 6:00 pm. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR the proposal: Lorenzo Barrios, Vicroria Avila, Delia Garcia, Maria Alicia Garcia, Manuel Rojo
- AGAINST the proposal: NONE
- PRESENT and not voting: NONE
- ABSENT: NONE

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)	\$ 0.430	\$0.420285
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$ (0.009715)
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		-2.259%
Average appraised value	\$ 38,119	\$ 40,420
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions)	0	0
Average taxable value	\$ 38,119	\$ 40,420
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 163.91	\$ 169.88
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		+\$ 5.97
and percentage of increase (+/-)		3.64%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

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U.S. Olympic basketball: Dream Team or nightmare?

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Like you, I've watched a lot of the 2004 Olympics from Athens the last couple of weeks. I can't help it, they're on every channel.

pic Games. I don't even recognize some of the events. And there are some really weird ones.

Like trampoline. Yes, there's a competition in trampoline. Trampoline is too much fun to be a competitive sport. Any sport in which a child could practice in his bedroom should be banned.

Heck, my kids could have been in this year's

games. You ought to see them turn somersaults in the air as they take turns landing on each other's bed.

Of course, if they break anything, the house judge could deduct valuable TV time and dinner points.

Another wacky Olympic sport is synchronized diving. Now, I knew there was synchro-

nized swimming. You know, where the ladies flattened their hair, put on too much blush and wear that pinchy thing on their nose.

But I had never heard of synchronized diving. Apparently, two divers take off side by side and do the same dive at the same time. They

See SPORTS, Page 7

Classified Ads

LEGAL

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

PROPOSED PERMIT NO. WQ0014529001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.

El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District, P.O. Box 136, Tornillo, Texas 79853-0136, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a new permit, proposed Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0014529001, to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 730,000 gallons per day. This

application was submitted to the TCEQ on May 13, 2004.

The facility will be located at 695 Henderson Road, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Henderson Road and the Tornillo Drain, approximately 7,000 feet southwest of Highway 20 in El Paso County, Texas. The treated effluent will be discharged to Tornillo Drain; thence to the Rio Grande Below Riverside Diversion Dam in Segment No. 2307 of the Rio Grande Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life uses for Tornillo Drain. The designated uses for Segment No. 2307 are high aquatic life uses, public water supply and contact recreation. In accordance with 30 TAC §307.5 of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. This review has preliminarily determined that no high quality waters have been identified in the stream reach assessed, no significant degradation is expected of high quality waters

downstream and existing uses will be maintained and protected.

The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, statement of basis/technical summary and executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District Office, 19225 Highland Street, Tornillo, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comment or to ask

questions about the application. Generally, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments and requests for a public meeting should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of the notice.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted pub-**

lic comments or who requested to be on a mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the executive director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. Issues that are not raised in public comments may not be considered during a hearing.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The executive director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or a timely request for recon-

sideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this

permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Horacio Juarez, P.E., Brown and Caldwell, at (915) 545-4400.

Issued: AUGUST 9, 2004

WTCC: 08/26/04

HELP WANTED

AVON Representatives Needed Multilevel Opportunity/ Training provided West 731-6373 / East 727-3626 Join Now

Ryan Supply is seeking applicants for several positions. ALL APPLICANTS MUST be 18, like to help people, be bilingual, have good math skills, be able to lift and stock

shelves, and enjoy the challenge of a fast-paced work environment. Part-time cashier: Must have computer skills and be a problem solver. Loader/Stocker: Must have valid TX driver's license with good driving record and be able to lift 94 lbs. Customer Service: Must like to help people. Knowledge & experience in any or all of the following areas a plus, but not necessary: electrical, plumbing, paint, lawn and garden. Applications: Available at Ryan Supply, Inc./Ace Hardware. 117 N. Fabens St., Fabens, TX 79838.

REAL ESTATE

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but not installed. Please call American Dream Real Estate: Armando Lopez at 252-5740 or Rei Martinez, 630-9719.

8.09 acres @\$12,000 per acre. Located on Socorro Rd. between San Elizario and Quadrilla. All utilities are in the area, seller is not responsible for connections. American Dream Real Estate. Ask for Rei Martinez, 630-9719 or Armando Lopez, 252-5740.

SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Informacion: 838-6264.

