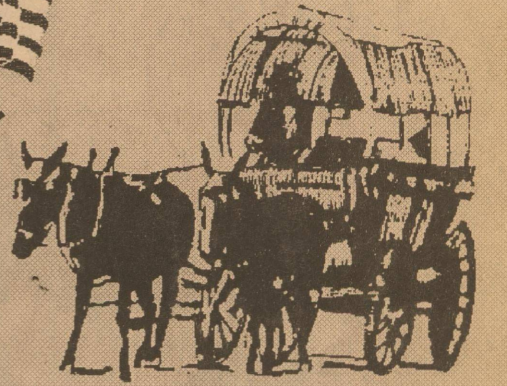


The Eldorado SUCCESS

"Serving Eldorado and Schleicher County since 1901"



Volume 96 #2

Down Home Living at the Top of the Divide

January 9, 1997

PAGE ONE

Headlines From
Around the World

Gingrich Probe Enters Final Phase

The ethics investigation of House Speaker Newt Gingrich now enters its final phase. Ethics committee members will meet to begin the process that will lead to a recommendation for punishment. There's speculation that the committee will recommend a reprimand, the third level of punishment below expulsion and censure. A censure could force Gingrich to step down as speaker. The committee is to vote no later than Jan. 21. Tuesday the panel sought extra time to wrap up its investigation but the House voted to stick with the original deadline. That same day Gingrich won a close vote for a second term as speaker.

Doctor-Assisted Suicide Reviewed

The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments yesterday on the issue of doctor-assisted suicide. At issue are New York and Washington state laws banning assisted suicide. The court will decide whether mentally competent, terminally ill patients have a constitutional right to commit suicide with a doctor's help. Law professor Laurence Tribe, who argued in favor of assisted-suicide, said it spares a terminally ill patient needless pain and agony. The Clinton administration joined Washington and New York in arguing that states have an interest in "protecting vulnerable patients from mistake and abuse." A ruling is expected by July.

Albright Faces Hearing

U.S. Secretary of State-designate Madeleine Albright faces a Senate confirmation hearing this week. Albright figures to call for a "new engagement" by the United States in the world. Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, has been studying briefing papers since President Clinton nominated her to the top American diplomatic post on Dec. 5. She went before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Wednesday morning. The hearings could last through the end of the week. Senate aides say that even though Albright is well-regarded by the committee's chairman, Jesse Helms, he and other Republicans intend to press her closely on foreign policies they either oppose or feel have been inadequately handled during Clinton's first term.

Balloonist Survives Fall

British tycoon Richard Branson says he's glad to be alive after his bid to circle the globe by balloon ended with a dizzying descent into the Algerian desert less than 24 hours after takeoff. Branson's co-pilot is being hailed as a hero for climbing on the roof of the passenger capsule and releasing two ballast tanks to slow the balloon's descent. Branson, who has an airline, a music company and various manufacturing interests, said the experience was "pretty hairy" and he was glad to have survived. "It's nice to be alive, nice to be sitting here in this incredible desert scenery," he said, "and that's really what matters."



Schleicher County officials take office — At left, County Judge Johnny Griffin administers the oath of office to newly elected officials last week. They are: (L-R) Johnny Mayo, Jr., County Commissioner Pct. #1 Tommy Hunley, Constable; Lou Ann Turner, Tax Assessor-Collector; Steve Minor, County Commissioner Pct. #3; Marian Overstreet, County Attorney; and David Doran, County Sheriff.

Classic Cable to raise rates in Eldorado

Classic Cable notified its local customers last week of a pending 13 percent rate increase. That drew a quick response from Eldorado City Hall which notified the cable company that such a hike would be in violation of its franchise agreement with the city. The existing franchise agreement allows no more than a 5 percent increase in any one year.

The cable company's answer was faxed to City Hall on Monday in the form of a letter signed by Cary Ferchill from the Austin law firm of Winstead, Sechrest & Minick. The letter stated that with the passage of the Telecommunications Act last year, cities such as Eldorado no longer have the authority to regulate the rates of small cable operators.

Ferchill's letter went on to say that Classic Cable is "very concerned to assure that their customers feel that they are being well served." The letter continued by

saying that the cable company would be happy to send a representative to meet with the council or appear at a council meeting to discuss the pending changes.

The relationship between Classic Cable and the City of Eldorado has been a rocky one. In 1995 the city council protested when Classic Cable dropped WFAA, an ABC affiliate, from its programming list and replaced it with KTXS. Other concerns the council had focused on the quality of Classic Cable's signal.

Steven Seach, president of Classic Cable told the Success that he understands the public's aversion to rate increases. "As a consumer of many products I don't like for my groceries...or gas...or newspaper to go up," commented Seach. "However, we've been faced with an incredible run-up in programming costs."

Seach noted that while cable rates will be going up the local

customers will be receiving more programming in return. "Clearly there are competitive issues in this business and we have to be cognizant of those issues," Seach said in response to a question about the boom in the mini-dish satellite TV business.

Seach told the Success that TV-Land, The Learning Channel, Turner Classic Movies and C-Span II will be added to Classic Cable's programming package in Eldorado.

Seach concluded by saying that his company sought to be responsive to its subscribers by adding the programming. "Our customer preference survey indicated that these changes were ones our subscribers wanted."

Eldorado Mayor John Nikolauk told the Success that while the city council may disagree with Classic Cable's rate hike, there is very little that can be done about it. "I'm sure we'll discuss this when we meet next Monday night," said Nikolauk. "I just don't know what we will be able to do." Nikolauk went on to say that individual subscribers unhappy with Classic Cable's service had options available to them. "There are affordable alternatives on the market today that weren't available even a few years ago," Nikolauk said.

Icy weather grips the region

Slippery roads and iced over bridges made travel dangerous Tuesday as a winter storm dropped significant snow and ice throughout the area. Several traffic accidents were attributed to the weather including a collision between a car and a tractor-trailer rig a few miles south of the Schleicher/Sutton County line.

SCISD pupils enjoyed a 2-hour reprieve from school as classes didn't begin until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Basketball games sched-

uled for Tuesday night with the Wall Hawks in Eldorado were postponed until Saturday.

By noon Tuesday most roadways were most passable. However, National Weather Service forecasters were calling for the wintry weather to continue through the weekend.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) personnel stayed busy sanding bridges and otherwise providing for the icy conditions.

Rehab '97 set for Saturday

by Mabel Freitag

The doors at West Texas Rehab are always open for you. The doors at Southwest Texas Electric Coop will be open on Saturday, January 11th, 1997 from 6:00 p.m. until midnight for our seventh year to have a local phone bank for West Texas Rehab.

Your local phone committee and "pick up crew" will be on duty as in years past to take and pick up your donations. If you live within the city limits or a "few miles past," we will be happy to pick up your donations.

As usual, we love to have visi-

tors drop by for a cup of coffee and snacks.

We appreciate your advance donations and your loyalty and concern for Rehab.

We reached a final total of \$8,800 last year. Hope we can go over this total in '97.

Remember, "Rehab is for you, you be for Rehab." The date January 11, 1997, 6:00 p.m. until midnight. Phone numbers are 853-2544 or 853-2546.

It takes folks working together, your donations and a caring community to reach the goals we have reached in the past six years.

Junior livestock show slated for this weekend

by Nancy Lester

The cold weather is a sure sign that stock show season has hit Schleicher County and the annual Junior Livestock, Food and Project Show will be held Friday and Saturday at the Exhibit Building.

Creative arts entries will be accepted at the showbarn on Thursday morning from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Mrs. Barbara Earwood from Sonora will once again be serving as the Art Show judge. She is always so complimentary of the quality of work exhibited.

All livestock exhibits must be in place and weighed by 6 p.m. on Thursday. The show will actually start at 9 a.m. Friday with the rabbit show followed by range ewes and range angora kid does. The meat goats, lambs and hogs will show following the range classes. The meat goat division will be the largest we have ever had with about 100 goats. There will be about 75 lambs, 30 pigs and 4 steers.

Mike Harbour, County Agricultural Agent said that after working in Tom Green and Hood Counties, which are both much larger than Schleicher County, that he is favorable impressed with the interest in livestock projects, the quality of

animals and the help by parents and volunteers. You just don't find that in the big counties.

The dog show will be held at 5 p.m. on Friday. It is open to all youth in the community. There will be 2 classes — groomed dogs and dressed dogs. You can show your dog in the dressed category and they undress them and show them in the groomed category. Dogs must be on a leash and have not eaten sheep in the past month.

The breeding cattle and steers will start the show on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. followed by the selection of champions. Food Show entries need to be in place by 9 a.m. Saturday for judging to begin at 10 a.m.

The annual barbecue lunch will be served at 12 noon on Saturday followed by the presentation of awards and the sale which will start at 1 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come out and see the 4-H and FFA members exhibit their projects. Livestock projects teach responsibility as well as subject matter knowledge! It is a great family occasion and we hope to see lots of families at the show!

Sharp delivers sales tax rebates to city and county

John Sharp, State Comptroller of Public Accounts has delivered sales tax rebates for December to the City of Eldorado and Schleicher County. The city received \$4,207.97 which was 10.11 percent below the rebate for December, 1995. However, year-to-date rebates totaled \$75,620.21 and are 3.20 percent higher than 1995.

