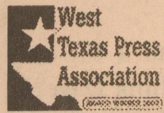


THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Schleicher County Sheriff's Deputies Jason Chatham and David Olivan stopped this northbound bus and briefly detained passenger Martin Leyva Reyes, 39, of Missouri, Monday afternoon when they learned that officials in his home state had issued two warrants for his arrest. The officers reluctantly released Reyes when Missouri officials declined to extradite him back to the Show Me State. The officers searched the bus as part of an area-wide effort to locate the man who robbed the First National Bank of Sonora earlier in the day.

Manhunt

Bank robbery suspect remains at large despite intense search

The First National Bank of Sonora was robbed Monday, Sept. 27, 2004, by a man who reportedly showed bank tellers a gun and demanded they hand over their cash. The bandit, who fled the bank on foot, remains at large, despite an area-wide dragnet. No one was injured during the heist.

A statement released by Sonora Police Chief Mike House indicates the suspect is a white male, between 5 feet 7 inches and 5 feet 9 inches tall, and weighing approximately 170 pounds, with pronounced acne scars. He was reportedly wearing a blue sweat suit with a hood at the time of the robbery. The man's sweatpants had red and white stripes, House said. The perpetrator was also wearing a toboggan cap and/or a baseball cap with a "Dickies" logo.

Word of the robbery spread quickly Monday as area law enforcement agencies hurried to put up road blocks on all roads leading away from Sonora.

Locally, Schleicher County Sheriff's Department and Department of Public Safety officers blocked traffic on U.S. 277, some three miles south of Eldorado. At one point during the road block, two men, one of whom matched the description of the suspect, were taken into custody by DPS officers and transported to

Sonora for identification. Eyewitnesses cleared the men, however, and they were released.

Later in the day, a Missouri man was taken off a northbound bus when officers learned that he was wanted in his home state. Martin Leyva Reyes, 39, was detained briefly when a check of the NCIC database revealed two warrants for his arrest on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. But, Missouri officials declined to extradite Reyes and he, too, was released.

At press time, the robbery suspect remains at large and officials urge area residents to remain calm but vigilant.

"The suspect should be considered armed and dangerous," Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran told the Success on Tuesday. "I ask that anyone with information about the robbery or knowledge of the suspect's whereabouts please contact my office at 853-2737."

"Under no circumstances should anyone try to approach or apprehend the suspect," Doran added. "Call us and let us take care of it."

The Success has learned that agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation have also joined the investigation as well as Texas Ranger Sergeant Brooks Long.



Composite sketch of suspect wanted for robbing the First National Bank of Sonora on Monday

Nearly six months later, what have we actually learned about Warren Jeffs?

It's been nearly six months since Eldoradoans awoke to the news that a religious sect had acquired more than sixteen hundred acres of land just outside of town and that members of the group were already erecting large dormitory-style buildings on the property.

Since that day the people of Eldorado and Schleicher County have found themselves living in the eye of a media hurricane as dozens, if not hundreds, of print and broadcast journalists have made their way town, each of them looking for a different angle on a story that seems to change on a daily basis.

And, oh, what a story it has become, complete with religious devotion, official corruption, power grabs, political intrigue and, yes, even a little sex.

Few here in Schleicher County knew much if anything about Mormon fundamentalism when The Success broke the story on March 25, 2004, that a group of buildings, under construction on the YFZ Ranch, were meant to house followers of FLDS Prophet Warren Jeffs. But very soon, most hereabouts found themselves reading everything they

could get their hands on about Jeffs and his Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Polygamy, or, as the FLDS faithful prefer to call it, plural marriage, was and is the heartbeat of the story that still brings journalists to town. Last week, Texas Monthly writer Skip Hollandsworth was in Eldorado working on a story. This week, a news crew from the Fox News Channel came calling.

"Every time I think this thing is dying down something happens in Utah or Arizona to spark public interest," Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran told the Success this week. He estimates that he has given more than fifty newspaper, radio and TV interviews since the YFZ story broke.

This week was no different. Douglas Kennedy, a Fox News reporter, brought his camera crew to town. After a video taped interview at the YFZ gate, Doran found himself on the phone with a reporter from the Canadian Broadcasting Network, followed promptly by a Canadian newspaper reporter.

Others in town have had much the

same experience as reporters and news crews have sought out local citizens for "man on the street" interviews. The Success newspaper office has become the clearing house for information on the YFZ Ranch with journalists from across the nation calling or coming by on an almost daily basis.

Still, with all that has been reported about the goings on at the YFZ Ranch and farther away on the FLDS home turf in Colorado City, Arizona, one has to stop and ask, what do we actually know about Warren Jeffs, what he believes and what he teaches his followers?

In an effort to answer those very questions The Eldorado Success will present a series of articles on the beliefs and teachings of the FLDS prophets, including Warren Jeffs and his father Rulon Jeffs, taken directly from their own writings and audio tapes of their own sermons and teachings.

The first in the series, dealing with the Doctrine of Blood Atonement, will appear in next week's edition of the Success. Subsequent articles will focus on the Principle of Plural Marriage, a policy called Bleeding the Beast, the Doctrine of One Man Rule, Repenting from a Distance, and the Restoration of the City of Enoch.

Monday last day to register to vote

Voter Registrar Lou Ann Turner, pointed out this week that October 4, 2004, is the last day to register in order to be eligible to vote in the November 2, 2004 General Election.

Those who are already registered should check their certificates for any changes or corrections that need to be made. October 4 is also the last day for those changes and corrections to be made.

Voter registration applications are available in the County Tax Office for registering and corrections.

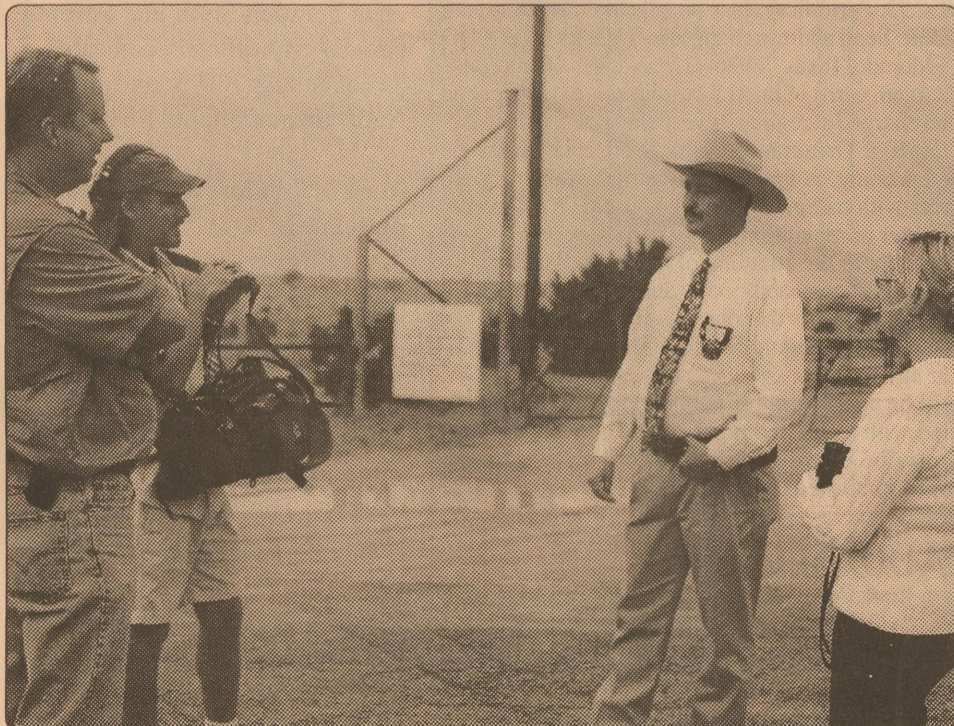


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran was interviewed by a crew from Fox News Channel Monday at the gate to the YFZ Ranch. Fox is the latest of the national news outlets to take an interest in the YFZ story.

SCMC trustees okay contract with Physician Assistant George Zerucha

The Schleicher County Medical Center board of trustees met Monday, September 27, 2004, and after a brief closed-door meeting for the discussion of personnel matters, emerged into open session to approve an employment contract with Physician Assistant George Zerucha. The contract extends for one-year Zerucha's employment which began two months ago on a temporary basis. Hospital Administrator Sharon Dietz explained that Zerucha will continue to assist Dr. Jim Lucas in the Clinic and will also help with emergency room coverage.

Another item requiring much of the board's attention was a dialogue with Attorney James Kosub about ways to separate the nursing home from the hospital, at least on paper, in order to prevent the nursing home from accruing costs that actually relate to the operation of the hospital. It was noted

that the assignment of the costs, now being made under a new interpretation of Medicare rules, means the hospital is not reimbursed for those costs under the Critical Access Program. The net result, as much as \$60,000 per month in lost reimbursements.

Board President Randy Mankin eventually appointed a three-person committee, consisting on himself and trustees Shirley Joiner and Ricky Fuessel, to study the problem and to meet with Medicare accountants and industry experts in hopes of finding a workable solution.