SERVICES

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WORD PLAY

- ACROSS 1 "My country, _ of thee ..." 4 Apply gently 7 Theater sign 10 Singer Sumac 13 West or Faith 17 Audiophiles' equipment 19 Drop a brick 20 Israeli city 22 Seedy spot 23 _TBALL 25 Varnish ingredient 26 On a cruise 27 Flynn of films 28 Port _, Egypt 30 Harden 32 Jillian of "It's a Living" 33 Dubuque denizen 35 Checker move? 38 Famed loch 39 Set 40 PL_ARIUM 43 Tipple 45 Conservative skirt 49 Raven maven? 50 Burrowing critter 51 Bound bundle 52 Gray or Moran 53 It'll curl your hair 55 Salamander 57 Bodybuilder Charles 59 Actor Howard 61 Scrape by, with

- "out" 63 Investigate 66 Baseball's Martinez 68 BRAN_ 71 Debtor's letters 72 "_ Dawn" (73 song) 74 Shrimpton or Stapleton 76 Help a hood 77 Poet Rossetti 79 "Baby _ Want You" (71 hit) 80 SC_ION 82 For _(cheaply) 84 Albert's wife 88 _ Cruces, NM 89 Standardize 92 Bathrobe fabric 93 "La Boheme" seamstress 96 Reverberate 99 "Orinoco Flow" singer 100 "_ Dinah" ('58 tune) 101 Broad bean 103 Corn portion 104 Read quickly 105 "The Three Musketeers" prop 106 BOBO_ 110 HST's successor 111 "_ patriae" 113 Katey of "Married ... with Children" 114 Couches

- 118 Above, to Arnold 119 Toil 121 "Topaz" author 123 Proboscises 125 _ Major 127 Word with oil or water 130 CARL_URE 132 Coalition 133 Morgiana's master 134 Indian export 135 "Rosanna" rockers 136 Nomad pad 137 Wine word 138 Part of MPH 139 Sneak a peek 140 Apex
- DOWN 1 Use the VCR 2 Japanese porcelain 3 Richard's veep 4 Strauss' "_ Rosenkavalier" 5 Son of Zeus 6 Rest 7 Arena 8 _ room 9 Seville shout 10 DeCarlo of "The Munsters" 11 Stately dance 12 Maintains 13 Orthodontists' org. 14 ST_WEED 15 Main drag 16 Intended

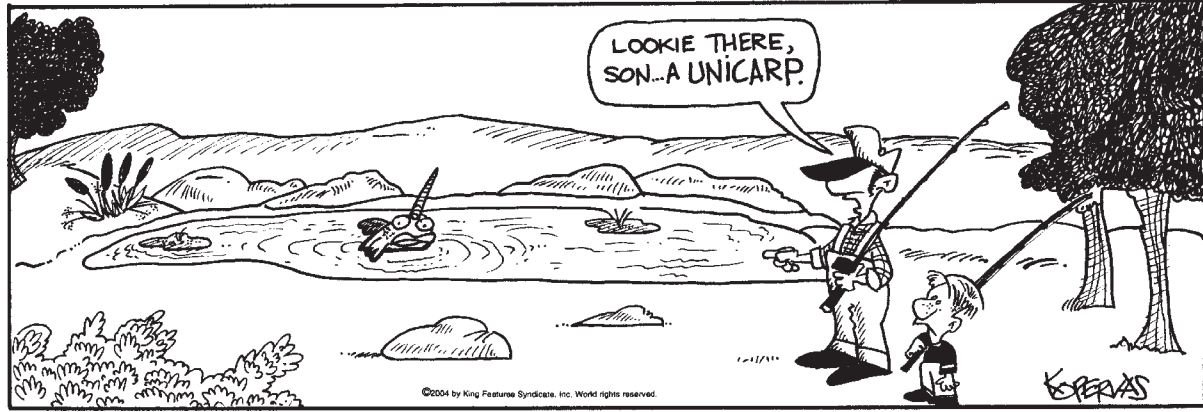
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- 86 Dental appointment, e.g. 87 Bread or booze 90 Memo letters 91 Tasty tuber 94 "No _, ands, ..." 95 Bulk 97 Orchestra members 98 "Bali _" 102 Bony 105 Swimmer Gertrude 106 Portable 107 Paradoxical 108 Predatory fish 109 Hawaiian coffee 110 Reservation 112 Michelle and Cass 115 Racing legend 116 English course? 117 Cold_war assn. 120 CSA soldier 122 How_to part 124 Word in an octagon 126 Make believe 128 Seance sound 129 Lyman or Lincoln 131 Bit of sunshine