Schleicher County's rebate for December was \$3,036.18 which was 12.69 percent lower than the same month in 1995. Year-to-date, the county received \$64,606.50 which was 6.40 percent below 1995.

Comptroller Sharp delivered a total of \$158.9 million in December sales tax payments to 1,084 Texas cities and 117 counties.

This month's payments to Texas cities and counties include sales taxes collected by monthly filers in October and reported to the Comptroller in November.

"Total city and county sales tax rebates for calendar year 1996 are 9.2 percent higher than total rebates for 1995, as the Texas economy continues its healthy upward trend," Sharp said.

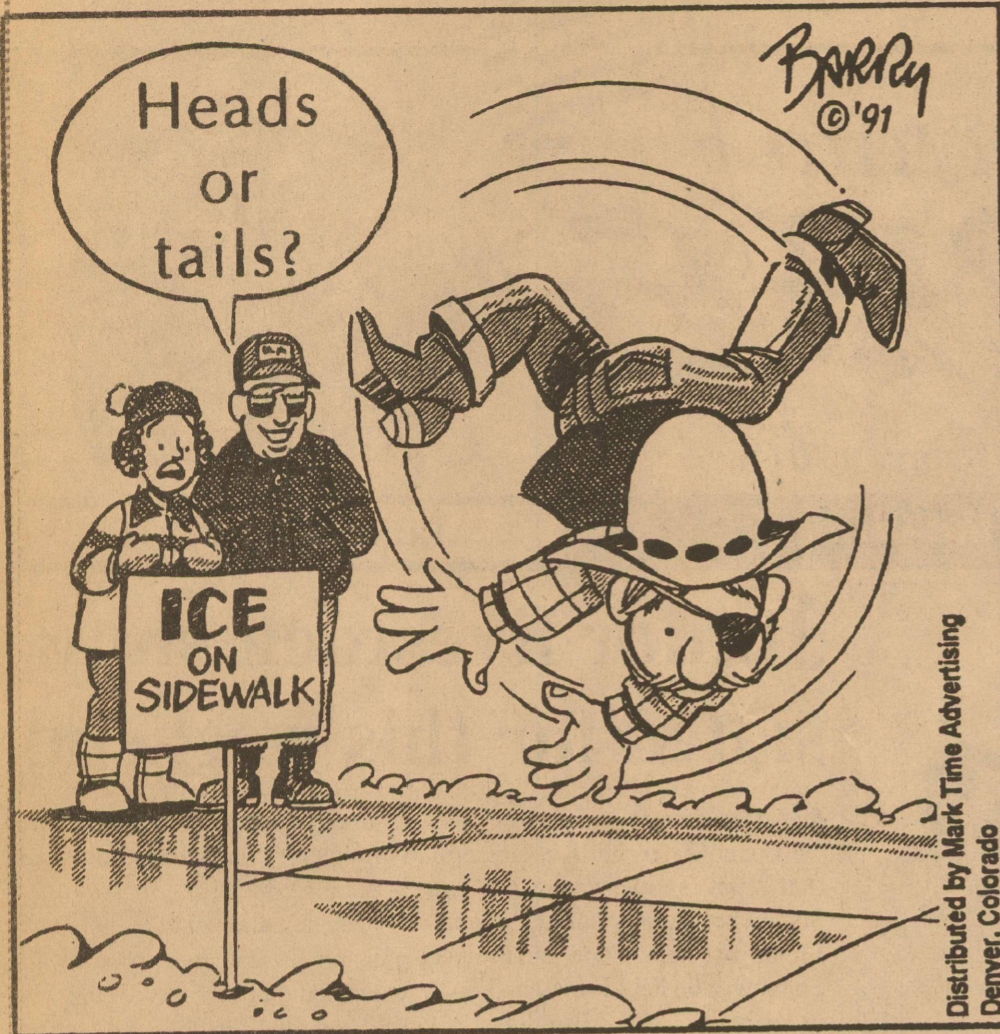
Sharp delivered city sales tax rebates totaling \$144.9 million, 25.9 percent above last year's December payments of \$115 million, the larger amounts due at least in part to several days of additional processing time this year. Rebates of \$13.9 million to Texas counties were 20.7 percent above the \$11.5 million allocations in December 1995.



Members of the Sutton County EMS transfer a patient to Medivac 1 at the Schleicher County Hospital Tuesday morning. According law enforcement officers, a car collided with a tractor-trailer rig just south of the Schleicher/Sutton county line. Medivac 1 was unable to reach the scene of the crash due to bad weather and the patient, identified only as a San Angelo physician, was brought by ambulance to Eldorado for transfer to the helicopter transport for to San Angelo.

BUCKSHOT

by Barry McWilliams



Distributed by Mark Time Advertising
Denver, Colorado

Over the Back Fence

by Randy Mankin

"It's not supposed to snow in Texas!" commented an irate motorist shortly after her car came to rest in a ditch on Monday. The woman, who proudly claimed to be from Nebraska, said she was forced off the road when another car lost control and crossed into her lane. "You Texans shouldn't drive on ice and snow!" she said, "You don't know how!"

I had only stopped to lend a hand and really hadn't planned on being the target of this lady's anger. After all, it was her car, not mine, that was in the ditch. I started to point this out but thought better of it. She was already in a huff, why tempt fate.

I was tempted, however, to leave her — and her temper — right there in the ditch, but I didn't. She was cold and trembling...and I figured that she was more scared than an-

gry. Soon enough, she was back on the road and headed for Nebraska.

Hers wasn't the only car that found the bar ditch that day as winter paid a return visit to Texas and made a royal mess of things.

But, as I watched her drive away through the heavy snowfall, I was reminded of a winter storm that hit years ago when I was in college. Actually, I was home for the Christmas holidays and had to drive back to Lubbock in the icy mess. The trip, normally a five-hour drive, took a day and a half since most of the roads were closed.

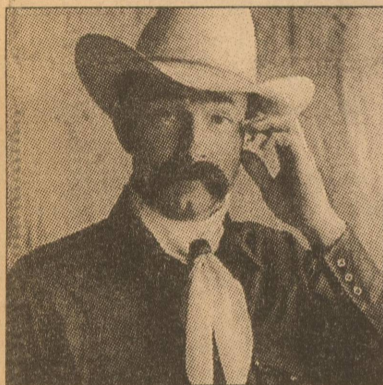
A change of course found me in Post where, after several attempts, I managed to coax my Ford Galaxy up the Caprock. Somewhere between there and Slaton, I came across a tractor-trailer rig laying on

its side. The driver was unharmed and was attempting to corral twenty or thirty hogs which had escaped from his trailer.

Hogs, normally sure-footed beasts, don't fare very well on ice and the scene that played itself out that day on the South Plains resembled a Keystone Cops comedy. The truck driver, not especially graceful either, would almost get the porkers hemmed in when one of them would squeal and go skittering across the icy pavement. Of course the others would follow and soon the whole bunch was loose again.

I gave the poor, exhausted driver a ride into Slaton so he could report the wreck and phone his company in Omaha, which is in Nebraska — where, I finally learned all these years later, folks actually know how to drive on ice and snow.

Marginal Quotes



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

- "As long as you've got good elimination, you've got it made." *Uncle Leonard*
- "If a man can't drive in a bar ditch, he's got no business on the highway." *Tink*
- "When asked how she got to be president, Anita replied, 'I missed the meeting!'"
- "You can't use too much tape." *Dr. Allen*
- Tom Hall says, "I enjoy all company. Some when they arrive, some when they leave."
- "A true friend will tell you if yer hat's on backwards." *Calvin*
- "I'd rather be at the head of the ditch with a shovel than at the bottom with a decree." *Tom* on irrigation rights
- "If they won't come, you can't stop'em." *Jim B.*
- "He's stooping to new heights." *Sandy*

- "His eyes are so squinty they could blindfold him with dental floss." *Buck*
- "They teach chickens to lay eggs by walkin' back 'n forth in front of them with a hatchet humming, 'Um, um, good, um, um, good...'" *Doug*
- "The right to be heard does not include the right to be taken seriously." *Hubert H.*
- "If you wanna start a fire, start your own." *Hoot*
- "Cowboys walk in parts." *Peter*
- "You have to know Mr. Dewey well in order to dislike him." *Margaret T.*
- "Bank examiners come in after the battle and shoot the wounded." *Boyd*
- "Horse shoein's not so hard. It's just the dread of doing it." *Carl*
- "His sleeping bag smelled like they drove geese into it and beat them to death." *Oly K.*
- "You are what you eat"...but I say, "You are where you walk."
- "It's been a month of Mondays!" *Sheryl*
- "I don't deserve this award, but I've got sinus and I don't deserve it either." *Ace R.*
- "Sometimes you have no choice, so take it!"
- On fund-raising, "Don't put all your hands in one pocket."
- "If yer smart you'll always believe in Santa Claus." *Judy*
- "Sure you can sell out when things are good. But then what will you do?" *John*

Humvees, Hummers, Muts & Alleycats

Sam Baker of Stanton had a career in the oilfield construction business. He built oil field equipment for some big companies. When the oil field "turned down," as he says, he diversified. Boy, did he diversify.

His love of equipment and machinery led him to military surplus. He now has a big surplus store in Stanton. It's hard to miss. His business is located on Interstate 20 and is advertised by a jeep suspended high in the air from a huge crane. In addition to his store, Sam has a manufacturing facility big enough to build vehicles. In fact, he builds some.