The meeting was the board's regular monthly session and was called to order by Mankin shortly after 6:00 p.m. in the hospital board room. Trustees on hand included Shirley Joiner, Ricky Fuessel, J. D. Doyle, Susie Richters and Jim Martin. Also present were Administrator Sharon

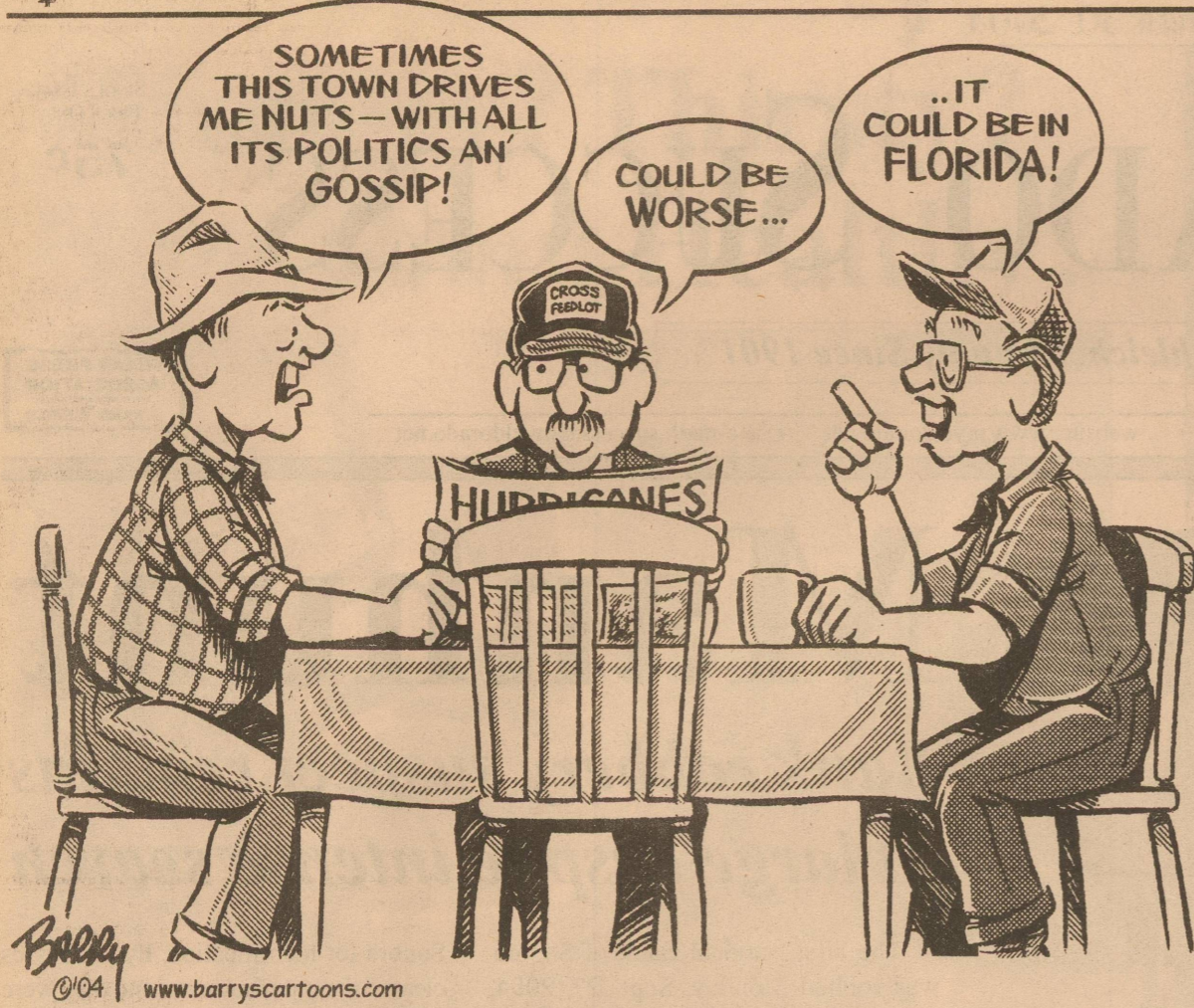
CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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If Don King promoted political debates

Tonight, President George W. Bush and Senator John Kerry are scheduled to have the first of three debates. If one can use past debates as a guide, tonight's affair is likely to be about as exciting as watching lawn bowling.

Okay, there I go, I've already made all the Lawn Bowlers of America angry and I haven't even gotten around to politics.

Actually, what I wanted to say before I insulted a large portion of the senior citizens in Florida is that no matter how the debate turns out each network and/or news organization will have their experts standing by to tell us what was said the moment the two candidates are finished saying it.

As competitive as the TV news business has gotten, it's a wonder that the commentators actually wait until the debate is over. Imagine for a minute how it would be if one of the network talking heads began to comment on the debate during the debate, sort of the way that sports announcers do.

"Well, Paul, the Senator appears to be a bit puzzled by that last statement. But, he's quickly back in the groove as he picks up his pen and jots down a few notes, while furrowing his brow and almost imperceptibly shaking his head from side to side."

"Dave, this is John in the studio."

"Yes, John?"

"Dave can you see from your



position there near the podiums if the Senator is using a ball point or a fountain pen?"

"Yes, I can, John. It appears to be a fountain pen. Remember that the Senator's ball point let him down the last time these two squared off. He's clearly trying to avoid falling into that trap."

"Dave, this is Paul in New York. What exactly is the point that the President is making now? Is this the 'No Iraqi Left Behind' pledge we've been expecting?"

"No, Paul, the President appears to have left that pledge in the clubhouse. He has, instead, dusted off a tried and true retort from four years ago. Surely you remember it, Paul, it's the 'Don't Misunderestimate Me,' line that worked so well for him in Duluth."

"You're right, Dave! And, he delivered it with authority. Very reminiscent of the 2000 campaign when..."

"Sorry to jump in here Paul, but it looks like the Senator has taken the bait and he's telling the President that while he may once

have underestimated him, he no longer underestimates him at all, except of course when the United Nations is on board and then underestimating is perfectly acceptable."

"Wow, that was a bit of a stretch, don't you think Dave?"

"Maybe so, John, but Senator Kerry is sending a clear signal that he's going to dance with the one that brought him and he isn't about to start changing tactics now."

"How is the President reacting to the Senator's last roundhouse, Dave?"

"He didn't like it a bit, John and it looks as if...Oh! This could be it, John. Yes, it appears to be! The President has invoked the name of French President Jacques Chirac, and the Senator is reeling under the charge of being a lackey of the Europeans."

"I don't know if you can see this in the studio, Paul, but that last barrage opened up a cut over the Senator's eye and the moderator, Peter Jennings of ABC News, has stepped between the two warriors."

"That doesn't look good, Dave. Does it mean the debate is over?"

"Not really. Remember, John, this debate is being held in Florida under the auspices of the Florida Debate Commission and the rules here in the Sunshine State are clear. When in doubt, recount!"

Breathing the fresh air of Alaska

Alaska was the only state I hadn't visited. I didn't really think much about it until recent years when friends started going there on cruises and came back with stories about the beauty of the place. We got something in the mail about a cruise to Alaska and I looked at it and gave it over to my wife Susan.

"I've always wanted to go to Alaska," she said. "I've wanted to go since I read my first Edna Ferber novel in grade school."

That was news to me. We've been married a long time and that was the first mention I can recall of her saying she wanted to go to Alaska.

We went the first week in August. The cruise left Vancouver, went to Ketchikan, Juneau and Skagway and then docked at Whittier, near Anchorage. The ship was comfortable. I could live on a cruise ship.

We were active on and off the ship. We took the stairs most of the time on the ship, hiked and took float trips in Juneau and Skagway.

We've been back three weeks now and I've been trying to think



by Tumbleweed Smith

of words to describe the trip to Alaska. Overall, I came back feeling cleansed and refreshed. Alaska's pristine elegance is so relaxing. The water, the mountains, the glaciers, the wildlife, the feeling like you're in a new, young place are all so invigorating. There are still places in Alaska that are unexplored, so the frontier atmosphere still prevails.

The excitement of the gold rush lingers.

When I came back, I wanted peace and harmony. I didn't want to hear any noisy talk shows on the radio. I didn't want to be in traffic. I wanted to hear classical music. I wanted to think about the gray skies and blue water and white snow and ice. I wanted to hear the crashing sound of glacier ice falling into the water. I wanted to see the whales, the bears, the orange starfish, the harbor seals,

icebergs and sea otters. This was a voyage of discovery that gave me a new perspective.

The three towns we visited were small. Juneau, the capital of Alaska, has only 30,000 residents. Most of the commerce is from cruise ships.

The stores shut down in the winter and the workers go to the Caribbean or Hawaii. "Only about 600 people live here during the winter," someone said about Skagway.

We toured Anchorage after we got off the ship. I was surprised to see such a modern city with nearly three hundred thousand residents. The total population of Alaska is just over half a million.

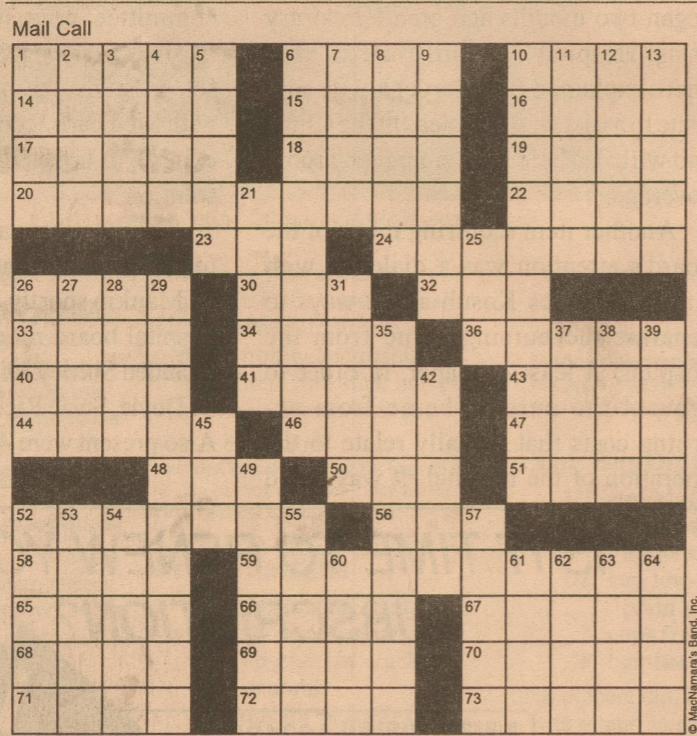
I was expecting to see a lot of older people on the trip. Wrong. The thirty and under crowd was there in abundance. They were thrilled to be seeing the tranquil and majestic beauty of sea, sky and ice covered mountains. The college kids who have summer jobs as drivers or guides were extremely sharp and having a good time. Alaska will be celebrating just fifty years of statehood in 2009. It's a young place for young people.

The ocean is so intriguing. We watched the gray green foam from the sides and rear of the ship. There is something peaceful about looking at water. Everybody needs some water in their life. Alaska is a good place to get it.

Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in **THE ELDORADO SUCCESS CLASSIFIED ADS**

Weekly Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1. Succotash beans
 - 6. Iditarod vehicle
 - 10. Jelly holders
 - 14. ___garde
 - 15. Well-___(rich)
 - 16. Lone Star State sch.
 - 17. Hamburger unit
 - 18. Fail to name
 - 19. "___ of your beeswax!"
 - 20. Slow rate
 - 22. Swiss artist Paul
 - 23. "Am ___ believe ..."
 - 24. Walked like a tot
 - 26. Elder or alder
 - 30. Drop the ball
 - 32. Bridal bio word
 - 33. Kennedy coin
 - 34. Make changes in
 - 36. Thin cookie
 - 40. Caspian Sea feeder
 - 41. Toy building blocks
 - 43. Wash up
 - 44. Dieter's choice
 - 46. "Arrivederci, ___"
 - 47. Canal of song
 - 48. Deadlock
 - 50. Loser to JFK
 - 51. Drum sound
 - 52. Pollen producers
- DOWN**
- 1. Track circuits
 - 2. Court star Lendl
 - 3. ___Hari
 - 4. Pro's foe
 - 5. Engraving instruments
 - 6. Instruction to a broker
 - 7. ___Linda, Cal.
 - 8. Formal proclamation
 - 9. Be overfond of
 - 10. Fred Sanford was one
 - 11. Coral formation
 - 12. Actress Taylor
 - 13. Risk a ticket
 - 21. Mill product
 - 25. Morning drops
 - 26. As a result
 - 27. ___avis
 - 28. Airline to Israel
 - 29. Scale with lots of black keys
 - 31. Strictness
 - 35. Pitcher with a surgical procedure named for him
 - 37. Casino card game
 - 38. Villain's work
 - 39. Virginia dance
 - 42. ___Domingo (Caribbean capital)
 - 45. Yahtzee cube
 - 49. Give power to
 - 52. Timetables, informally
 - 53. Lama land
 - 54. Bakery lure
 - 55. Fathered
 - 57. Get toggled up
 - 60. Red beans gowith
 - 61. G.I. Jane portrayer
 - 62. Lacking rain
 - 63. Aswan Dam river
 - 64. Planter's purchase



See solution on Page 6

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by: **Kerbow Funeral Home**

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Trio indicted in political fund-raising case

AUSTIN — Allegations of turning "soft" money donated by corporations to political committees into "hard" money given directly to political candidates could result in hard time for three Republican political operatives indicted last week by a Travis County grand jury.

The Austin-based grand jury returned indictments on 44 felony counts against Jim Ellis, John Colyandro and Warren Robold and eight corporations based outside Texas. The allegations range from money laundering (with a maximum 99-year sentence) to unlawful acceptance of corporate political contributions.

Since 1907, it has been against the law in Texas for corporations to contribute directly to political candidates. It is only legal for corporate donations to be used for administrative purposes in campaigns, not for things such as advertising or polling.

Ellis, 47, is head of Americans for a Republican Majority, U.S.



continue to look into political contributions made by corporations.

New statue invokes simpler times...

These days, Texas politicians fight their partisan battles with words — in speeches, debates, the news media, paid ads and Web sites.

Back in 1842, a difference of opinion between Republic of Texas President Sam Houston and the Texas Congress got settled by force of arms. Houston, disliking a capital city not named after him, ordered the removal of the republic's official papers from then-tiny Austin to Houston, a city only slightly bigger.

Most members of Congress, and virtually every Austinite, did not want to see the papers leave town.

They rightfully understood that removing the documents amounted to removing the seat of government.

When a party of soldiers arrived in Austin to spirit away the papers in the early morning hours, a feisty lady named Angelina Eberly touched off the town's cannon to warn the men folks.

An armed delegation of Austin residents intercepted the wagon train containing the papers and saw — at gunpoint — that the archives came back to Austin.

Last Sunday, on Congress Avenue between Sixth and Seventh streets, city officials dedicated a 7-foot tall, 2,200-pound bronze statue memorializing Eberly.

Most '05 seniors on track for diploma...

The Texas Education Agency says 78 percent of the class of 2005 has now passed the exit-level Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test.

Last spring, 72 percent of the same group of students passed the test. The test will be given two more times, the next round scheduled Oct. 19-22.

A student must pass the TAKS exit test before being awarded a high school diploma, but he or she can still graduate if all the required courses have been passed. After graduation, they can continue to take the TAKS test until they pass it.

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OBITUARIES

Ann Sammons Cole Lauffer

Ann went to be with the Lord on September 27, 2004. A special memorial service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 30, 2004. Burial services will be held Friday, October 1, 2004 at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral in San Angelo. Internment will be at Fairmont Cemetery immediately following.

Ann was born in Tulsa, OK on October 14, 1936. Through a miscalculation she was the first member of her family to be born outside of Texas since the late 1800's. Her parents were Frank Parish Cole and Gertrude Sammons. She graduated from Monte Cassino High School in 1954. She attended the University of Tulsa for two years where she was a member of Chi Omega Sorority and graduated from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. with a degree in history. She married Robert Allen Lauffer in July 1960, in Cherrydale, VA. All three preceded her in death. Ann was a member of San Angelo Friends of the Environment, Animal Coalition of San Angelo, a member of the Daughters of the Confederacy and founding member of San Angelo Chapter 1223.

After Ann and Robert were married, they lived in Washington, D.C. where her first three children were born. Ann always joked that she and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis had something in common; they shared the same obstetrician. Wanting to return to Texas, the family first moved to Dallas, where two more children were born, then to Rockwall County for twenty years. Ann was a homemaker during this time, but when the children were older, she returned to school part time. She received her teaching certificate in history and English from East Texas State University in Commerce. She took great pleasure that her grades were better than her children's. After the last child graduated from Rockwall High School, Ann and Bob moved

to the ranch. They lived there several years and later moved to San Angelo in 1994. She worked first at the Tom Green County Library. She then became one of the first hired at Sitel Corporation, where she was in the Quality Assurance division over five years.

Ann loved her house, family, ranch and her animals. She always said she felt very fortunate that she enjoyed her own company. The activities she liked doing were reading, cross-stitch and needlework and crafts. She enjoyed working on her family genealogy. It was a family joke that she kept the bird seed companies in business, as she fed her backyard wild birds twice a day religiously.

She is survived by a son, Robert Allen Lauffer II and wife Kim of Amarillo; four daughters, Lisa Hyde of San Clemente, CA., Karen Baack and husband Kent of Corinth, TX., Debra Wilson and husband Paul Andrew of San Angelo, TX., and Laurie Vessell and husband David of San Angelo; grandchildren Blake Lauffer of North Richland Hills, TX; Kendall and Kyle Lauffer of Amarillo, TX; Michael and Madison Hyde of San Clemente, CA; Ashlyn, Grace, Anna and Gabrielle Baack of Corinth, TX.; Tyler and Dylan Wilson of San Angelo, TX; Jeff, Justin and Brock Vessell of San Angelo; and two very special members "Little Bit" and "B.T." - her dog and cat. she spent many pleasurable hours with them.

Ann worked endlessly for the betterment of the animal community. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made to Tom Green County Library, the Animal Coalition of San Angelo or San Angelo Friends of the Environment, or a charity of your choice. Special thanks are give to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for His endless grace and to Hospice of San Angelo; in particular Lea Henderson and Sherry Copen.

Rosa Arispe



ELDORADO — Rosa A. Arispe, 46, died Friday, Sept. 24, 2004, in a local hospital. Services were at 10 a.m. Monday at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with burial in Eldorado Cemetery. Arrangements are by Kerbow Funeral Home.

Survivors include her husband, Joe Arispe of Eldorado; sons, Johnny Joe Arispe of San Angelo, Joe Arispe of Panama City, Fla., and Gilbert Arispe and Manuel Arispe, both of Eldorado; daughters, Esther Villanueva and Beatrice Arispe, both of Eldorado; brothers, Luis Aguilar and Jimmy Aguilar, both of Eldorado, Joe Aguilar of Odessa and Ventura Aguilar of San Angelo; and sisters, Amalia Rodriguez, Senaida Martinez, Marcela Mejia, Mary Lozano and Benita Fuentes, all of Eldorado, Patricia Harper and Aurelia Aguilar, both of San Angelo, and Enedina Cobarrubis of Plano.

The family request that memorials be made to American Cancer Society, Locks of Love, or the Make a Wish Foundation.



Felica and Robert O'Keefe visited last Saturday evening with Methodist pastor Jean Ann Karn during the annual Schleicher County Nursing Home barbecue.

Count Dracula to haunt EOBQC HQ at stop light

The Eldorado Olympic Bid Organizing Committee will present the reincarnation of Count Dracula's Quality Pre-Owned Casket Company at the corner of 277 and 190 East in downtown Eldorado beginning October 16. This haunted house was very popular in the DFW area from 1989 through 1997 and the Eldorado version will contain many of the same illusions featured in McKinney.

Count Dracula uses this facility as his headquarters in his quest to take over the world. His devils mind has come up with many mischievous plots to bamboozle authorities who are hoping to end his nefarious plans. He has developed secretive processes in order to transform humans and animals into other creatures in order to do his bidding on specific jobs needed for this monumental task. He has even wisely enlisted the aid of aliens from other planets to assist in his scheme, in return for "unknown" favors.

This haunted house is just one of the methods the EOBQC is using to raise "bribe" money in order to attract the Olympics to Eldorado. The other events include the Running of the BULL in late July and the Eldorado Elgoatrod in early spring. The organization also created and maintains the Hysterical District in south Eldorado.

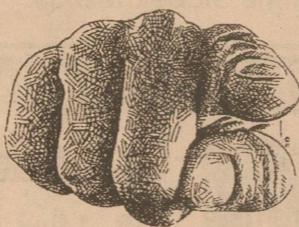
A costume contest will be held on Saturday, October 30 at 7 PM under the portico of the magnificent edifice located at the SE corner of the intersection

of the only stoplight in Eldorado. Prizes will be awarded in all age groups for the most ingenious outfits. Batman has been engaged as head of security for the event and his Batmobile will serve as an additional landmark in locating the festivities.

The 4000 square foot maze will be open October 16, 17, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31. The fun will begin at dark each night. Admission is \$1 for pre-schoolers, \$2 for those of elementary age and \$3 for those 13 years of age and older. For more information contact Jim Runge of the EOBQC at either 325-853-2434 or eoboc@hotmail.com.

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Eldorado High School two day Parent/Teacher Conference

In order to visit with all of the parents. Times have been chosen in order to allow parents more flexibility to attend this conference around their work schedule.

The conferences are scheduled for:
Monday, September 27, 2004 from 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Monday, October 4, 2004 from 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The designated times for both were selected so that parents may have some flexibility in their work schedules to meet with the teachers. A private room will be available for those teachers and parents who wish to visit privately.

The high school counselor will be present to answer questions and to make available various material including information about financial aide for students nearing graduation, various testing options for all students, and graduation requirements and a 4-Year Plans for freshman and sophomores. Spanish translation will be available.

The teachers of Eldorado High School hope each parent of a High School student will take this opportunity to ask questions and get to know who instructs their children.