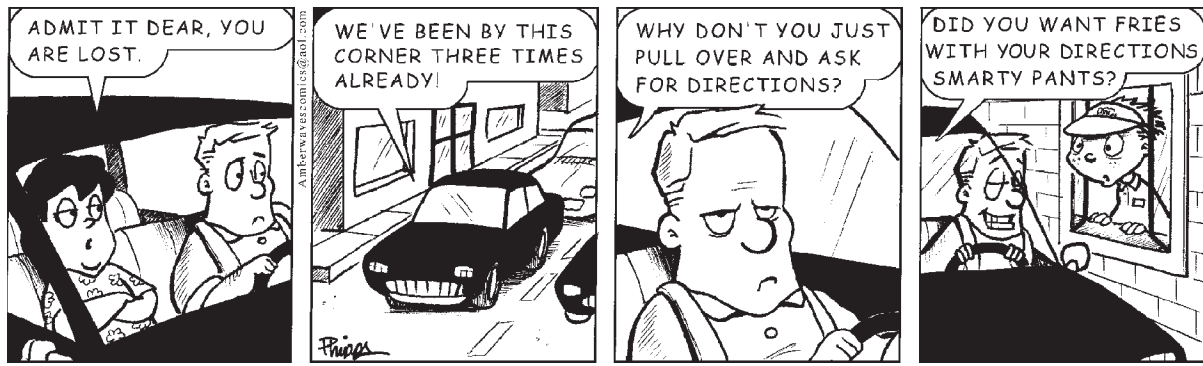
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Sports

From Page 6

attempt to be mirrors of each other.

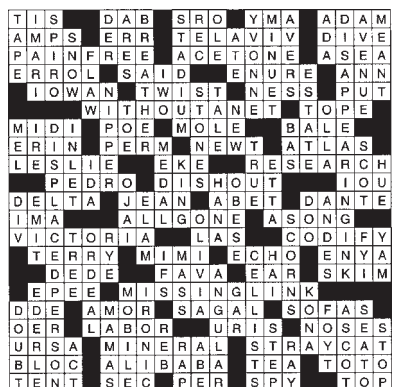
They try to do the exact same turn, flip and tumble in the air, and — get this — they actually try and duplicate the same splash. Needless to say, they rarely do.

But sanity returned just in time — there was one sport I had no problem identifying.

Basketball has long been a staple of the games. And the United States has long been a staple on the gold medal-winning stand at the end of the basketball competition.

Or, at least, we used to be.

Once upon a time Olympic basketball was a competition between all



the other countries of the world fighting for the silver medal. The gold was already reserved for the red, white and blue. But not this year.

The once proud United States suffered through losses to Puerto Rico and Lithuania in its first four games. And if I'm not mistaken, these really are NBA players, not high schoolers imitating NBA players.

If nothing else, the U.S. team has made one thing perfectly clear to the rest of the world — a dirty little secret we Americans have known for several years: The NBA is a league full of players earning more money than ever, while their skills have deteriorated faster than you can say "I love this game."

The Americans are among the best basketball players in the world — except they can't shoot medium-range jump shots, shoot free throws, shoot 3-point jumpers, pass the ball or play defense.

Other than that, this is a heck of a team.

I guess at the time, it sounded innocent enough, but every American child took it too seriously. What am I talking about? In 1991, Gatorade put out a commercial where kids on a basketball court were shooting and dribbling to the catchy tune of "Be like Mike."

Trouble is, every kid in the United States patterned his game like Michael Jordan. They tried to do turnaround dunks, double pump dunks, whirlwind dunks and double clutch dunks.

No one cared about basic dribbling, passing, shooting and defense. And we're paying the price now.

Believe me, scoring is not down in the NBA because of the stingy defense.

I can't say that I'm disappointed at the losses, though. It's about time these NBA stars realized that they are grossly overpaid for what they do. And to be honest, they don't do it very well anymore either.

Way to go Lithuania and Puerto Rico, you may have done more to reignite the NBA than anybody since the days of Magic and Bird.