He builds military-type vehicles that have been in movies like *Courage Under Fire* or television shows such as *Walker Texas Ranger* and *Dark Skies*.

Ninety percent of his business is from people who live outside Texas. Once a man from France stopped in, saw a jeep he liked and had it air freighted to France. The freight bill came to more than he

Rolling Across Texas



Tumbleweed Smith

paid for the vehicle. Some of the prices on Sam's vehicles surprise some people. He sells a rebuilt version of the HUMVEE (High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicle) for about twenty thousand dollars. He doesn't keep them very long. A jeep sells for about half that amount. Jeeps are now called MUTS (Military Utility Trucks).

Most of Sam's business comes from vehicle sales.

His business started three years ago when he began buying jeep parts and building bodies for them. He shipped them all over the world. When the military started destroying their HUMVEES after ten years service regardless of their condition, Sam investigated. He discovered the government declared the HUMVEE safe for the military, but not for civilians (because it doesn't have a padded dash). *Off Road Magazine* has declared the HUMVEE the safest 4 wheel drive vehicle on the road because of its width.

He said last year in Washington state, 61 HUMVEES were driven to the scrap yard, the liquids were removed and they were crushed. "They were good, drivable vehicles," says Sam, "Looks like they could have been donated to some of these small counties for fire fighting equipment."

Sam believes there was some kind of agreement made with AM

General, the manufacturer of the HUMVEE so the company would not have to compete against the surplus models. A civilian HUMVEE (HUMMER) sells for an average of \$70,000. A new HUMVEE limo, just out, is priced at \$140,000.

Sam holds a unique item: a license to build motor vehicles. That puts him in a select group which includes Ford, General Motors, Chrysler and a few others. Sam has built a prototype of a vehicle he calls the Alleycat. It has a dump bed, winches and features 6-wheel drive. The Alleycat comes in a variety of styles and sells for around \$10,000. If you're handy, you can buy a kit, put it together yourself and save about \$1,700.

He envisions the Alleycat to be used by cities. "The Alleycat could replace about three vehicles," says Sam. "That would be a tractor, dump truck and pickup." One day he hopes to manufacture the Alleycat big time.

Tuition hike targets 'professional students'

AUSTIN — State Comptroller John Sharp last week proposed that "career" students pay up to four times their current tuition.

"What we want to do is target those students who just can't seem to graduate," said Andy Welch, a spokesman for Sharp's office.

Sharp's proposal — aimed at culling our undergraduate students who have amassed at least 170 hours of credit — would increase those students' tuition from \$2,150 a year up to \$7,910 a year.

The proposal, if approved by the Legislature, could save the state about \$5 million a year, beginning in 1999.

Statistics maintained by the comptroller's office show that about 18 percent of students enrolled in state universities have more than 170 credits. Most majors need about 120 total credit hours to receive an undergraduate degree.

Complaint Backlog to '89

Nearly 1,100 complaints against teachers and school administrators are being investigated by the State Board of Educator Certification and the oldest cases date to 1989.

The board has the authority to revoke or suspend an individual's certification.

Board officials said the large number of cases is caused by limited resources — only three investigators are on the job — and the need to proceed carefully in cases that could damage reputations.

But educators say the backlog creates a dangerous situation for students and is unfair to school person-

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
By Lyndell Williams & Ed Sterling
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

nel who have to wait a long time for their case to be resolved.

Allegations that indicate a potential danger for students — such as sexual misconduct — have the highest priority; allegations of violence are priority two; and drug violations are assigned priority three.

Nursing Home Reforms OK'd

Nursing home administrators will be held accountable for all problems in a nursing home, under a set of tough new standards adopted last week by the Texas Board of Nursing Facility Administrators.

In adopting 25 standards of conduct that hold administrators accountable, the board sided with advocates for the more than 98,000 nursing home residents in Texas.

The vote came after a four-month study by the board to overcome public outrage generated by an *Austin American-Statesman* investigation that found none of the state's 2,700 administrators had been disciplined

since 1993, despite questionable deaths, injuries and other problems in Texas nursing homes.

The new standards require administrators:

- To ensure that enough trained workers are on duty and that a nursing home has enough resources to provide adequate nutrition, medication and treatment programs;
- To prevent abuse and neglect of residents; and
- To refrain from misleading families about what services the home provides.

State Workers Want Raises

When the Legislature convenes later this month, state employees want pay raises, and they want their salaries to be a high priority with lawmakers.

State workers have not had an across-the-board pay raise since December 1992.

"Enough is enough. We're going to have to get tough about this," Lane Zivley, executive director of the 16,000-member Texas Public Employees Association, told the Associated Press. TPEA is seeking a \$250-a-month raise for 1998 and 1999.

Texas House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, said he thinks the raises are long overdue, but a raise would depend on whether the money is available.

Republican Gov. George W. Bush and Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock, a Democrat, also want to see whether money is available before making commitments to support a raise. The House Appropriations Com-

mittee, headed by Rep. Rob Junell, D-San Angelo, has been studying state employee salaries.

"I would like to do a state employee pay raise," Junell said. "I'm not going to say it's going to happen, but I think there's a real desire to do something, at least the people I visit with who are decision-makers."

The state auditor has recommended a raise of 3.5 percent in 1998 and 1999. On the average state workers earned \$24,175 this year.

Other Capital Highlights

• A toll-free College Information Hotline will open Jan. 18 and 19 to anyone in Texas wanting free information about colleges, universities, admissions, testing and financial aid. The hotline will be staffed by high school and university professionals from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. The number is (800) 347-3475.

• Texas' population increased to over 19 million in 1996, making it the fastest-growing state for the fourth consecutive year. A high birth rate and migration from other countries boosted the state's population by 326,900 people in the past year, according to an annual population estimate by the U.S. Census Bureau.

• From Jan. 1 to Dec. 30, 1996, the Texas Department of Public Safety issued 114,655 handgun permits under the state's concealed handgun law. Before the law went into effect, the law's authors projected that 80,000 of the permits would be issued by the end of the year. Now, about one percent of the state's adults have a permit.

The Eldorado Success

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Notices of entertainment where admission is charged, cards of thanks, resolutions of respect and all material not news, will be charged at regular advertising rates. Advertisements, Classified Ads and cards of thanks are payable in advance unless the customer has an established account.

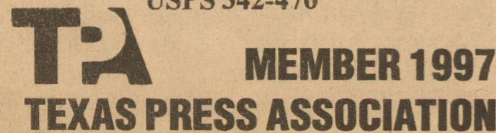
A finance charge of 1.5% per month will be assessed to customers with balances over 30 days old.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character or reputation of any person or firm will be promptly corrected when brought to the attention of the management.

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The Eldorado Success

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Our Sympathy

Claude Elmer Stires

Claude Elmer Stires was born in Manor, Kansas on June 25th, 1935. He passed away at his home in Iredell, Texas on December 26, 1996, after an extended illness.

Mr. Stires was married to Margaret Faull in Eldorado, Texas on February 13th, 1954. He worked in the West Texas oil fields until 1961. The he went into the construction business in California. In 1966 the Stires' moved to the Dallas/Plano area where he was in the home building business. In 1981, Mr. Stires moved to Bosque County and he continued building and remodeling homes.

Mr. Stires was a member of Iredell Baptist Church, a 10 year member of the Iredell Volunteer Fire Department and active in community projects.

He is survived by his wife,

Margaret Faull Stires of Iredell, a daughter, Janet Robinson of McKinney and a son, Charles Stires of Meridian, son-in-law, Tom Robinson of McKinney and daughter-in-law, Belynda Stires of Meridian, 4 grandchildren, Megan and Jill Robinson and Christopher and Cody Stires, 2 sisiter, Grace Bounds of Stephenville and Edna Spencer of Brownwood, 3 brothers, Lloyd of Avery, Texas, Robert and Bruce of DeKalb, Texas, a number of niences, nephews and friends.

Mr. Stires was preceeded in death by his parents, Norman and Gena Reed Stires, 1 brother, Norman Jr., 2 sisters, Betty Sulliavan and Alice Smith.

Lawson Funeral Home of Meridian was in charge of services with burial in Mitchell Cemetery in Iredell.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Eldorado Success.

Dear Editor:

As Administrator of the VFW Memorial Fund, I must announce the closing of the Fund. It appears that the VFW Post will lose it's Charter due to our being unable to maintain the minimum number of members. With that in mind, certain actions on behalf of the VFW Memorial Fund had to be taken. Money in this Fund consisted of donations and memorials and we promised the money would be used strictly for maintenance of the Memorial Site, and for beautification and preservation of the Cemetery.

Since I am also a member of the local American Legion Post, and acting on be-half of the members of the VFW, I made a proposal to the Officers and members of the American Legion to take the money from the Fund and create a Fund sponsored by the American Legion. They very graciously accepted the proposal and the money has been transferred to the American Legion, Bev McCormick Post #257 Memorial Fund. An agreement was made that in taking this responsibility, the money would be used strictly for maintenance for the Memorial Site and for beautification and preservation of the Schleicher County Cemetery.

I would like to give thanks to all that participated in making the VFW Memorial Fund a reality and for sustaining it since 1986. We are proud of the Memorial Site and feel that it was the start of cleaning and beautifying the entire Cemetery by others. We owe thanks to so many, however, the space required to list them all would take several editions of this newspaper. Just know that for your help, we will be forever grateful.