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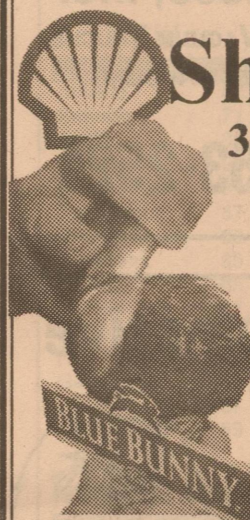
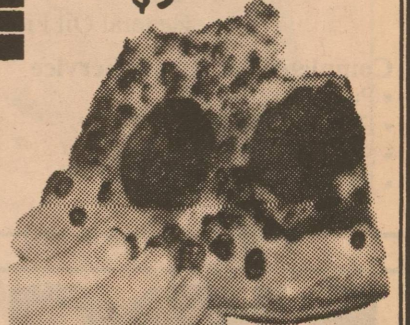
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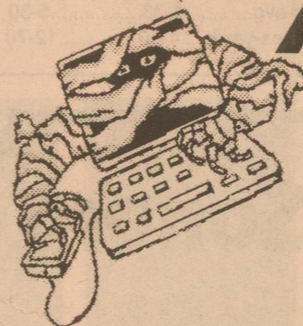
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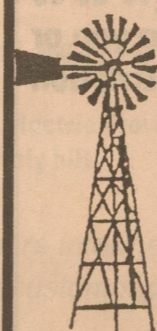
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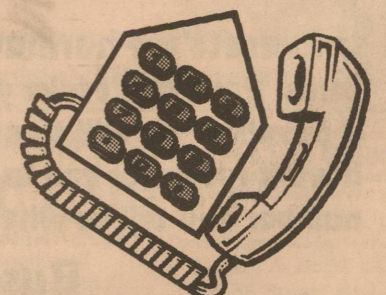
NEVER USE OR GIVE OUT YOUR CARD PIN ON ANY INTERNET OR PHONE RELATED ACTIVITY!

WARNING.... Many times after completing a purchase or customer registration with an Internet merchant, the cardholder receives an E-mail directing the them to update their card information with the merchant. While the message may appear legitimate, most times it is sent by a Fraud Site and request personal information such as credit or debit card number, expiration date, PIN, name and address. Once this information is given by the cardholder, it is an easy thing for the Fraud site to manufacture a card and use the correct PIN for withdrawals and PIN Purchases.

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CLOSED SUNDAYS

Eagles fall to Grape Creek

Terrell Boysaw took the opening kickoff back the distance Friday night, Sept. 24, 2004, to give the Eldorado Eagles a 6-0 lead in their District 2-2A opener with Grape Creek. The lead held up for just less than eight minutes as Grape Creek came roaring back to score the next 34 points.

Boysaw would score again, late in the 4th quarter when he hauled in a 56-yard TD pass from Ryan Cathey. The duo connected again on the 2-point conversion to move the Eagles' score to 14.

"They were big and fast and we pretty flat," Coach Gary Grubbs said after the game.

Offensively the Eagles managed only 156 yards. Andy Mejia carried the ball 10 times for 41 yards. Ryan Cathey gained 14 yards on 6 carries and Frank Edmiston added 5 yards on 1 run.

Terrell Boysaw caught 5 passes for 71 yards and a TD. Jorge Bustos caught 4 and picked up 21 yards while Kolby Dombrosky gained 3 yards on a single catch and Andy Mejia gained 1 yard on 2 receptions.

GRAPE CREEK 34, ELDORADO 14	
SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Eldorado	6 0 0 8 14
Grape Creek	14 0 13 7 34

GAME SUMMARY	
FIRST QUARTER	
Eldorado - Terrell Boysaw 88 yard kickoff return (kick no good) 11:38 remaining. Grape Creek - Trenton Priddy 3 run (Kyle Jolley kick good) 4:21 remaining. Grape Creek - Sterling Beeson 32 yard pass from Trenton Priddy (Jolley kick good) 1:36 remaining.	
THIRD QUARTER	
Grape Creek - Priddy 1 run (Jolley kick no good) 8:04 remaining. Grape Creek - Matt Younts 1 run (Jolley kick good) 7:30 remaining.	
FOURTH QUARTER	
Grape Creek - Kyle Jolley 7 pass from Trenton Priddy (Jolley kick good) 5:35 remaining.	
Eldorado - Boysaw 56 pass from Ryan Cathey (pass conversion good) 3:13 remaining.	

Eldorado	Grape Creek
First downs	7-16
Rushing Yards	15-60
Passing Yards	96-59
Total yards	156-336
Comp-Att-Int	8-24-1
Fumbles-lost	1-1
Punts-avg	4-33
Penalties-yards	4-30

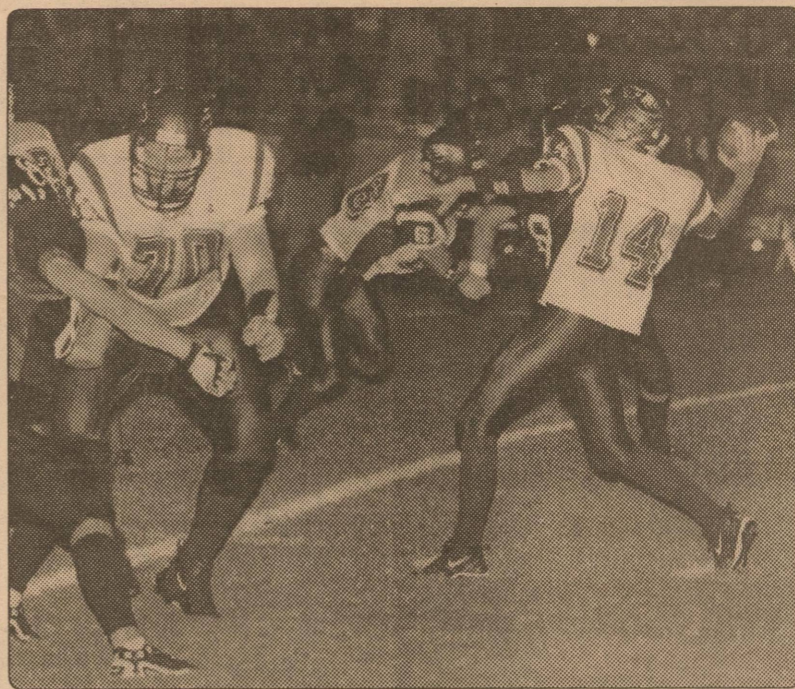
Quarterback Ryan Cathey connected on 11 of 20 passes for 90 yards, while surrendering 2 interceptions. Jared Grubbs completed the only pass he threw for 6 yards.

The Warbirds managed only 9 first downs in the contest, with 8 of them coming in the second half.

The loss moves the Eagles season record to 3-1. They stand at 0-1 in Dist. 2-2A play.

Eldorado will next face the Sonora Broncos who downed the Reagan County Owls 37-0 last week in Sonora.

Kick off is slated for 7:30 p.m. and the Eldorado faithful are encouraged to turn out and support the Eagles!



Ryan Cathey lofts a pass during the Eagles game with Grape Creek last Friday. Eldorado fell to Grape Creek 34-14 in the Dist. 2-2A opener for both teams.

EHS Cross-Country results listed

Correction: Big Lake: Cross Country Meet, September 18, 2004. Results: High School Boys placed 12th overall. Jeremy. Ussery-27th, Russell Cathey-57th, Dustin. Rameriz-61st, Louie Butiron-62nd, S. Estrada-81st, Drew Bosmans-89th, Jorge Mata- 93rd. High School Girls...Alicia Cor-

rales-28th, Chandra Wanoreck-77th, Jessica Robertson-103rd, Desiree Valeriano-116th, and Blake Chatham-131st. Coach Edie Niblett noted "We couldn't of requested a better day to run."

Middle School Cross Country Results: Big Lake: Jr. High Girls....6th Overall....C. Buit-

ron-19th, M. Martinez-39th, H. Higgins-44th, V. Belman-47th, M.Huerta-52nd, C. Williams-71st.

Jr. High Boys-4th Overall....

J.Vasquez-12th, D. Rameriz-18th, C. Minor-19th, J.Mejia-30th, M.Baker-33rd, H.Alvizo-35th, R. Cathey-42nd, M. Garcia-44th, J. Belman-

Eagles JV whips Grape Creek 66-0

Russell Cathey scored three touchdowns and David Hernandez and J.P. Joiner each found paydirt twice last Thursday as the Eldorado Eagles kept their perfect record intact with a 66-0 victory over Grape Creek in junior varsity action.

With the win, the Eagles improve to 4-0 on the season. Eldorado resumes action tonight with a 6:30 road game in Sonora.

"The J.V. is a fun group to coach because they want to be coached," Eagles coach Don Richers said. "I see examples of this in every game -- one of the players will do something that they have been coached to do.

"A good example of this is Juan Garcia last Thursday when he

stripped the ball to save a touchdown against Grape Creek. They are a great bunch to be around," he added.

Russell helped the Eagles to a quick 14-0 lead in the first quarter against Grape Creek as he scored on runs of 1 and 33 yards, respectively. Hernandez ran in one conversion and passed to Jeremy Ussery for another.

Hernandez then scored from 3 yards out to put Eldorado up 22-0 at the end of the final stanza.

Joiner scored his first touchdown in the second period has he returned an interception 79 yards for a score.

Cathey scored his third touchdown on a 46-yard scamper, and Hernandez ran in the conversion

to give the Eagles a 36-0 lead at intermission.

Hernandez broke loose for an 80-yard TD jaunt in the third quarter. Joiner added the two-point conversion.

Ricky Mercado found paydirt from 19 yards out in the second half, and Michael Reddish ran in the conversion for a 52-0 lead.

Joiner scored his second TD in the fourth quarter as he returned a punt 46 yards for a score. Manny Gonzales scored on a 34-yard TD run and then scored the conversion on a quarterback sneak to complete Eldorado's scoring.



The Eagles JV kick off team has seen lots of action this year as the team has blown out one opponent after another. Here, kick off squad members (L-R) Lalo Sanchez, Neal Higgins and Louie Buitron line up for yet another kick off during the Eagles 66-0 win over the Grape Creek JV.

School Lunch Menu



Milk & Bread Offered
 Menus Subject To Change
 1/2 pt. Milk & 4 oz.