Diablos gone

In the "oh, what a surprise" category, owners of the El Paso Diablos announced that they were moving the team to Missouri leaving the city without a team.

The media has been predicting this all season long. What are the Brett brothers thinking? I haven't seen acting this bad since Richard Nixon looked at me through the TV screen and swore he wasn't a crook.

Did that car just wink at me?

By Don Flood

Like many people, you've probably walked around a car lot and wondered, "If we can put a man on the moon, how come we can't make a car with eyebrows?"

Unfortunately, because of the auto industry's desire to satisfy boneheads such as yourself, some Japanese inventors have actually patented a car with eyes, eyebrows and other features to help convey "feelings" — the next step, I suppose, being a car that will sit on the couch and watch the Lifetime channel.

My first thought, I admit, was that the designers of such a car must be a little nutty. Then I read the patent:

"As traffic grows heavier and vehicle use increases, vehicles having expression functions, such as crying and laughing, like people and other animals do, could create a joyful, organic atmosphere rather than the simple comings and goings of inorganic vehicles."

So you see, they're not nutty after all, they're complete lunatics!

First, I don't want a car that cries. If I scratch the car, I'll handle the crying myself, thank you.

A car that laughs sounds intriguing, but only if it likes my jokes:

ME: Hey, two antennas got married on a rooftop. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was great! Ha Ha Ha Ha! Get it? Reception?

CAR: (Dead silence.)

According to The New York Times story, these cars would also be able to wink and wag their antennas.

I foresee nothing but trouble:

WIFE: Did you just wink at that car?

HUSBAND: I was just letting her know to go first.

WIFE: Did you have to wink?

Look, she's winking back at you! HUSBAND: She's not winking at me. She's winking at the car.

WIFE: Well, I don't approve of that either. I don't like our nice car being winked at by cars like that.

HUSBAND: Cars like what?

WIFE: She's a little "fast," if you know what I mean.

HUSBAND: No, I don't know what you mean.

WIFE: Oh, grow up! Look at the way she's decked out. You see those rims? She's a tramp, and so's the driver.

HUSBAND: You're imagining things.

WIFE: Oh yeah, am I imagining she's wagging that little antenna of hers?

A car that shows emotion, however, would be good news for movie producers planning a remake of the classic "My Mother the Car" TV show — newly updated, of course, to: "My Mother the SUV."

(The original show, billed as a comedy, was actually darkly disturbing, since the mother came back not as a nice, new car but as a junker, which he was stuck buying because it was his mom.)

One advantage of the new cars would be a more expressive horn.

Sometimes the "excuse me" toot doesn't cut it. You need a Teresa Heinz Kerry blast to help other folks understand that, yes, you do own the road.

"Shove it!" the horn would explain to these dim-witted drivers.

Still other situations might call for the Dick Cheney special: "\$#%&!" the vice president's voice could alert fellow motorists.

It might even make the other cars cry.

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So the Diablos are gone El Paso, face it. Now what? What are we going to do next summer without baseball? I know what. We'll do the same thing we did this summer with baseball, because nobody went to the Diablos games this year anyway.

Is El Paso ready for a possible triple-A franchise? I don't think so. Don't get me wrong, I think El Paso

is plenty big enough to take that next step. But we still think like little guys here.

If there's a reason not to get something done — we'll think of it.

First it was the Buzzards, then Speaking Rock, the Rumble, and now the Diablos, and some people still talk seriously about an arena... in El Paso... oh, please.

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I have a 6 year old son whose father recently died from an automobile accident. I am concerned as I also recently lost my job. We never lived together and were never married, would we be able to qualify for social security benefits on his work record?

A: If the deceased earned the necessary credit which is normally 10 years equivalent to 40 credits, sometimes less depending on their age at time of death, your son would be

potentially eligible for benefits on his father's record. Because the child was born out of wedlock, we would require his written acknowledgement or court order or some other type of evidence that he was the father. An application should be filed so that we can determine his eligibility. As for yourself, you were never married or lived together, therefore you would not be considered a surviving wife, no benefits would be payable to you.

Q: Why does my Social Security

Statement include an age 70 estimate? I thought that once I turn my full retirement age, I could take my benefits even if I am still working.