It is unfortunate that the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9842 will cease to exist. However, we have a strong American Legion Post committed to looking after all military Veterans affairs, as well as many community projects. I invite all my fellow VFW members to join with the members of the American Legion

to build an even stronger Veterans organization. To-gether we can do it.

On behalf of not only the VFW, but the entire community, thanks to the members of the American Legion, Bev McCormick Post #257, for the kind and considerate acceptance of this responsibility.

Also, many thanks to the Eldorado Success for all the favors given to the VFW Memorial Fund.

Tom Enochs



Tony and Veronica Martinez are proud to announce the birth of their son Tony Rey Nicolas Martiez, Thursday, December 19, 1996 in San Angelo at Shannon. He weighed 7 pounds and 2 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches in length.

The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Tony Martinez, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Reyes Sanchez all of Eldorado.

Happy 10th Birthday Selina



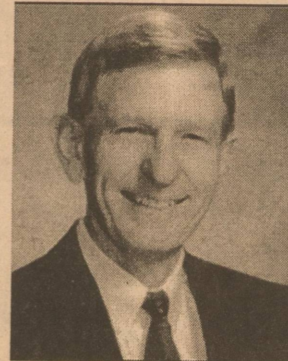
From Mom Dad & Susie

GED and ESL Classes

GED and ESL (English as a Second Language) classes will begin January 14, 1997. The classes will be held from 6:15 p.m. till 8:45 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday at Eldorado Middle School. To register or for more information call Ilse Williams 853-2268 or Ester Torres 853-2706

Ronnie Mittel Investments/Insurance

Eldorado, Texas (915)853-3833



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Wilks/Tatum Wed

Deloris Diane Wilks of Christoval and John Alan Tatum of San Angelo were married November 16, 1996, at Johnson Street Church of Christ. John F. Maxwell officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Kathy and L.D. Doty of Christoval and Lowell E. Wilks of San Angelo. the bride's grandparents are Alma Sauer of Christoval and the late Victor Sauer of Eldorado. The bridegroom is the son of Smith and Helen Tatum of Many, Louisiana.

Matron of honor was Rhonda Maxwell of Edinburg. Bridesmaid was Christine Wilks Fisher of Midland.

Best man was Terry Tatum of Austin. Groomsman was Neal Dunn of San Angelo.

Ushers were Michael Wilks of Lubbock, John Kelso and James Smith of San Angelo.

Candle lighter was Steven Wilks of Grosbeck.

Mrs. Tatum is a 1985 graduate of Eldorado High School. She received an associate's degree in substance abuse counseling in

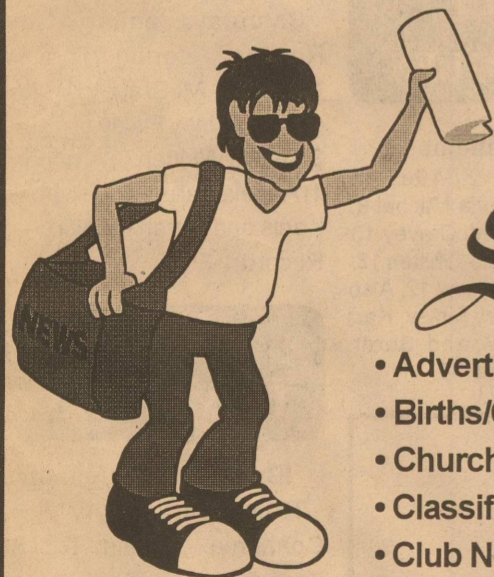
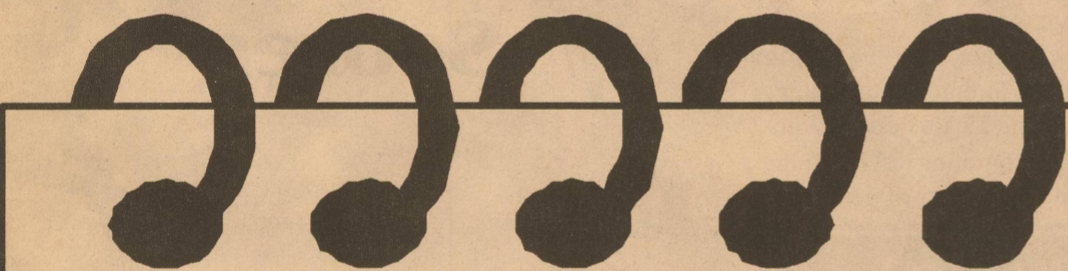


Mr & Mrs. John Tatum

1992 from Howard College. She graduated in 1994 from Howard College's vocational nurse program.

Her husband is a 1985 graduate of Odessa Permian High School and received a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin. He is attending graduate school at Angelo State University working on his masters in business. He is employed by K Lite Radio.

After a wedding trip to Lake Tahoe and Disneyland, the couple will live in Christoval.



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Memorials

From: Pearl Enochs, Rex and Family. For: Rosene Gibson.

From: Bill and Mabel Freitag, For: Odis Smart; Clyde Harris, Sr; Hugh Harzke; Estelle Baker and W.O. Enochs.

From: Kathleen St. Clair. For: Duncan Wilson.

From: Christie St. Clair. For: Duncan Wilson

From: Mr. and Mrs. John Nikolauk. For: Mark Nikolauk.

A sincere "Thank You" for your early donation to West Texas Rehab. Your committee will be on duty at Southwest Texas Electric Coop between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and midnight on Sat. Jan. 11th.

Golf Play Day

by Mabel Freitag

A beautiful day on December 29th, 1996 for our Play Day. We could not believe, no wind, 73 degrees and lots of folks to enjoy a Sunday afternoon. We had a total of 37 golfers which included one youth, Clay Whitten and seven ladies.

There were three teams came in with scores of 59. A score card play off to determine winners.

1st - Tip Finley, Melissa O'Harrow, Zack Morrae and Jack Halbert.

2nd - Marvin Clark, John Mitchell, Genva McWhorter and Ricky Griffin.

3rd - Victor Belman, Ken Thomas, Guy Crippin and Andy Kelly.

We always plan our Play Days for the first Sunday afternoon of each month, but, with the weather of January, February and March we may change around. I will let every one know of any changes.

Know everyone had a nice Christmas with their families and friends. We wish you a prosperous and happy 1997.

Everyone come out and enjoy our nice golf course. Mike has done a great job.

Horse conference slated for Waco

COLLEGE STATION- Horse owners from across the state will gather in Waco for the Blackland Income Growth Horseowners Shortcourse. The shortcourse will be held January 14, 1997 at the Heart of Texas Coliseum in Waco.

Extension horse specialist Dr. Doug Householder said that horse enthusiasts from all areas of the industry will be able to come together and learn some valuable information at the shortcourse.

Dr. Pete Gibbs, Extension horse specialist, will explain the significance of the horse industry in Texas.

"One of our greatest strengths is our greatest weakness in that we have over 1,000 horse organizations in Texas, but we never slow down long enough to measure the economic significance of the industry," Householder said.

Also, Dr. Don Dorsett, Extension forage specialist, will discuss how the recent drought has affected the hay supply in Texas and what horse owners can do to combat hay shortage problems.

"We're not sure about the drought situation, we'd like to think that we're at the end of it, but when you talk to some meteorologists and climatologists they say that we may only be about halfway through the drought," Householder said.

Horse racing, horse theft prevention, and shoeing techniques also will be discussed at the shortcourse.

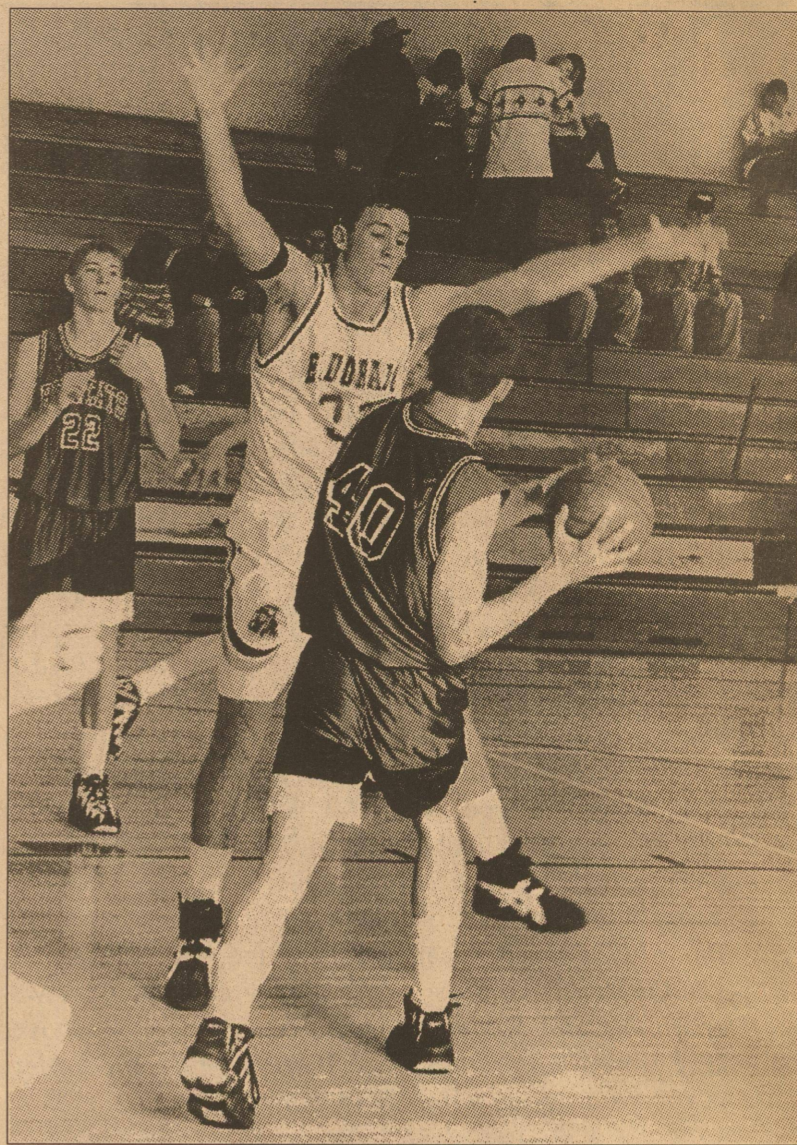
Jack Brainard, professional horse trainer from Aubrey, will conduct a performance training clinic immediately following the shortcourse.