BREAKFAST MENU

- Monday, October 4**
No School Yeah!!
- Tuesday, October 5**
Pig-n-blanket, Choice of Juice, Peaches, Milk
- Wednesday, October 6**
Breakfast PIZZA, Choice of Juice, Milk
- Thursday, October 7**
Cheese Toast, Choice of Cereal, Pineapple Tidbits, Milk
- Friday, October 8**
Cream of wheat, Toast, Choice of Juice, Fruit, Milk

BASKET LINE

- Monday, October 4**
No School Yeah!!
- Tuesday, October 5**
Corn Chip Pie, Cheese cup, Pinto Beans, Tossed Salad, Pear Halves, Jello/Topping
- Wednesday, October 6**
Steak Burger Sandwich, Salad, Corn on a Cob, Pineapple Slices
- Thursday, October 7**
Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Spicy Fries, Carrot Sticks, Dip, Apple Halves
- Friday, October 8**
Hamburgers, Spicy Fries, Hamburger Salad, Pickles, Orange Halves

CAFETERIA LINE

- Monday, October 4**
No School Yeah!!
- Tuesday, October 5**
Burritos, Pinto Beans, Carrots Sticks, Dip, Apple Halves
- Wednesday, October 6**
Chicken Nuggets, Gravy, Black-Eyed Peas, Creamed Potatoes, Hot Rolls, Pineapple Slices
- Thursday, October 7**
Lasagna, Peas & Carrots, Hot Rolls, Jello/Topping
- Friday, October 8**
Hamburgers, Spicy Fries, Hamburger Salad, Pickles, Orange Halves

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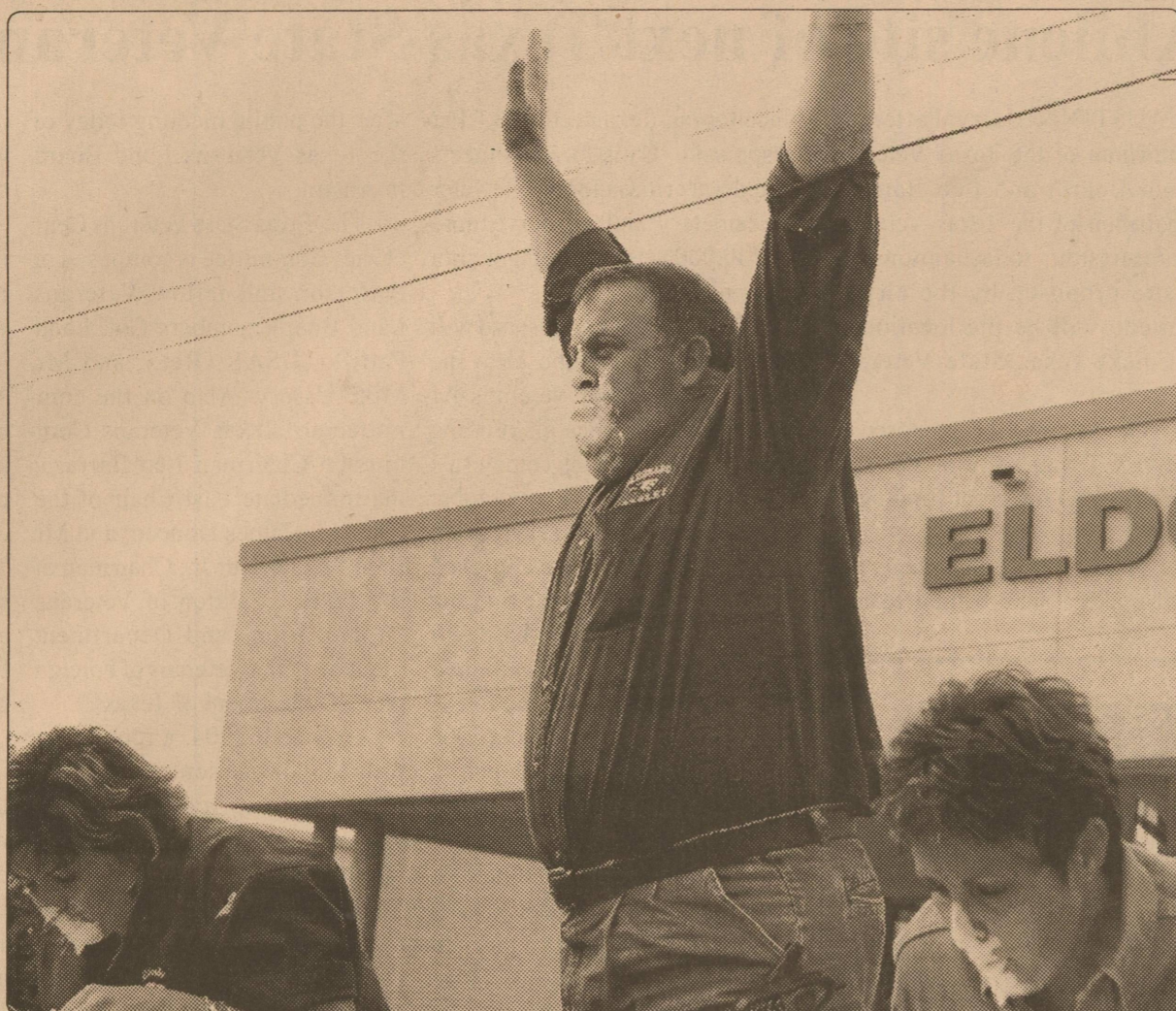
Eldorado Eagles athletes

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THE SUCCESS
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EHS Principal Bob Wanoreck celebrated Friday as he won the "Cream Pie Eating Contest" during the EHS Pep Rally held in the street in front of Eagle Gym. The purpose of the contest was to see who could most quickly eat the grapes out of a pile of whipped cream. Wanoreck's adversaries were Eldorado Elementary Principal Maela Edmiston and Middle School Principal Kara Sue Garlitz.

PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN



VOTE Leanne Higgins for Schleicher County Tax Assessor/Collector

I am Leanne Higgins, a candidate for the Schleicher County Tax Assessor/Collector and I am qualified for the office. I have worked with accountants from 1995 to date in accounts payable/receivable, financial reports, and tax returns. The last five years, my bookkeeping and tax service has offered individual as well as business clients services in data entry, payroll, account set up and filing of income tax returns.

Having worked in tax matters, I will be able to understand the tax laws that affect our community. I want to save money by having the property taxes collected out of one office. This will save money in office supplies and postage and well as the taxpayers time by paying to one office. When a car or pickup is bought outside of Schleicher County the money paid for tax, title and registration can be transferred back to Schleicher County. That means revenue for Schleicher County and not San Angelo. I will work hard to save money and to learn ways to generate revenue for Schleicher County.

Billy and I have lived in Eldorado since 1990, and have been fortunate to raise our children, Neal and Haley, in this wonderful community. We are members of the Mertzon Hwy. Church of Christ, and are active in 4-H. Eldorado is the only home my children know and I want to do my part to help it grow and prosper. I would appreciate your vote on November 2, 2004, and thank you for your consideration.

Political ad paid for by Leanne Higgins, Treasurer

4-H to host benefit golf tournament

The Schleicher County 4-H Clubs will be hosting a Golf Tournament here in Eldorado on Saturday, October 9, 2004. Proceeds from the tournament will be used for various 4-H projects here in the county.

The format for the tournament will be a 3 person, select shot. At least one team member must be a female. Cost is \$75/team and mulligans will be for sale at \$5 each with no limit. Tee off will be a 1:30 p.m. Entries will be limited to the first 28 teams. There will be prizes galore and the teams will be flighted based on number of entries and after the score cards are turned in.

For more information or to sign-up a team, please contact the Schleicher County Extension office at 853-2132.

EMS Eagles sweep Grape Creek

GRAPE CREEK — The Eldorado Middle School teams swept Grape Creek in a double-header last Thursday on the road.

In the eighth-grade game, the Eagles (2-1) scored twice before the game was called because of lightning with 4:56 remaining in the third quarter.

"The week off was really good for us to begin focusing on our defense, and it showed as we were able to hold Grape Creek to one first down," Eagles coach Doran Schoenhals said.

"We are starting to play more like a team and it really shows. Everybody played great in the game -- it just kind of stunk that

we didn't get to finish because the game was called."

Eldorado struck first with 3:28 left in the first half as signal-caller Austin Grubbs connected with Jesus Vasquez on a 26-yard scoring strike for a 6-0 advantage.

Grubbs later scored on a 1-yard TD plunge at the 4:56 mark in the third period. Grubbs hit Johnny Mejia on the two-point conversion to put the Eagles up 14-0 before the game was called.

In the seventh grade contest, Wes Brown scored twice to lead the Eagles (2-0) to a 28-0 shut-out.

Eldorado's seventh-graders struck first on a 5-yard touchdown

run by David Tirado on the last play of the opening stanza.

Dylan Dombroksi broke loose for a 53-yard TD run on a counter. Garrett Lux then connected with Ryan Castillo for the conversion and a 14-0 lead with 3:06 left in the first half.

Brown scored his first touchdown on a 1-yard plunge with 44 seconds left in the third quarter.

Brown struck again with 1:14 remaining in the contest when he returned a punt 36 yards for a TD. Lux hit Marty Powell for the two-point conversion to cap the Eagles' victory.

"They played some great defense," Eldorado coach Gary Grubbs said. "We didn't allow a first down the entire game. They really stepped up and had a good time. They have been an enjoyable group to work with."

The Eagles resume action today as they host Sonora in a double-header. The seventh-grade teams will take the field at 5 p.m., followed by the eighth-graders at 6:30.

Hospital Board meeting held

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dietz, Assistant Administrator Beverly Minor and Attorney James Kosub.

Among other business the trustees approved the minutes from the August 23, 2004 and September 16, 2004. They also heard Quality Assurance Reports delivered by Hospital Director of Nursing Beckie Silva and Nursing Home Director of Nursing Anita Jones.

Sharon Dietz then updated the board on changes she had made in the scheduling of laboratory technicians. She noted that numerous call backs after regular business hours was resulting in excessive overtime charges. The new schedule has overlapping shifts with a technician on duty until 8:00 p.m. each weekday evening. Dietz also explained that the hospital received just over \$11,000.00 from a state fund that helps offset indigent care costs incurred by the facility. She noted that the money falls short of picking up the entire indigent care tab which totaled over \$17,000.00 last year.

Dietz then discussed the way various insurance companies pay for laboratory tests ordered in the Family Clinic. After reviewing procedures at several area clinics the trustees voted to continue billing laboratory tests through the clinic, even though the reimbursement is far lower

than if the tests are billed through the hospital, where most policy holders are required to pay part of their deductible toward the lab costs.

The trustees then turned their attention to the hospital district's financial reports. It was noted that increased patient visits in the clinic, plus better utilization of the hospital's laboratory CT-scan and X-ray services had pushed the district's finances into the black for the first time in five months. The facility ended the month some \$17,000 ahead of where it began. In addition to voting to approve the financial reports, the trustees also voted to write-off \$27,158.82 in bad debt.