A: You are right. And most people who are still working when they reach full retirement age claim their Social Security retirement benefits at that point. But you can choose to delay the start of your benefits until age 70, and collect a higher benefit. Those who do that get "delayed retirement credits" added to their basic Social Security benefit rate. For those born in 1935 or later, that credit is between 6 and 8 percent per year,

depending on the year of birth.

Q: I get a disability check from Social Security. But I am supporting my 24-year-old daughter. She is an unemployed single mom with no other income. Can she also receive Social Security based on my disability?

A: No. Social Security only pays dependent's benefits to children under age 18, or to children over age 18 if they are disabled.

Q: Individuals who are already receiving social security benefits, if they are incarcerated or in prison, do they still

receive social security benefits?









A: Social Security benefits are suspended if an otherwise eligible person is confined in a jail, prison, or other penal institution for more than 30 continuous days due to conviction of a crime.

For more information visit your local Security office, see www.ssa.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

WEATHER

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
							
▲ 97°	▼ 69°	▲ 97° ▼ 71°	▲ 94° ▼ 71°	▲ 91° ▼ 68°	▲ 92° ▼ 69°	▲ 91° ▼ 70°	▲ 93° ▼ 68°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	10	Very High
Friday	10	Very High
Saturday	10	Very High
Sunday	10	Very High
Monday	10	Very High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

REAL FEEL TEMP™

The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	93°
Friday	86°
Saturday	87°
Sunday	87°
Monday	90°
Tuesday	93°
Wednesday	93°

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	97	70
Canutillo	97	71
Clint	97	72
E. Montana	97	70
Fabens	97	71
Horizon	97	73
San Elizario	93	70
Socorro	96	70
Tornillo	97	72
Vinton	97	70

Shown is Thursday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday's highs and Thursday night's lows.



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	89/64/s	87/63/pc	86/60/t	86/62/s	87/64/s
Atlanta	85/70/t	85/70/t	85/70/t	86/70/t	85/68/sh
Atlantic City	76/62/pc	81/63/pc	82/64/t	80/63/t	80/61/r
Austin/San Antonio	97/75/pc	96/74/pc	96/71/pc	95/71/t	95/68/pc
Baltimore	82/66/pc	84/68/pc	84/68/t	84/66/t	82/62/t
Boston	76/64/s	80/66/pc	82/64/pc	80/66/sh	76/63/r
Chicago	90/70/t	90/68/t	82/64/t	80/60/pc	77/57/sh
Dallas/Ft. Worth	93/75/pc	96/75/pc	92/73/pc	91/72/t	93/70/pc
Denver	84/52/t	66/46/t	66/49/sh	79/53/s	80/53/pc
Flagstaff	77/46/s	70/42/s	72/42/s	76/47/s	78/48/s
Houston	94/76/t	94/74/pc	94/74/t	92/72/t	90/70/t
Kansas City	95/72/pc	86/66/pc	80/61/t	84/62/s	85/59/sh
Las Vegas	92/70/s	90/71/s	93/72/s	98/73/s	98/75/s
Miami	90/78/t	90/78/t	90/78/t	90/78/t	90/77/t
Minneapolis	85/68/t	84/65/t	76/56/t	76/59/c	75/53/c
New Orleans	89/75/t	91/77/t	90/75/t	90/75/t	89/73/t
New York City	79/67/s	80/68/pc	82/69/t	83/69/t	79/67/r
Philadelphia	82/68/pc	84/70/pc	86/70/t	84/70/t	81/65/r
Phoenix	102/79/s	100/78/s	103/80/s	104/80/s	101/79/s
Portland	70/58/sh	74/58/pc	76/57/pc	77/55/c	76/52/c
San Francisco	75/58/s	80/58/s	83/58/pc	78/58/s	75/59/s
Seattle	68/56/sh	70/56/pc	72/54/pc	72/54/pc	71/49/c
Tucson	96/71/s	95/71/s	95/71/s	97/73/s	97/73/s
Washington, DC	83/69/pc	85/71/pc	85/71/t	85/69/t	83/66/t

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

AGRICULTURE

Sunny to partly cloudy on Thursday with excellent drying conditions. About 8 to 10 hours of possible sunshine across the area with a south to southwest wind at 8 to 16 mph. As a disturbance moves across the state Friday, gusty winds along with a sunny to partly cloudy sky will allow for another day of excellent drying conditions.

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