The cost of the shortcourse is \$5, and for those participants who wish to attend the shortcourse and the training clinic the cost is \$8. There is also a registration fee of \$5.

Karate News

On November 26, 1996, Instructor Armando Puente held promotion tests for 4 students of the Academy of the Fighting Arts Eldorado school. Angel and Jessica Sparks were promoted to green belt ranking. Cynthia Caldwell was promoted to Orange Belt II ranking. Russell Clark received a Green Belt I ranking.

On December 19, 1996, Epolo Herrera was promoted to Orange Belt I ranking. Jackie Roedel administered the promotion test under the direction of Instructor Puente.



Zane Bruce denies a Ballinger player a shot at the goal during the Big Lake tourney which was held over the Christmas holiday.



Justin Leggett lays up a shot over a Ballinger defender during the Big Lake tournament recently.



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Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week

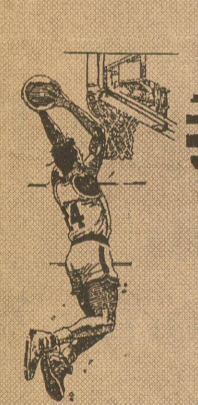


This week the Mighty Eagle Fan of the week is Marilyn Whitten. If you are chosen as Pizza Pro's Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week, cut out the ad, bring it by Pizza Pro and say, "I'm the Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week!" and receive a free pizza on us!

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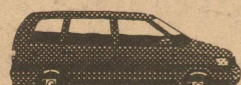
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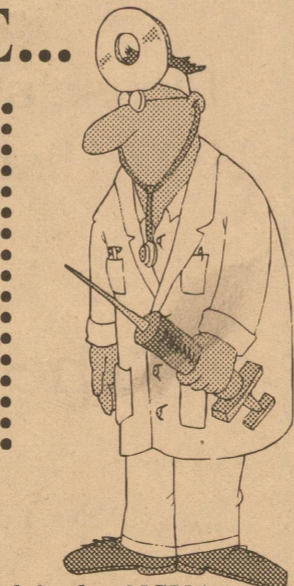
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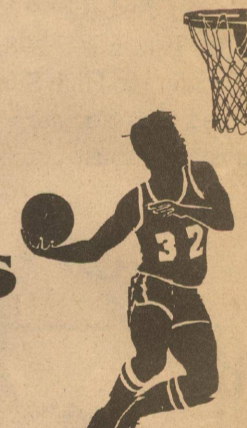
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From The Wellhead Through The Pipeline...Hanover People Perform.

Hoop Scores



Varsity Lady Eagles

Eldorado 55 - Coahoma 61

Thursday, January 2, 1997 in Coahoma. Scoring: Victoria Mitchel 8; Top Scorers - Makenzie McCravery 13 (3-3 point goals) and Ashlie Whitten 13; Toni Whitten 9; Angela Ballew 12. Also playing: Sundi Nix, Ashley Finley, Kaci Kohls, Amanda Ballew and Sarah Mankin. — District Record 1-2

Eldorado 35 - Roscoe 46

Saturday, January 4, 1997 in Roscoe. Scoring: Top Scorer - Makenzie McCravery 17 (2-3 point goals); Ashley Finley 5; Toni Whitten 3; Ashlie Whitten 5; Amanda Ballew 1; Angela Ballew 4. Also playing Kaci Kohls and Sarah Mankin. — District Record 1-3

Eagles Boys Varsity

Eldorado 49 - Coahoma 58

Thursday, January 2, 1997 in Coahoma. Scoring: Top Scorer - Zane Bruce 15; Zach Steele 4; Jason Richters 4; Casey Snelson 9 (3-3 point goals); Justin Leggett 10; Kyle Hunter 9. Also playing: Andy Baker, Travis Meador, Michael Mayo, Mark Fryer and Jeremy Clark. — District Record 0-3

Eldorado 71 - Roscoe 65

Saturday, January 4, 1997 in Roscoe. Scoring: Zach Steele 7; Jason Richters 6; Casey Snelson 10 (1-3 point goal); Zane Bruce 14; Top Scorer - Justin Leggett 22 (4-3 point goals); Kyle Hunter 10; Mark Fryer 2. Also playing: Andy Baker, Travis Meador, Michael Mayo and Jeremy Clark. — District Record 1-3



Volunteer firefighters battle a blaze at Eldorado Instruments on S. Divide St. The building's owner, Bobby Phillips, reports that the New Year's Day fire caused considerable damage to the structure's interior. Cause of the blaze has yet to be determined.

Sheep & Goat internal parasite workshop

by Kerry Shropshire, Irion County Extension Agent-AG

The Irion County Extension AG Committee will be hosting a regional Sheep and Goat Internal Parasite Workshop on Wednesday, January 15, 1997 at the Irion County Showbarn (behind Community Center in Mertzon). The workshop will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 12 noon. The program will begin with Dr. Frank Craddock covering proper timing and strategies for parasite control followed by an Internal Parasite wet lab where area wide producers can bring fecal samples from their herds and check them for internal

parasite populations.

I know most people do not think of winter time as the time for worming but now is the time to learn how to monitor your herds so you can be ready at the first hint of spring. Again, this is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Irion County Showbarn. The program will be worth 2 CEU credits for Private, Commercial and No Commercial Applicators. We also ask that if you plan to attend and bring samples, call the Irion County Extension Office at 835-2711 so we can have enough equipment to handle all the samples.

School Lunch Menu

Cafeteria Line

Monday, Jan 13th

Chicken Spaghetti, Whole Kernel Corn, Peach Halves, Raisins, Chocolate Chip Cookies

Tuesday, Jan. 14th

Hamburger Steaks/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Italian Green Beans, Carrot, Pineapple, Raisin Salad, Coconut Pudding

Wednesday, Jan. 15th

Hot Dogs with Chili, Corn Chips, Mixed Fruit, Vegetable Sticks/Dip, Rice Krispie Treats

Thursday, Jan. 16th

Fish Strips, Macaroni & Cheese, Blackeyed Peas, Cole Slaw, Chocolate Cake/Icing

Friday, Jan 17th

Cheeseburgers, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Chilled Fruit/Topping

Breakfast

Monday, Jan. 13th

Peaches, Pancakes/Syrup, Peanut Butter

Tuesday, Jan 14th

Pineapple Juice, Hot Biscuits/Ham/Gravy

Wednesday, Jan 15th

Apple Juice, Banana Nut Muffins, Choice of Cereal

Thursday, Jan 16th

Orange Juice, Breakfast Pizza

Friday, Jan 17th

Fruit, Choice of Cereal, Toast

Fast Food Line

Monday, Jan. 13th

Turkey Sandwiches, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Peach Halves, Raisins, Chocolate Chip Cookies

Tuesday, Jan. 14th

Chicken Burgers, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Mixed Fruit, Peach Cobbler

Wednesday, Jan. 15th

Corn Chip Pie, Vegetable Sticks/Dip, Mixed Fruit, Combread, Rice Krispie Treats

Thursday, Jan. 16th

Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Pineapple Tidbits, Chocolate Cake/Icing.