Before adjourning the trustees approved the purchase and installation of double doors between the emergency rooms and the main hospital hallway. The doors are being funded with a "Bioterrorism Grant" Ms. Dietz had applied for earlier in the year.

The trustees then okayed the purchase of three IV pumps and okayed contracts with Schleicher County ISD so that Health Occupations students can train in the facility. Additionally, the group approved various insurance and health care plan providers. They also approved the amended hospital pharmacy formulary, a list of drugs and medications kept on hand at the facility.

BIRTHDAY LIST

SEPTEMBER

30th Bobby Cortez, Sherri Freeman, Christina Rojas, Pansie Jay, Glenda Harris, Barney McAlpine, Rabbit Sudduth, Maria Luisa Martinez, Jalen Garza, Shae Gonzales, Christina R. Rameriz, Jero Fuentes

OCTOBER

1st Jose Angel Fuentes, Samantha Brown, Vicky Esparza, John Kotsch, Terry Green, Raymond Spears, Sr., Evan Joiner
2nd Buff Whitten, Pedro Estrada Jr., Sherry Gibson, Donna Suter, Angela Kelley
3rd David Robledo, Madolyn Mertz, Brianna Gamez, Elena Aguilar, Marcus Hinojosa, Martin Ortiz, Jr., Alan Peizel, Lois Burleson
4th John Paul Joiner II, David Creek, Homero Hernandez, Kora Factor, Erika Estrada
5th Ronnie Paxton, Jeff Parker, Claudia Cardenas, Atun Gower, Maria Hernandez, Pedro Estrada, Chad Wheelles, Clemente Aguilar Jr.
6th Francis Edmiston, Ken Koenig, Bill Clark, Benjamin Gonzalez, Carrie Hill, Jason Porter, Ben Wipff, Victoria Trickett

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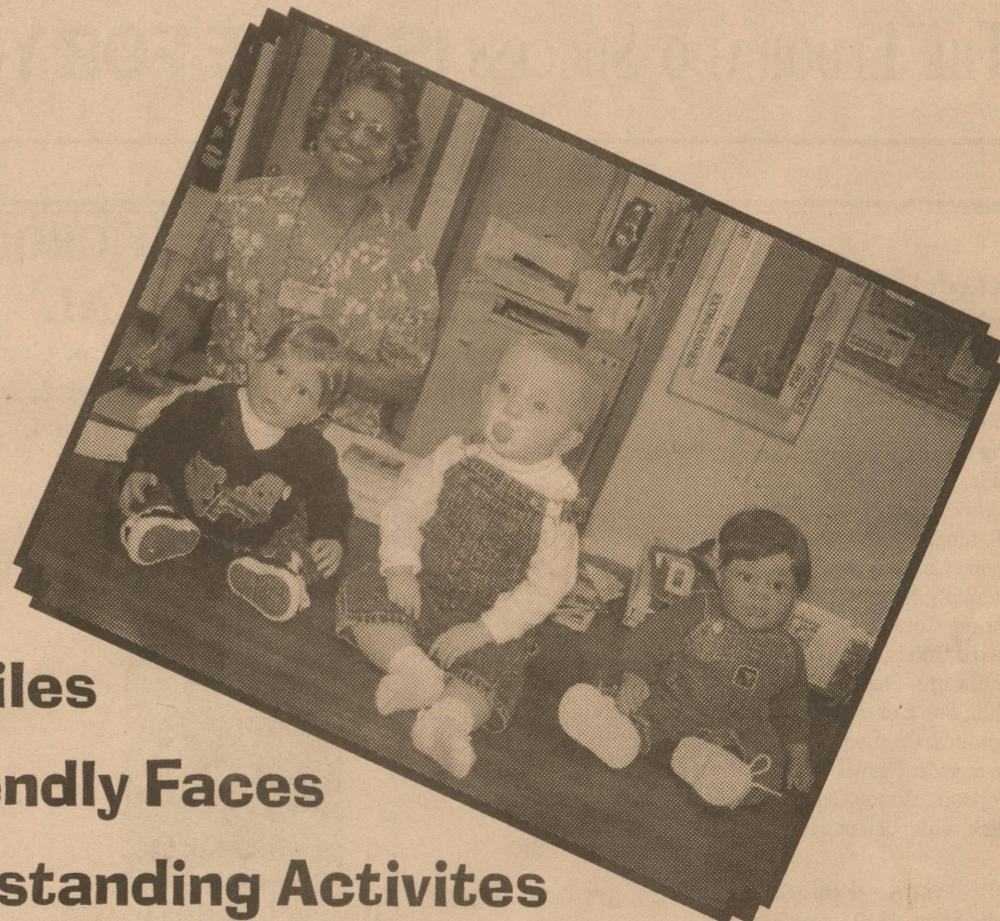
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Annual Meeting of the
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October 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Abilene site of next Texas State Veterans Cemetery

AUSTIN -- Jerry Patterson, Chairman of the Texas Veterans Land Board, and Leo Barraza, Chairman of the Texas Veterans Commission, today announced a site proposed by the city of Abilene will be the location of the next Texas State Veterans Cemetery.

The site will be proposed to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for grant funding in 2006.

"The proposed Abilene site will make a superb final resting

place for our Texas veterans," Patterson said. "This location meets all federal criteria for a state veterans cemetery, and will serve more than 30,000 veterans living within a 75-mile radius."

The Veterans Land Board will submit Abilene's proposal to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which provides all funding to build state veterans cemeteries. The VLB should know by October 2005 whether the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has approved funding for the site. Once funding is approved, the design phase will begin and should be completed by spring 2006. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2006 and the cemetery should open in early 2008. "This cemetery will be a lasting memorial to the men and women who serve our nation," Patterson said. "We pledge to keep it immaculate, as befits a place of honor."

The Abilene site was chosen by the Texas State Veterans Cemeteries Committee, which met

after the public meeting today of the Texas Veterans Land Board in Austin.

The Texas State Veterans Cemeteries Committee is composed of Patterson and fellow Veterans Land Board members Col. Ladd Pattillo, USAR (Ret.), and Mr. Mike Ussery. Also on the committee are Texas Veterans Commission Chairman Leo Barraza; the immediate Past-Chair of the TVC, Mr. James Duncan; and Mr. Glen M. Gardner Jr., Chairman of the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations and Department Adjutant of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Texas.

In March 2004, a request for proposals was sent to mayors, city managers, county judges and veterans groups in nine communities located in 11 counties: Abilene, Amarillo, Corpus Christi, Longview, Lubbock, Midland-Odessa, San Angelo, Texarkana and Tyler. They were chosen because of the large number of veterans living within a 75-mile

radius of them, and because they were far from existing veterans cemeteries in the state.

Four proposals were received in time to be considered for funding in 2006. The proposed sites were submitted by the city of Abilene, Nueces County, the American Housing Authority on behalf of the Llano Cemetery Association in Amarillo, and a joint proposal from Smith and Gregg counties.

Texas State Veterans Cemetery proposals compete with proposals from other states for available funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Texas State Veterans Cemeteries will complement the four U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs national cemeteries in Texas, located in San Antonio, Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth and El Paso. There are no known plans for additional national cemeteries in Texas, and approximately 600,000 of Texas' 1.7 million veterans are 65 or older.

ELDORADO HAS BEEN IN THE NEWS A LOT LATELY!

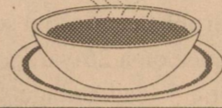
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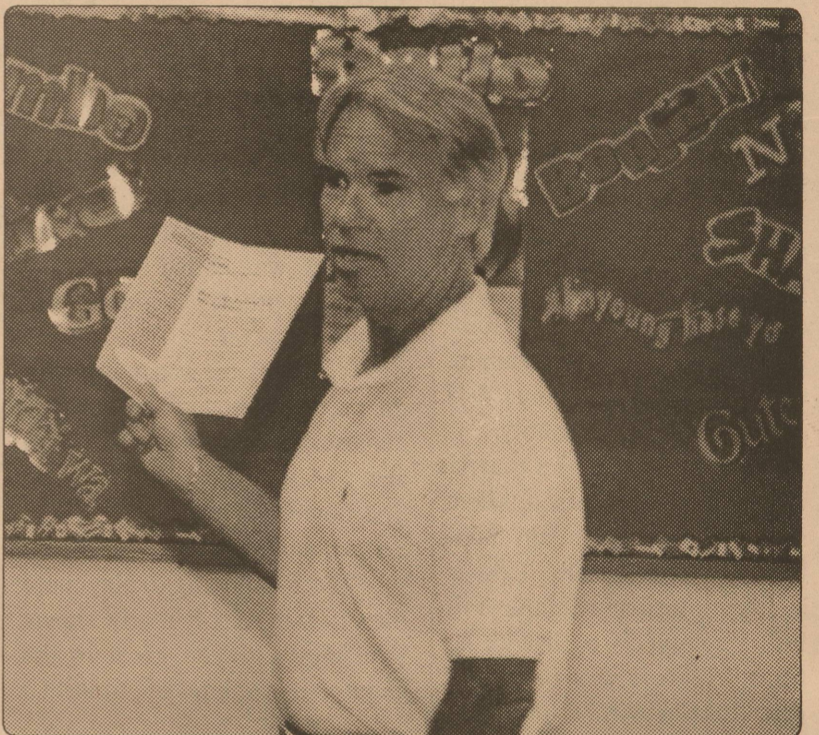
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Meals for Friends Menu

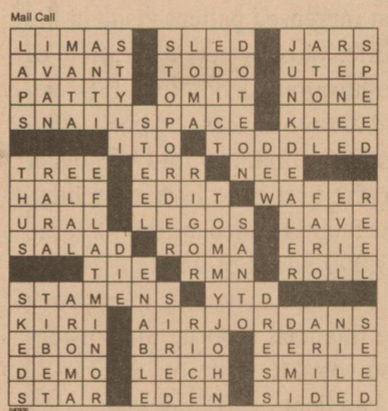


- Monday, October 4**
 Meatballs & Spaghetti w/ Tomato, Seasoned Spinach, French Bread, Toss Salad, Banana w/ Pudding, Milk
- Tuesday, October 5**
 Roast Pork, French Cut Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Dinner Rolls, Stewed Prunes, Milk
- Wednesday, October 6**
 Turkey Tetrazzini, Broccoli, Toss Salad, Dinner Roll, Raspberry Pears, Milk
- Thursday, October 7**
 Pork Chop w/ Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Coleslaw, Fruit Cocktail, Milk
- Friday, October 8**
 BBQ Chicken Breast, Pinto Beans, Mustard Green, Corn Bread, Sliced Tomato, Canned Peaches, Milk



Explaining the legislative process: David Griffin, a retired Ag teacher who currently serves as an aide to State Representative Harvey Hilderbran, explained to a group of EHS government students, how bills move through the legislature and become laws. Mr. Griffin brought with him a video explaining the process. He also encouraged the students who have turned 18 to register to vote.

