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## The real villain



### Open Court

NICK PREVENAS

Every sports fan has his or her own personal villain.

Each sport has at least one athlete that generates nothing but disdain and ill-will for the majority of fans.

Like anyone else, I can't stand Barry Bonds, Terrell Owens, Bill Romanowski, Pete Rose, Todd Bertuzzi and all of the other standard targets for criticism.

But there is one former football star who still makes these jerks seem like candidates for Time Magazine's "Man of the Year" award: Orenthal James Simpson.

On Friday, The Associated Press reported that Simpson is filming a candid-camera prank show entitled "Juiced," which features O.J. disguised as an Elvis impersonator, a homeless man selling oranges and an elderly man organizing a Bingo game.

If that didn't sound bizarre enough, "Juiced" also contains a skit where Simpson is placed in a used-car lot and attempts to sell a white Ford Bronco, the vehicle Simpson and Al Cowlings used to lead a low-speed chase in 1994 after Simpson was accused of murdering his ex-wife, Nicole, and her companion, Ron Goldman.

As a potential buyer approached the vehicle, Simpson is quoted as saying, "It was good for me -- this car helped me get away."

I mean...what is the proper response to this?

Here's a man, once accused of double homicide, having a hearty laugh by staging a comedy skit around the most infamous getaway vehicle in history.

In case you were wondering, Simpson won't receive any money from this, meaning that the \$33.5 million he was ruled to pay the Goldmans in the civil trial will continue to go unpaid as he continues his search for the "real killers."

"Juiced" executive producer

# Green Valley golfer achieves remarkable milestone

One of the most unique achievements in golf is when the number on a golfer's scorecard falls at or below his or her age.

On May 1, T.E. Smith performed that feat for the 2,500th time.

"Shooting your age once is a heck of a moment, but to shoot it 2,500 times is just unbelievable," said Country Club of Green Valley pro Joel Jaress.

Playing with Andy Sorensen and Bob Dopke at the Country Club of Green Valley, Smith, who describes himself as a "young 89," fired an 82.

"It was a fun round," Smith said. "I could have broken 80 had a couple more putts dropped for me."

Since then, he's carded a score lower than his age five more times, including an 83 on Friday morning.

Smith first shot his age on June 19, 1984, when he fired a four-under-par 68 at the Moorhead Country Club in Minnesota.

"I go back to Minnesota every summer and help out with the junior golf club," Smith said.

Smith has played over 100 golf courses, including five in Ireland and a round at St. Andrews in Scotland, the home of the British Open.

"The sand traps are like silos there," Smith said. "I never figured out why anyone would put sand traps like that in the middle of the fairway."

Out of the 39 Arizona courses Smith has played, he mentioned Apache Stronghold in Globe as his favorite.

"After you tee off, you don't

see a house until you return to the clubhouse," Smith said. "It's just you, your ball and the desert. It's beautiful."

Smith, the youngest of six boys, picked up golf while he was stationed in Hawaii during his time in the Air Force.

"I hadn't played more than nine holes before I graduated college," Smith said. "But my friend, Sergeant Frank Harned, was a great golfer. We would hit the course early in the morning and play a round before breakfast. Frank would only bring a 3-iron and a putter."

Many of his Air Force colleagues remember Smith for his exploits on the baseball diamond, hitting .402 and winning the Most Valuable Player award.

"I hit three home runs in a game once, and most of my Air Force friends remembered that for years," Smith said. "I guess the quick wrists and hand-eye coordination transferred over to golf."

After Smith finished his active tour of duty, he took a job as the baseball coach for Moorhead State University, but eventually transferred to the golf program.

"I got my average down to around 70, so I told our five-man team that if they could collectively beat my average, we would win most of our matches," Smith said. "I think they wanted to beat me more than they wanted to win."

Smith coached his squad to six conference champions and an appearance in the 1972 national tournament in

North Carolina.

Smith and his wife Ruth first visited Green Valley in 1980 and became members at the Country Club of Green Valley in 1982.

"We've been members at all of the Green Valley courses at one time or another," Smith said. "Everyone in this community is so nice and they make playing golf a lot of fun."

Because of Green Valley's phenomenal golfing atmosphere, Smith said he plays at least four rounds per week.

"We have our Monday and Wednesday skins matches, but I'm not really much for gambling," Smith said. "We also play on Fridays and we have our couples matches on Saturdays."

Throughout his golfing career, Smith has won over 80 medals, including a title in the Grand Masters division of the Minnesota Golf Association Senior Amateur Championship.

So what advice does Smith have for fellow golfers looking to bring their golf scores below their ages?

"The best thing any golfer can do is learn to concentrate, but also relax," Smith said. "I'm reading a book by Sam Snead where he said you shouldn't be thinking of anything during your swing, because all of the thinking should happen before you address the ball."

Smith also maintains a regular exercise and stretching regiment to stay in peak physical condition.

"I had a teacher that once told me that you only have one body, so you have to take



RICK MCCALLUM

**GREEN VALLEY** golf enthusiast T.E. Smith, 89, has carded a score at or below his age 2,505 times since 1984.

care of it," Smith said. "That statement has really stuck with me."

With his picture-perfect swing and passion for the

game, Smith's golf scores should continue to fall below his age for years to come.

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## Ride of Silence set to debut in Green Valley

By Nick Prevenas  
Green Valley News

According to the League of American Bicyclists, more than 700 cyclists lose their lives each year while riding.

On Wednesday, Green Valley cyclists will take part in the "Ride of Silence," a nationwide event to honor the memories of those lost to cycling injuries.

"We lost a dear friend of ours, Fred Hettig, on March 22," said event coordinator

Chuck Hill. "We thought it would be an appropriate way to honor Fred and all the riders we've lost."

The event began in May 2003 in Dallas when Chris Phelan organized this ride in memory of his friend Larry Schwartz.

"There are no brochures, sponsors, registration fees or T-shirts at this event," Hill said.

Over the past three years, the "Ride of Silence" has grown to include nearly 300 communities in six different

countries, with this being the first year for Green Valley.



The event will begin at the Green Valley Recreation West Center at 6 p.m. The group will ride through Continental Road to Camino Del Sol, then head south, making a loop at Retorno de Anza before returning to the starting point.

Local cycling enthusiasts Jim Jordan and Bill Adamson will lead the seven-mile ride.

"We hope to see a pretty good crowd for this event," Hill said. "The Santa Cruz Bicycle Committee has done a great job putting this ride together."

The "Ride of Silence" requires that all of the riders wear helmets, with the option of wearing black arm bands. Riders are asked to pedal no faster than 12 miles per hour and ride in single file.

"The goals of this ride are to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured, raise awareness to the existence of other cyclists and to ask that we all share the road," Hill said.

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