Friday, Jan 17th

Same as Cafeteria Line

Schleicher County EMS report for December

Schleicher County EMS had 12 runs for the month of November. **11-8-96** 7:30 a.m. medical patient transported to SCMC; **11-9-96** 7:35 p.m. medical patient transported to SCMC; **11-11-96** 5:00 p.m. accident victim transported to SCMC; **11-18-96** 2:55 p.m. medical patient transported to Columbia; **11-20-96** 6:30 a.m. medical patient transported to SCMC; 7:00 a.m. medical patient transported to Shannon; **11-24-96** 8:50 a.m. medical patient transported to SCMC; 11:10 a.m. medical patient transported to Columbia; 7:10 p.m. accident victims x 4 transported to SCMC; 7:15 p.m. accident victims X 4 transported to SCMC; 8:15 p.m. accident victim transported to Columbia; 9:15 p.m. accident victim trans-

ported to Columbia. Schleicher County EMS had 17 runs for December. **12-14-96** 4:00 a.m. medical patient transported to Shannon; **12-17-96** 2:05 a.m. accident victim transported to SCMC; **12-19-96** 3:30 p.m. medical patient transported to Columbia; 11:55 p.m. medical patient transported to SCMC; **11-20-96** 2:30 a.m. Medical patients transported to Columbia; **12-21-96** 11:20 a.m. accident victim transported to SCMC; 12:30 p.m. accident victim transported to Shannon St. Johns Campus; **11-25-96** 3:56 a.m. medical patient transported to Columbia; 4:20 p.m. medical patient transported to Shannon; **12-26-96** 5:00 a.m. medical patient transported to Shannon; 1:40 p.m. medical patient transported to SCMC; 3:45 p.m. medical patient transported to Shannon; **12-28-96** 9:30 a.m.

medical patient transported to SCMC; 10:50 a.m. medical patient transported to Shannon/ St. Johns Campus; 3:30 p.m. medical patient transported to Columbia; 9:30 p.m. medical patient transported to SCMC Nursing Home from Columbia; **12-29-96** 2:00 a.m. medical patient transported to SCMC.

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Shannon flu shots reported OK

Recently it was reported that Parke Davis recently recalled several batches of its flu vaccines because they were not potent enough. Shannon Health System received safe vaccines of adequate strength. Shannon did not use any Parke Davis flu vaccines. All branches of the Health System used products made by Wyeth.

Sheriff's dept. monthly report

Schleicher County Sheriff's Department arrested 18 individuals during December according to Sheriff David Doran's monthly report issued this week. Of the 18 cases, 4 arrests were for theft by check, 3 were for DWI (first offense), 3 were for public intoxication, 2 were on felony DWI warrants, 1 was on a traffic warrant, 1 was for no liability insurance, 1 was arrested on a DPS warrant, 1 was arrested on a Tom Green County warrant, 1 was brought back from the Texas Department of Corrections on a bench warrant and 1 was arrested for theft over \$500 but under \$1,500 (Class A Misdemeanor). Doran reported housing six out of county inmates and two inmates for the U.S. Border Patrol.

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Keeping an eye on Texas

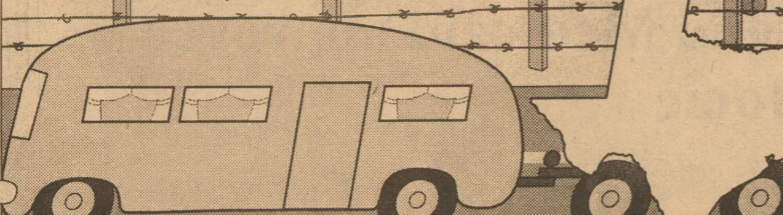
Retiree attractions

As one of the top ten states competing for migrating senior citizens, Texas attracts retirees with affordable housing and low costs of living, absence of a state income tax, and a relatively mild climate.



Favorite retirement destinations

- Low cost of living
- Mild climate
- Affordable housing
- Low taxes



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and Charles F. Longino, Jr., Retirement Migration in America.

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\$1 million paid for Woolen Mill blanket

by Nancy Lester

Ashley Niblett and partners paid \$1,000,000 (in play money) for a "Dolph Briscoe" Red Blanket from the Eldorado Woolen Mill at the annual Stockholders Meeting and Gala held on New Years Eve at the Memorial Building! The Monte Carlo Gala was the setting for a fun party and beautiful exhibit of Woolen Mill Products. "Elvis" made a surprise appearance and Casino games and Bingo were enjoyed by close to 100 Woolen Mill "Stockholders." An auction was held at 11:30 so that all the revelers could have a chance to spend their winnings. Auction donors were several of Eldorado businesses. Food for the party was provided by the Leadership Eldorado Class, R.C. and D Board Members and Woolen Mill Board Members. Serving as chairman of the decorations committee were Princess Gruben and Cherie Paulson, casino chairman was Carrie Hill, gifts and prize chairman was Leann Higgins, invitations were done by Beverly Minor, food coordination chairmen were Lynna Mikeska, Glenda McCravey and Becky Lux. Dealers included Gary Gruben, Mike Lux, Nancy Lester, Hawley Wolfe, Mike Harbour, David Hill, Judy Christian, Connie Harbour and Mike McCravey. The Formal Attire and Candlelight Decor made the evening a festive event to celebrate the New Year.

Members and directors of the Mohair Council of America will tackle some major industry concerns when they meet in San Angelo, Texas, for their annual session at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 23 at the Holiday Inn.

Topping the agenda will be discussion of the council's future direction and emphasis on promotion during the coming year. In addition, the council will be setting its 1997-98 budget.

This will be one of our most important meetings, said council President Lanny Leinweber of Mountain Home. We need mohair producers to come and provide input. We invite them - we urge them - to come and take part.

Other matters that will be discussed will be a proposal to hire a consultant to work in the domestic marketplace seeking new customers for mohair, and how to efficiently get mohair socks through complicated procurement testing procedures so that they can be used by the military.

Gerald Morrison of Modern Techniques Inc. of Georgia also will attend the session to provide a follow-up report on his firms work to develop mohair carpet for use in aircraft. Morrison is expected to show samples of carpet made in recent months.

Other meeting highlights will include the election of officers and directors, and the appointment of an executive committee.

A meeting of the council's present executive committee and the Texas Mohair Producers Board will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1997 at San Angelo's Holiday Inn.

For the first time, school children, manufacturers and others can find out about Angora goats and mohair fiber without going to the public library or to Webster's New World Dictionary.

The Mohair Council of America, with headquarters in San Angelo, Texas, has established a web page on the worldwide internet which gives consumers and others plenty of information about the mohair industry. The website address is www.mohairusa.com.

According to Duery Menzies, council executive director, nearly 600 inquiries, including e-mail, have been made since the Mohair Council went on line in the summer of 1996. Office personnel check the e-mail messages daily, providing replies as quickly as possible.

Website information includes a story about the activities and goals of the Mohair Council, a description of the Angora goat and mohair business, how the fiber evolves from the ranch shearing pen to finished merchandise, a listing of mohair producers and suppliers, fashions from mohair, helpful hints on the proper care of mohair clothing, and a calendar of events that will be happening in the country on the appropriate month.

Also included on the web is information on ordering books about goats and mohair, and promotional materials.

Menzies said the council's web page will be updated on a regular basis, and he invites consumers, producers and educational agencies to utilize this new informational tool.

Mohair Council to meet in San Angelo on January 23rd

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Gross sales fall in county

Gross sales receipts in Schleicher County fell eight tenths of one percent according to State Comptroller John Sharp's quarterly report. The numbers, reported last month are for the second quarter of 1996 as compared with the same period a year earlier.

During the reporting period, 66 outlets reported \$8,656,332.00 in sales. That contrasts negatively with the \$8,772,457.00 worth of

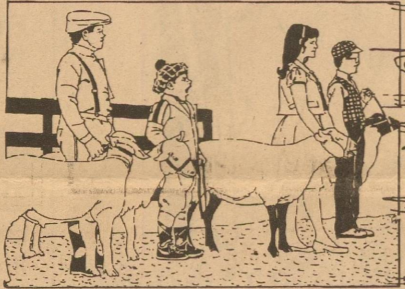

sales generated in the second quarter of '95 by 77 outlets.

Retail trade in the county accounted for \$1,929,250.00 of the amount which was virtually the same as 1995.

State sales taxes attributable during the reporting period totaled \$4,629.00. Of that amount, \$3,042.00 in state taxes were generated by retail sales.

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Dorothy's Movie Time

by Dorothy Dacy

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful white snow we've been having. I sure am, because it reminds me of my childhood in Kansas when it snowed and didn't go away until spring. At least here in West Texas, the sunshine will be back in no time to melt it all away.

I have a fanatasy film to tell you about this week. **"The Phantom"** is rated PG-good for kids to see-but forget about it's comic strip ancestor; **"The Phantom"** isn't a very good movie. Sluggish is the adjective that comes to mind in detailing this uninspired adaptation of Lee Faulk's celebrated comic hero, a millionaire playboy masquerading as a sort of Purple Knight of the Jungle. If you know the strip, you know the particulars. In addition to our hero(played by Bill Zane), a masked man who protects the shrine of the Skulls of Touganda in deepest Africa, there's Kristy Swansan as the feisty niece of a New York pub-

lisher, and Treat Williams as an industrialist out to own the skulls. You know the game: whoever brings all three skulls together gains the power to rule the world.

"The Phantom" strives to be several things, none successfully. It's a period piece, darting between tribal Africa and 1940's New York. It's a romance, with Swanson and Zane effective in a love-hate relationship. It's an action film: See the Phantom stalk his prey on a boat, on a seaplane, in a skyscraper. In the middle of all this fuss, see the audience doze off.

Director Simon Wincer never gets a handle on the material, resulting in a film that's not urgent enough to be a thriller, not funny enough to be anything else. It's just pleasant, placid and predictable.

This movie is available at Eagle Video.

Until next week: When a man gets too old to set a bad example, he starts giving good advice.

Big Game awards honor first-timers

AUSTIN—For some Texas hunters, the 1996-97 hunting season will carry its share of memories, especially if it included a first-time harvest of a deer or pronghorn antelope. If that's the case, the Texas Big Game Awards program wants to honor the achievement.