Solution to puzzle on Page 2



Gov. Perry announces \$1.6 Million Grant to TSU

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry this week announced the award of a \$1.6 million grant to Texas State University to provide rapid response training to law enforcement officers statewide. The grant is awarded under the federal Byrne Formula Grant Program.

"This specialized training will better prepare law enforcement

officers for critical situations, increasing their own safety in the line of duty as well as the safety of others," Perry said.

The training program will provide first responders with advanced training on handling school violence incidents, terrorist threats and armed criminals.

Each year, the Governor's Criminal Justice Department provides more than \$130 million in grants to help Texans at the forefront of the fight against crime. CJD funds a variety of programs for juvenile justice, crime prevention and victim services grants — all aimed at making Texas a safer place.

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Convention Center Fair Park
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Food, Arts/Crafts/Activity Booths: (Pig Pen Bongo, Rope Ladder, Giant 30' Slide, Duck Pond, Obstacle Course, Carnival Games, Jewelry, Toys, Children's Clothing, T-shirts, Sunglasses, Wood Work, Sports Collectibles, Goat Milk Products, Taquito's, Nachos, Fruit Punch, Shrimp Cocktail, Brisket Burritos, Baked Goods, Mexican Fruit Drinks, Fruit Cups, Flautas, Fajitas, Turkey Legs, Chili, Sno Cones, Pickles, Brisket Sandwiches, Gorditos, Corn on the Cob, Pork Colitas, Lemonade, Funnel Cakes, Soft Drinks, Popcorn, Cotton Candy, Tacos, Sausage-on-a-Stick, and much more)

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Auto Show - \$10 Entry Fee, Awards Presented at 4 p.m., Open Show People's Choice for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Favorites, Cash prizes, All Classes welcome; Antique, Classic, Motorcycle, Street Rod and Truck

1:00 p.m. Washer Pitching Tournament

Splash These Big Cats at the Dunking Booth

JUMPIN GEE HOSA FAT..... YEE HAW..... GET OUT YOUR DANCING SHOES!

STREET DANCE-SATURDAY NITE CONVENTION CENTER FAIR PARK

8:00 P.M. - 12Midnight
 Admission \$10.00 per person
 \$5.00 for 12 and Under
 6 and Under Free

Will have DJ during the breaks
 BYOB, LAWN CHAIRS & SNACKS (CANS ONLY)

What Do You Get for \$1.00 Admission

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Game Pavilion - open to all ages (Sidewalk Chart Art Contest, Blind Man's Wheel Barrel Race, Sack Race, Lemon Roll, Hula Hoop Contest, Tortilla Throw, Water Balloon Toss)

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 West Texas Rehab Rest & Water Station

12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
 French Vis-a-Vis Carriage Rides

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
 Entertainment Stage; The Red Bandana, Murphy Black Band, Levi & Lace Square Dancers, Sonny & Cher Show

Marionette Puppet Theatre
 (this ain't no sock show)
 Five 20-Minute Shows
12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, & 4:00 p.m.
"Herbert's Harvest"
 A classic story of the grasshopper and the ant set in modern day times. A production with lots of lively music and fun, complete with a SURPRISE ending!

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 James Powell 325-853-2316
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Commissioners order gate opened on County Road 234

Schleicher County Commissioners met Monday, Sept. 27, 2004, and among other business, voted to order a locked gate on County Road 243 to be opened so that the road would be accessible to the public. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sykes were on hand to explain that a locked gate across the roadway was preventing them from accessing portions of their property. Sykes noted the road continues beyond the gate and was platted as a county road to the end of the adjacent Milligan property.

The Commissioners had asked at a previous meeting that Surveyor Myrl Sudduth locate the exact boundaries of the property and road so that they could make a determination in the matter. County Judge Johnny Griffin indicated he had spoken with Mr. Sudduth and that he would unquestionably certify that the plat was correct.

After a bit more discussion the court voted to have Attorney Chad Elkins write a letter to Mr. Milligan and Mr. Cawley asking that they remove their locks from the gate so that the public can have access to the road.

Commissioner Bill Clark then presented a request on behalf of Reynond and Cathy Kuykendall that the southernmost end of Colpitts Street be closed so that they could install a gate to prevent public access to their property. Attorney Chad Elkins recommended the court ask the Kuykendalls for a written request. With that, the commissioners voted to close portion of road in question, pending the receipt of a letter from the Kuykendalls.

Among other business, Janet Oglesby addressed the court and thanked them for the opportunity to work as a part-time library aide. She told the court that she had been informed by Librarian Jeri Whitten that her position had not been

funded in the new budget and that she would no longer be needed.

It was noted that the position had indeed been funded in the upcoming budget. However, Judge Griffin explained that he had been informed by Ms. Whitten that the Library would begin opening an hour later, thereby eliminating the need for a part-time library aide. Griffin said he was told the money would be used to purchase more technology for the library.

Griffin added that the County funds the Library but leaves the operation of the facility to the Library Board.

Again Ms. Oglesby thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity and noted she would like to be considered again if and when the Librarian position comes open. She also noted that she works part-time as a dispatcher/jailer at the Sheriff's office and noted that she enjoys the job, but will miss her library aide job.

Among other business the Commissioners voted to give Judge Griffin the authority to complete the cemetery chapel using county employees. They also voted to accept a \$20,064.00 bid from Seidel Construction for the paving of the county's portion of Mary Street. Additionally, the men authorized the expenditure of \$500 to Garcia Brothers for the construction of culverts for Mary Street.

The commissioners called for diesel fuel bids to be opened on Monday, October 11, 2004. The commissioners then voted to rescind the property tax freeze question they had earlier asked to have on the Nov. 2 General Election ballot.

Next, the men approved a request from County Treasurer Karen Henderson that no changes be made to the 2005 retirement funding. They also voted to join

the Texas Corporation of Regionalism, a lobbying group, and pay the \$380.00 yearly dues.

The commissioners then voted to transfer some high-band two-way radios from the Sheriff's Department to the Road Department.

A question about starting wages for county employees was settled temporarily when the court voted to give department heads the discretion to assign starting wages ranging from minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour up to \$8.00 per hour. The action lasts only until the commissioners can agree on a formal pay policy.

The meeting was the second of two regular monthly meetings in September. It was called to order by Judge Johnny Griffin with Commissioners Johnny Mayo, Bill Clark and Matt Brown in attendance. Commissioner Kirk Griffin was absent.

At a previous specially called meeting held on Friday, September 17 for a Tax Rate Hearing, the commissioners met and proposed a tax rate of 73.2 cents for the 2005 budget year. There were no members of the public present and the meeting adjourned without the men taking a formal vote on the tax rate.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

The Schleicher County Commissioners Court met Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sykes (at right) regarding a locked gate on County Road 243. At the request of the Sykes, and after getting a surveyor's opinion that the portion of roadway behind the gate was indeed county road, the commissioners voted to order the road opened. Pictured at the table are (clockwise from top) Attorney Chad Elkins, Commissioner Johnny Mayo and Commissioner Bill Clark.

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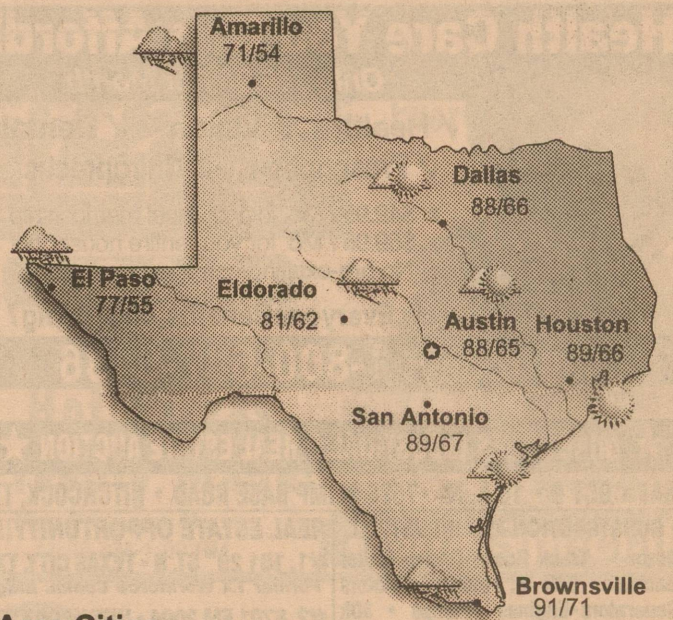
Eldorado Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 10/1	Sat 10/2	Sun 10/3	Mon 10/4	Tue 10/5
81/62 Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	77/62 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 60s.	71/52 A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	72/56 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	75/52 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:36 AM Sunset: 7:28 PM	Sunrise: 7:36 AM Sunset: 7:27 PM	Sunrise: 7:37 AM Sunset: 7:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:37 AM Sunset: 7:24 PM	Sunrise: 7:38 AM Sunset: 7:23 PM

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Stories for and about hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities			City			City		
City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Ablene	82	63 t-storm	Kingsville	91	69 mst sunny			
Amarillo	71	54 t-storm	Livingston	89	60 sunny			
Austin	88	65 mst sunny	Longview	86	61 sunny			
Beaumont	90	64 sunny	Lubbock	73	57 t-storm			
Brownsville	91	71 t-storm	Lufkin	89	61 sunny			
Brownwood	87	64 pt sunny	Midland	79	63 t-storm			
Corpus Christi	90	72 mst sunny	Raymondville	92	69 mst sunny			
Corsicana	89	63 mst sunny	Rosenberg	90	65 sunny			
Dallas	88	66 mst sunny	San Antonio	89	67 mst sunny			
Del Rio	87	69 t-storm	San Marcos	89	65 mst sunny			
El Paso	77	55 t-storm	Sulphur Springs	87	60 mst sunny			
Fort Stockton	81	63 t-storm	Sweetwater	81	63 t-storm			
Gainesville	86	62 mst sunny	Tyler	86	60 sunny			
Greenville	87	59 mst sunny	Weatherford	85	61 mst sunny			
Houston	89	66 sunny	Wichita Falls	87	62 pt sunny			

National Cities			City			City		
City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Atlanta	80	62 pt sunny	Minneapolis	71	56 pt sunny			
Boston	67	51 sunny	New York	72	55 sunny			
Chicago	72	47 sunny	Phoenix	89	66 sunny			
Dallas	88	66 mst sunny	San Francisco	67	53 cloudy			
Denver	64	44 t-storm	Seattle	66	47 pt sunny			
Houston	89	66 sunny	St. Louis	77	56 sunny			
Los Angeles	69	58 pt sunny	Washington, DC	71	59 mst sunny			
Miami	88	78 t-storm						

Moon Phases

Full
Sep 28

Last
Oct 6

New
Oct 14

First
Oct 20

UV Index

Fri 10/1	Sat 10/2	Sun 10/3	Mon 10/4	Tue 10/5
8	9	9	9	8
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, 0 being the lowest and 11 being the highest. A higher UV Index shows the need for greater skin protection.

