

Inconvenience small price to pay for pope's visit

His visit is the biggest news to hit the borderland since One Direction stormed in to El Paso, breaking Sun Bowl concert records. Pope Francis may not be coming to the Sun city, but he is visiting neighboring Juarez Feb. 17.

Let's face it. The two cities rarely make national headlines for good reasons. Juarez was named the most dangerous city without a war two years ago. El Paso has been the recipient of such notable titles as the fattest, smelliest, and the city with the ugliest men. Here's our chance for both cities to shine.

staff editorial

Although some citizens think local officials are overreacting, the visit must be meticulously planned. City and law enforcement officials on both sides of the border had to think of everything, including traffic plans, security, transportation plans for the pontiff, and finding 80,000 people to volunteer the day of the mass.

Francis' visit has even caused four of the city's largest school districts to close, including EPISD. All schools will be closed for his visit. UTEP and EPCC have also decided to cancel classes.

The visit will be lucrative, not just for Juarez, but for El Paso as well. With hotels in Juarez completely booked, El Paso hotels have seen enormous numbers for February. People from around the world will be staying here to get a



glimpse of the pontiff. They'll be eating in our restaurants and shopping in our stores. One El Paso bishop even expects up to a million people for Francis' visit.

This incredible event has brought the opportunity for people to come together. It will be the last day of Francis' six-day trip to Mexico. Two countries who share life culturally and geographically, will now share this as well.

During his mass, Francis will speak on several topics important to the region, including drug violence and more importantly, immigration. Francis has spoken out on his views on immigration since the beginning of his papacy.

The mass will be a great opportunity for people to be faced with issues that are often hot potatoes in the political world. Immigration is certainly a hot topic right now, with the current ignorance being shown toward immigrants.

Some think Francis' visit is more of a nuisance because of road and school closures, but in reality, it is an event that warrants all the measures that have been taken to this point.

The Papal visit will bring the two nations even closer. Francis could have chosen anywhere in Juarez to deliver his mass, but he chose a spot close to the border to show the close proximity and relationship between the two countries.

The two communities should be proud. Pope will be welcomed with open arms, not just by one city, but by two countries.



third eye
with ari amezaga

ADD is a disorder, not a disability

Brain farts and zoning out are all too common scenarios when it comes to school.

While the teacher writes on the board and everyone around me is in the zone, I can't help but think about what to eat for lunch.

For most of my life I thought that something was wrong with me, until I was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) at 14.

I know some of my peers know exactly what I am describing. In fact, about two million American teens suffer from ADD or a form of it.

Studying and keeping notes has always been one of the tougher struggles, because like most kids with ADD, I am a visual learner.

Using a variety of colored highlighters to emphasize information has really helped me focus and stay on task. I have less of an impulse to watch Netflix while doing my homework.

Talking to teachers about how I struggled in class never used to be an option because I didn't want to be pitied or use my disorder as an excuse. But the fact still remains, many teachers can't tell when a student has ADD until it is brought to their attention. They can't help if they aren't aware.

Talking to your teachers and asking for extra help is effective. No one should be ashamed of having ADD because it is part of who you are.

Having ADD has actually made me a better student. I feel more prepared for college. For students who struggle like me, I have some advice. Just remember to breathe, try again, and buy a lot of highlighters.

● My views do not represent those of the district or school.

editor's report card

A+	F	A	A
to El Paso Animal Services for taking the beginning steps toward reaching no-kill status. According to interim Animal Services director Kurt Fenstermacher, the shelter had a live-release rate of 42 percent last year and hopes to jump to 90 percent by 2020.	to the Killeen Independent School District for suspending a student for helping a classmate to the nurse's office after collapsing from an asthma attack. Authorities said he defied the teacher's orders. The teacher told the girl to wait until the nurse responded to an e-mail.	to YouTube personalities Casey Neistat and Jesse Wellens for making the best of the east coast blizzard. The pair skied and snowboarded through Time Square and posted the video set to Sinatra's "New York, New York." The video currently has over 500,000 views.	to Social Studies teacher and head swimming coach James Kehrle for being named the boy's district swim coach of the year. This is the fifth time Kehrle has won the honor. He has been the head boy's and girl's coach for 13 years and has led the team to one district championship.

Did you know?

Pope Francis once worked as a bar bouncer. He is the first pope from South America, and the first pope born outside of Europe. abcnews.go.com

Nancy Mulkey, who plays for Cy-Fair in Houston, is the country's tallest female high school basketball player. At 6'9", Mulkey helped her team win the Texas state title last year as a junior. She signed with the University of Oklahoma before her junior year. [usa today](http://usa.today)

In the U.S., athletes suffer from about 30,000 concussions every year. In some severe cases, symptoms can last up to a few weeks, or a month. At least 25 percent fail to get assessed by medical personnel, and people that have had one concussion are more susceptible to having another one. dosomething.org

// I feel an endless need to learn, to improve, to evolve, not only to please the coach and the fans, but also to feel satisfied with myself. **//**

-Cristiano Ronaldo Real Madrid soccer player on how he prepares for his games. goodreads.com

and more

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