Hunters who took their first-ever whitetail, mule deer or pronghorn are eligible for a certificate recognizing the feat. Texas Big Game Awards recognizes the hunters' skill and the importance of habitat and wildlife population management. Awards banquets will be held in eight regions of the state and certificates are presented by the Texas Wildlife Association and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

"The game animal doesn't have to be big to qualify," said Jerry Cooke, director of the Upland Wildlife Ecology Program with TPWD. "Legally taken animals of either sex are eligible and many first time big game hunters in Texas take does or small bucks that are trophies of the hunting experience."

Cooke said he hopes the award makes new hunters aware that they are involved in stewardship of wildlife. Cooke added the award honors a new hunter's role in the management of game animals and hunting.

"Some hunters may have hunted for years before they actually bagged a big game animal," Cooke explained. "Taking that first animal was a real accomplishment. Other hunters may be new to the state and have harvested their first Texas antelope, mule deer or whitetail this past season."

There is no age limit and both young and old hunters who take their first big game animal are eligible, however, the deadline for entry is Feb. 15.

TBGA also recognizes outstanding trophies. If you took an exceptionally large deer or antelope in Texas, your trophy may qualify as one of the top entries from that part of the state.

TBGA is sponsored by TPWD, TWA, Carter's Country and Hixon Cattle Co. Application forms are available from volunteer scorers in your area. For the scorer nearest you, contact your area TPWD wildlife office or call 512-389-4505. Many sporting goods dealers and taxidermists also maintain lists of TBGA scorers.

Birthdays

- January**
- 9th Tata Belman, Jennifer Sellers
 - 10th Micah Grelle, Selina Rojas, Richard Harris, George Scott, Billy Williams, Carisa Porter
 - 11th R. Byron Orand, Ricky Jones, Sharon Spinks, Carolyn Hamilton, Emmanuel Gonzales, Rosa Trevino, Larry Marshall
 - 12th Teresa Thomas, Allen Kuykendall, Teresa Lux, Mike Lux, Jerry Jones, Kavin Tinney, Mary Nolen
 - 13th Gary Hanusch Jr., April Fuentes
 - 14th Casey Snelson, Tanner Haynes, Meredith Gruben
 - 15th Lindsay Fuessel, Leroy Reeves, Janet Curtis, Santos Trevino, Michelle Martinez, Allie Cheatham
 - 16th Nancy McAngus
 - 17th Tiffany Harris
 - 18th Alana Dakan, James Robinson, Corie Blayne Williams, Inez Tervino, Melanie Stricklan

Anniversaries

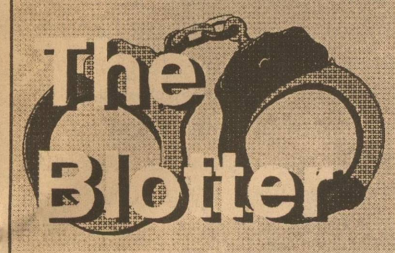
- January**
- 10th Lee & Kathy Brewer
 - 12th Roy & Melissa Lloyd
 - 14th Jimmy & Carolyn Gilstrap, Elmer & Willene Garlitz, Kevin & Wendi Lovette
 - 16th Howard & Ruth Mittel, Raul & Diana Gonzales
 - 18th Gary Ben & Claudia Stephens

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Schleicher County Sheriff's Department officers stayed busy over the past week. The following report is taken from the department's dispatch reports.

1-01-97 12:56 a.m. caller reported seeing someone in the vacant house next door to him. It was learned that a family had moved into the house. 1:19 a.m. caller reported on Divide kids firing fireworks. Officer responded and unable to locate anyone. 2:50 a.m.

caller reported on Laredo St. loud music. Officer responded and located truck with music. Subject turned down the music. 2:56 a.m. caller reported two males fighting at local apts. Officer responded and talked to one of the subjects. The other subject took off before the officer arrived. Officer made attempts to locate subject. 4:25 a.m.

assist motorist to unlock vehicle. 8:33 a.m. caller requested an officer to assist a vehicle that was broke down 7 miles South on Hwy 190. 8:51 a.m. caller requested an ambulance on Cottonwood. Subject dropped a knife on foot. Officer and EMS 1 respond to call. 10:07 a.m. caller requested to see officer. Officer responded. 1:51 p.m. report of possible intoxicated driver. Vehicle was driving fast, throwing beer bottles at signs. Two officers responded. 3:40 p.m. report of welfare concern from Sutton Co. Subject was located in San Angelo at 4:30 p.m. this date.

4:31 p.m. caller reported fire at local business. Fire units dispatched. 7:31 p.m. caller requested to talk to officer. Officer responded and went to talk to complainant. Officer took one male subject to jail and book for disorderly conduct. 1-02-97 5:18 a.m. caller reported that a truck was sitting in the middle of road in front of local grocery store. Officer had truck to park in front of courthouse. Subjects stopped because they were tired. 4:39 p.m. assist motorist unlock vehicle. 6:55 p.m. report of salesman with no permit selling meat. Officer located subjects and took them to Sheriff's Office to pay the \$25 for Permit to Sell. Subjects were informed that the must get a permit every time they come to town to sell meat. 7:15 p.m. caller reported that there was someone on their place hunting illegal. Game warden notified.

1-3-97 6:30 a.m. caller reported between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. someone threw a rock through a camper on one of his trucks. 7:30 a.m. complainant reported a horse loose in road by cemetery. Officer went to check. 10:38 a.m. caller re-

quested to speak to an officer. 1:10 p.m. report of missing person in Sonora. Subject left home at 11:30 p.m. and has been missing since 1/1/97. Subject reported found at 3:29 p.m. 2:45 p.m. caller reported kids running around shooting guns on McIntosh Rd. Officer found subject and advised to be more careful in what direction they fired. Subject stated that they were shooting quail. 7:45 p.m. report of possible drunk driver on Hwy 277 South. 10:00 p.m. caller reported shots fired. Officers responded. 11:11 p.m. report of reckless driving on Doris Street. Two officer responded. 4:30 p.m. caller reported that there was two boys looking in a garage at an old pickup. 7:30 a.m.

1-04-97 12:30 a.m. caller reported 2 cows out on Hwy 190 East. Contacted owner and they went put up cows. 1:38 a.m. caller reported a one vehicle rollover with no injuries on Old Sonora Rd. Officer responded. 6:15 a.m. caller reported that his ex-wife had left their kids at residence by their self on 1/3/97. Caller advised he had taken kids to his residence for the night and would stay with children at their residence till mother shows up. As of 6:00 a.m. 1/4/97 subject had not shown up. 10:46 a.m. caller reported to Sheriff's Office that there would be a control burn in the Reynolds Community. 2:50 p.m. caller requested an officer to unlock vehicle. 5:27 p.m. a 911 call was received by Sheriff's Office. Several illegals were picked up on Hwy 190 East. Two officers responded. 6:26 p.m. report of skunk in yard on Warner. Officer dispatched and unable to locate animal at scene. 7:00 p.m. caller reported two illegals on McIntosh and Hwy 190. Officer responded and both were brought into Sheriff's Office. 8:55 p.m. report of possible poacher/spotlighters on F.M. 1828. Officer responded. 10:56 p.m. caller reported on West Ave a truck was driving with their lights offs going up and down the alley. Caller requested an officer. Two officers responded and were unable to locate vehicle.

1/5/97 9:15 a.m. caller reported a calf was out on McIntosh. Officer responded and placed calf back in pen with other calves. 1:31 p.m. caller reported a control burn at residence. 3:05 p.m. caller reported possible illegal. Officer responded to call and subject had a green card. 6:49 p.m. complainant called to report that a fire alarm was going off at residence. Alarm company reported a false alarm. 7:36 p.m. caller reported a car was driving fast and running other cars off the road. Officer responded and reported that the driver was a juvenile. 9:39 p.m. Sutton Co. requested an officer escort EMS from Sonora through town and at the light.

1-02-97 5:18 a.m. caller reported that a truck was sitting in the middle of road in front of local grocery store. Officer had truck to park in front of courthouse. Subjects stopped because they were tired. 4:39 p.m. assist motorist unlock vehicle. 6:55 p.m. report of salesman with no permit selling meat. Officer located subjects and took them to Sheriff's Office to pay the \$25 for Permit to Sell. Subjects were informed that the must get a permit every time they come to town to sell meat. 7:15 p.m. caller reported that there was someone on their place hunting illegal. Game warden notified.

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853-3353 HOME

CARD OF THANKS

A very special Thank You to the Eldorado Fire Department for a fast and efficient response to the fire at Eldorado Instruments on January 1, 1997.

Your fast and efficient response saved lots of other damage and we are very thankful to all of the firemen who put their lives on the line to save our property.

Eldorado has a very qualified volunteer fire department and we are very grateful for the job they did.

Also, Thanks to the Sheriff's department for their response and continued help in the whole matter. It was gratefully appreciated.

We also appreciate the ones who have called and dropped by to offer their help or just to give us words of concern and support.

Sincerely,
Bobby Phillips and Family

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FREE ESTIMATES

Eldorado Spotlight
Mittel Insurance presents

This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on Jeremy Lemons (L) and Claude Spencer (R). Here the two city employees are pictured at work as they chip brush in the alley behind GTE's office.

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Above, Mrs. Garlitz's Fine Arts class presented "Little Red Riding Hood" to elementary students last semester as they emphasized "Say NO to Strangers". Taking part in the program were (Front L-R) Johnny Lee Arispe, Megan Poynor, Jimmy Aguilar, Bea Arispe, Jessica Letsinger (Middle L-R) Crystal Alexander, Coby Edmiston, Ruby Robledo, L.J. Galindo, Alison Montalvo (Back L-R) Isaac Saldivar, Edward Elias, David Rodriguez, LaTasha Newton, Cindy Gault, Georgina Cardenaz.

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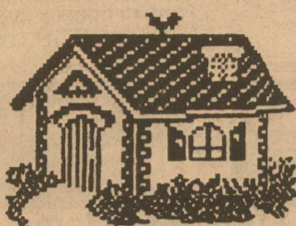
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Texas-Mexico law enforcement cooperation

The illegal drug trade in America is a \$150-billion-a-year industry. With an incentive like this, there is little that international drug kingpins will not do to smuggle their merchandise into the United States and get their tainted profits out. Unfortunately, our state is becoming a hub for this type of criminal activity, adding to drug-related violence and corruption, and damaging the lives of an untold number of law-abiding Texans.

To help solve this growing problem, I went to Mexico City with some of my staff to talk to top Mexican federal law enforcement

Fellowship Bible Study

Fellowship Bible Study will resume its weekly meetings on Thursday, Jan. 9, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church. The discussion will be on Paul's letters.

All are welcome.

LEGAL MATTERS

BY TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL DAN MORALES

officials this past October. Our objective was to plan how Texas and Mexico can together cripple the money laundering operations — the lifeblood of the drug trade.

Billions in illegal sales

Virtually all the cocaine consumed in the United States is produced in Latin America, and 70 percent comes in through the Texas-Mexico border, accounting for billions of dollars in illegal sales. Our investigators and attorneys have already met with considerable success in shutting down several money laundering operations in Texas, including 74 international money transfer businesses in the Houston area. These fronts handled millions of dollars from illegal drug profits and wired them to Latin America every month.

Despite these successes, we

must strengthen international alliances to fight the drug cartels if we are to have a lasting impact against them. Even our most valiant efforts at home will only be temporary fixes unless we count on Mexico's help to detect the ill-begotten billions that are the root of the problem. If we do not work together, drug lords outside our borders can simply shift or alter their operations, and grow bolder as they hide behind jurisdictional barriers.

This is why our October meeting in Mexico was concluded by the signing of a pledge between Mexico and my office. We agreed to structure permanent channels for the exchange of intelligence among our respective offices, in order to detect and shut down even more money laundering operations. Furthermore, numerous meetings are planned between our attorneys and investigators and their Mexican counterparts in the Mexican Attorney General's Office. Thanks to this process, we will continue to build bridges and fight the war against drugs from a stronger, united front.

This openness is in stark contrast to the past, when it was easier to cast blame than to join forces against the drug lords. It was a time when the United States would characterize Mexico as a haven for international criminals. In turn, Mexico would blame the drug crisis on American demand and consumption. The net result was distrust and a lack of effective international efforts to fight crime.

Tougher sanctions

In Texas, we understand that the people of Mexico are our allies, not our enemies. In fact, the Mexican people are all too aware that they run a dangerous risk of becoming hostages of a narco-democracy. This is why Mexico has dramatically stepped up its own domestic law enforcement efforts. Dozens of Mexican police and drug enforcement officials have been killed in the line of duty in recent months as they tried to save their country from the ravages of the drug trade.

And in an effort to stamp out corruption from within, thousands of Mexican police officers at every level have been charged and incarcerated for collaborating with drug operations. Furthermore, President Ernesto Zedillo has recently signed tougher enforcement measures into law. These unprecedented provisions now allow undercover operations, create a witness-protection program patterned after the one in the United States, and impose harsher penalties against drug trafficking.

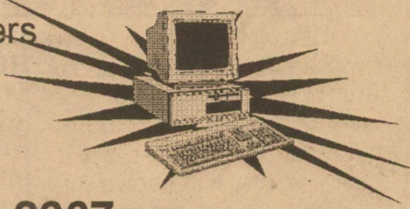
Working together

All these internal efforts and reforms by Mexico will now be helped along by cooperative law enforcement initiatives such as the one it is undertaking with my office. By working together, we are better prepared to target and strike against a common foe.

Texas is in an enviable position. It is our country's historical, cultural and physical gateway into Mexico. And Mexico is clearly becoming a cornerstone for American growth into the 21st century. As Texans, we have taken the lead to ensure that both countries have a shared vision of the future — one in which our citizens are free to interact without fearing the corrupting and often deadly influence of the drug trade.

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All flowering plants linked to 200 million year old ancestor

COLLEGE STATION — Blades of bermuda and bunches of broccoli appear to have little more in common than color. But a new study has found that they — and all flowering plants in the world — stem from a common ancestor that existed perhaps 200 million years ago.

The finding, reported in the December issue of Nature Genetics, means that breeders who are trying to develop better plants may soon have a much larger storehouse of genetic material to use.

"Down the road, we may be able to treat the genomes of all crops as one," said Dr. Andrew Paterson, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station molecular biologist and lead investigator on the project. "If we know the function of a gene in cotton, we will be able to infer what that gene's function in grain sorghum is."

Same goes for turfgrass, cactus, oak trees, grape vines and any of the other 250,000 species of plants classified on Earth, according to a United Nations report on biodiversity.

Paterson and colleagues last year were able to link the world's most important cereal grains — rice, corn and sorghum — to a common ancestor that grew about 65 million years ago, according to Science magazine. That was significant, but all of those crops are from the same family — grasses, or monocots. The new research links the grass-type plants with the broadleaves, or dicots, to one ancestor that existed sometime between 130 million and 200 million years ago, simultaneously with the dinosaurs.

"The differences among plants are relatively small compared to the similarities," Paterson said.

The discovery comes more than a year after Paterson's group began analyzing DNA for four plants: the Arabidopsis — a small flowering weed that is commonly used by researchers but has no other commer-

cial value — broccoli, sorghum and cotton. Arabidopsis and broccoli are closely related broadleaves, cotton is a more distant dicot (broadleaf) and sorghum is a grass.

The researcher put DNA sequences for which the genes were already known into a database to see if those sequences would correspond to any other known set, then determined where those genes existed on the chromosomes of each plant.

"If the genes were close to one another in the Arabidopsis DNA, then we looked to see if they also were close in the sorghum more often than we would expect by chance," Paterson explained. The answer was repeatedly "yes."

All plants have a basic set of genes that are similar and function in the same way, such as by fixing carbon into sugar, incorporating nitrogen into protein and generally doing the things that "make a plant a plant," Paterson said. This research shows that not only do the genes function in the same way many of them also are in the same orders along the chromosomes.

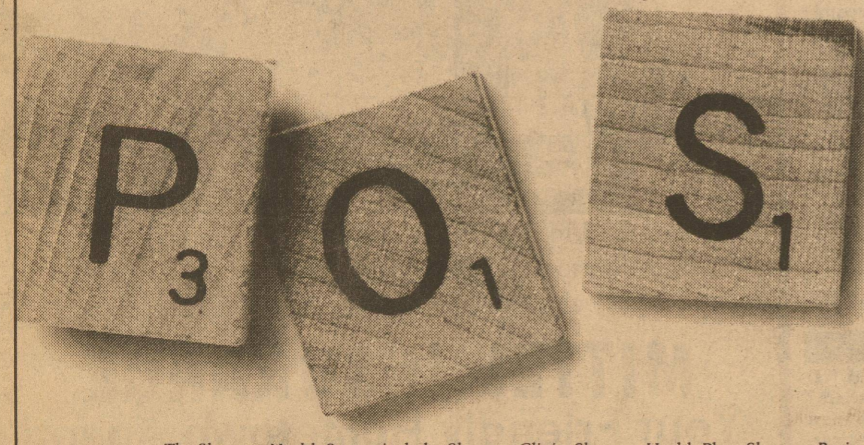
Considering that the smallest plant genome, Arabidopsis, is estimated to include 25,000 genes, this is very important information for geneticists. Knowing the order of genes along the chromosome provides researchers with a "genetic map," essentially like a roadmap, and allows them to engineer improved crops quickly and efficiently.

"Plant breeders eventually will be able to take advantage of an enormous body of information to assist with developing better varieties," he said. "If we can find a gene for fiber quality affecting the development of hairs in Arabidopsis, we know where to go look for the corresponding gene which might improve fiber quality in cotton, for example." Grass genes could be used in broadleaf plants as well, he said.

Learn the ABCs of HMOs and PPOs.

If you're shopping for health coverage and you don't know your HMOs from your PPOs, you're not alone. Consumers face a number of challenges that make assessing and comparing plans very difficult. That's why Shannon Health System has put together a booklet to provide the information you need to make the best health plan choice. "All You Have To Know To Choose The Right Health Plan" explains what HMOs and PPOs are, how they work and what to look for when choosing a health plan. It also explains the different types of insurance including Medicare, Medicaid, Disability, Hospital Indemnity and Long-term Care. Plus, it's free. Just call the number below and we'll send it to you. We'll also provide you with information on Shannon physicians and their participation in managed care plans when you call. Now, what ordinary hospital could offer you all this?

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