11:15 a.m. Tuesday

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SCISD earns state's highest fiscal accountability rating

Schleicher County Independent School District officials announced that the district received a rating of "Superior Achievement" under Texas' Schools FIRST financial accountability rating system. The Superior Achievement rating is the state's highest, demonstrating the quality of SCISD's financial management and reporting system.

This is the 2nd year of Schools FIRST (Financial Accountability Rating System of Texas), a financial accountability system for Texas school districts developed by the Texas Education Agency

in response to Senate Bill 875 of the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. The primary goal of Schools FIRST is to achieve quality performance in the management of school districts' financial resources, a goal made more significant due to the complexity of accounting associated with Texas' school finance system.

"We are very pleased with Schleicher County ISD's schools who are accountable not only for student learning, but also for achieving these results cost-effectively and efficiently," stated by Superintendent George Blanch.

Schleicher County's cemetery chapel, under construction at the Eldorado Cemetery is nearing completion. County Commissioners Monday authorized County Judge Johnny Griffin to have the structure finished by county employees.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

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SELF INKING STAMPS



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The Blotter

The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the Sheriff's office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Incidents of major impact will be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ARRESTS

September 21 • Rivers, Conan Shane, male age 20, arresting officer Irion County, offense AWOL. Released to Military Police.

September 25 • Alonzo, Miracles, female 29, arresting officer Irion County, offense Possession of a Controlled Substance. Released

on \$5,000.00 Surety.

September 26 • Andrew, Heath Aaron, male age 19, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Warrant on Forgery.

September 27 • Holsey, Brandon M., male age 20, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Public Intoxication. Released with Citation.

INCIDENTS

September 20 • 2:43 p.m. Caller reported a swarm of Bees on 190 West. EVFD responded.

September 21 • 2:53 a.m. Complainant reported that there was a possible prowler outside her house. Officer responded.

• 11:49 p.m. Hospital requested an ambulance for an ACLS transfer. EMS 1 responded.

• 3:29 p.m. Complainant requested an ambulance for her mother who was having a seizure. Officer and EMS 2 responded.

• 4:50 p.m. Caller reported a utility trailer blocking road. Officer responded.

• 6:10 p.m. Caller reported Bees. EVFD responded.

September 22 • 7:54 a.m. Complainant requested to speak with

an officer about her son. Officer responded.

September 23 • 9:46 a.m. Complainant reports granddaughter is being harassed by ex-boyfriend's new girl friend over granddaughter's cell phone. Officer responded.

• 11:12 a.m. Complainant reported alarm set off and no response. Officer responded.

September 24 • 2:14 a.m. Complainant requested an ambulance. Officer and EMS responded.

• 8:05 a.m. Complainant requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.

• 11:54 a.m. Complainant reported Bees underneath his trailer and in his garage. EVFD responded.

• 3:53 p.m. Complainant reported reckless driver in a gold Cavalier.

• 4:07 p.m. Complainant reported a vehicle speeding in excess of 85 mph. Officer responded.

September 25 • 4:54 a.m. Caller requested assistance with a flat tire and a dead battery. Officer responded and local tire service was contacted.

• 2:07 p.m. Caller reported Bees. EVFD responded.

September 26 • 1:00 a.m. Complainant reported a fight involving juveniles. Possibly intoxicated. Officers responded.

September 27 • 12:15 a.m. Complainant reported he was receiving harassing phone calls. Officer responded.

• 2:25 a.m. Complainant reported a fight at her neighbors house. Officers responded.

• 2:46 a.m. Complainant reported that a truck had hit a cow 10 miles north on 277.

myEldorado.net
www.myeldorado.net
 Eldorado's Internet Homepage

ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Eldorado (hereinafter called the OWNER) will receive Bids for WASTEWATER FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE II, TCDP Contract No. 723259, until 4:00 PM (local time), Friday, October 8, 2004 in person at City Hall, #6 South Cottonwood, Eldorado, Texas or by mail to Randy Mankin, City Administrator, City of Eldorado, P.O. Box 713, Eldorado Texas 76936-0713. All Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at: 4:00 PM (local time), Friday, October 8, 2004.

Consideration for award of the Bid will be made at, City Council Meeting, City of Eldorado City Hall, #6 South Cottonwood, 6:00 PM (local time), Monday, October 11, 2004, Eldorado, Texas 76936.

Bids are invited upon the several items and quantities of work as follows:

Base Bid - DAF: Furnish and deliver a Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) unit including mixing tank and chemical feeder.

Base Bid - Pump: Furnish a 70 to 150 gpm vertical turbine pump with variable speed controller (VFD), motor, starter and fused disconnect panel including PVC casing and well head seal.

Base Bid - Electrical: Furnish a level control system for stopping the pump, chemical feeder, mixer, and DAF unit; connect electrical power to DAF unit, chemical feeder, and pump; and furnish and install flow meter.

Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at the office of GSWW, Inc., 1030 Andrews Highway, Suite 211, Midland, Texas 79701.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be purchased for \$50.00 from GSWW for each set of documents obtained. No refunds will be made.

A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of the OWNER, negotiable U.S. Government bond (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable Surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total Bid shall be submitted with each Bid.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, and as set forth in the Contract Documents, must be paid on the project, and the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin on the entire project.

Attention is also called to General Condition 148 "Restrictions on Public Buildings and Public Works Projects." The Bidder certifies by the submission of its bid that the Contractor, Subcontractors, and materials used on this project are not of a foreign country included on the USTR list.

The Prime Contractor will review the equal employment opportunity section under the General Contract Conditions - Part I and will take affirmative action to meet minority and female participation goals in each task. The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all Bids or to waive any informalities in the Bidding.

If the Bid is not awarded at the previously mentioned meeting of the Eldorado City Council on October 11, 2004, then the Bids may be held by the OWNER for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the date of the opening for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders.

Date: September 20, 2004
 By: John Nikolauk, Mayor
 City of Eldorado

OCTOBER 8 - 9 - 10, 2004 12th Annual

The Art Festival features the world's largest selection of original mesquite art, sculpture, furniture, jewelry, turnings, architectural accents, gift items, ornaments and musical instruments.

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 Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN A WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010165001

APPLICATION. City of Eldorado, P.O. Box 713, Eldorado, Texas 76936, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ--10165001 (E.P.A.I.D. No. TX0092274) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 385,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility is located approximately 5,000 feet northeast of the intersection of U.S. Highway 277 and U.S. Highway 915 in Schleicher County, Texas. The discharge route is from the plant site to an unnamed tributary of the South Concho River; thence to the Middle Concho /South Concho River. This application was submitted to the TECQ on June 28, 2004. The permit application is available for viewing and copying at the City of Eldorado, City Hall, 6 South Cottonwood, Eldorado, Texas.

The TECQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After completion of the technical review, the TECQ will issue a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision.

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 comments or to ask questions about the application. The TECQ 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 or requests for public meeting be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TECQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 7871103087.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. After technical review of the application is complete, the executive director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list or the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.**

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 public comments or who requested to be on the mailing list for this applicant. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the executive director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to 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 issue that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. **The TECQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

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 TECQ 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 TECQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TECQ can be found at our web site at www.tecq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from the City of Eldorado at the address stated above or by calling City Administrator Randy Mankin at 325-853-2691.

Issued: September 14, 2004

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853-3125

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TO DISCUSS SCHLEICHER COUNTY ISD'S State Financial Accountability Rating

SCHLEICHER COUNTY ISD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:00 P.M., OCTOBER 11, 2004 IN THE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY 205 WEST FIELDS AVE ELDORADO, TEXAS 76936

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given the adopted 2004-2005. City Budget is available for public inspection at the City Hall Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. available are financial records showing intended uses of revenue receivable by the City during the Fiscal Year 9/1/04 through 8/31/05 in the General and Utility Funds. Carolyn Mayo, City Secretary 9/27/04

PUBLIC NOTICE SCHLEICHER COUNTY TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Schleicher County will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p. m. on October 4, 2004 at Commissioner's Courtroom, County Courthouse, Eldorado, Texas, in regard to the submission of an application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for a Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) grant. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizens participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TCDP funding available, all eligible TCDP activities and the use of past TCDP funds. The County encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TCDP application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Lydia Vallejo, Administrative Assistant to Judge, at the Courthouse. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact Courthouse for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact Courthouse at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. For further information, contact Lydia Vallejo, Administrative Assistant to Judge, at the Courthouse, 325/853-2766.

Eldorado Spotlight



This week Eldorado Spotlight shines on Miles Mikeska. When the Spotlight camera caught up with Miles he was fielding a pass during YMCA Youth Football. Miles is the son of Lanis and Lynna Mikeska.

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or come by our office at 119 SW Main Street ~ Eldorado

MISCELLANEOUS

Eldorado YMCA Football is Needing Donations

All donations are tax exempt. Please send payment to the YMCA, 305 S. Randolph, San Angelo, TX 76903. FMI: Jay O'Harrow 853-2385.40-43p

Be a responsible American exercise your Privilege as a citizen - Register to Vote before September 30 - Vote November 2, 2004. Paid for by a concerned Citizen.

For Sale: In good condition a 1994 Pontiac Grand Prix 4 door. Asking \$1,000.00 or BEST offer. FMI call 650-1158.

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GARAGE SALE

Eldorado-Garage Sale: Sat., Oct. 2 at 404 East Calendar 8:00 a.m. ?; This is last months rained out sale (prices reduced), also new items. Lots of stuff. 40p

Smoke glass dining set, walnut double dresser, lots of color tv's, cherry tv cabinet, hideabed couch, antique small oak desk, wooden playpen, beautiful dining table and 6 chairs \$399, oak w/hunter green trim table & 5 chairs \$225, LOTS MORE. PLEASE CALL AHEAD BEFORE BRINGING IN CLOTHING AND/OR FURNITURE all must be in good condition. Second Hand Rose, Eldorado 853-3736.

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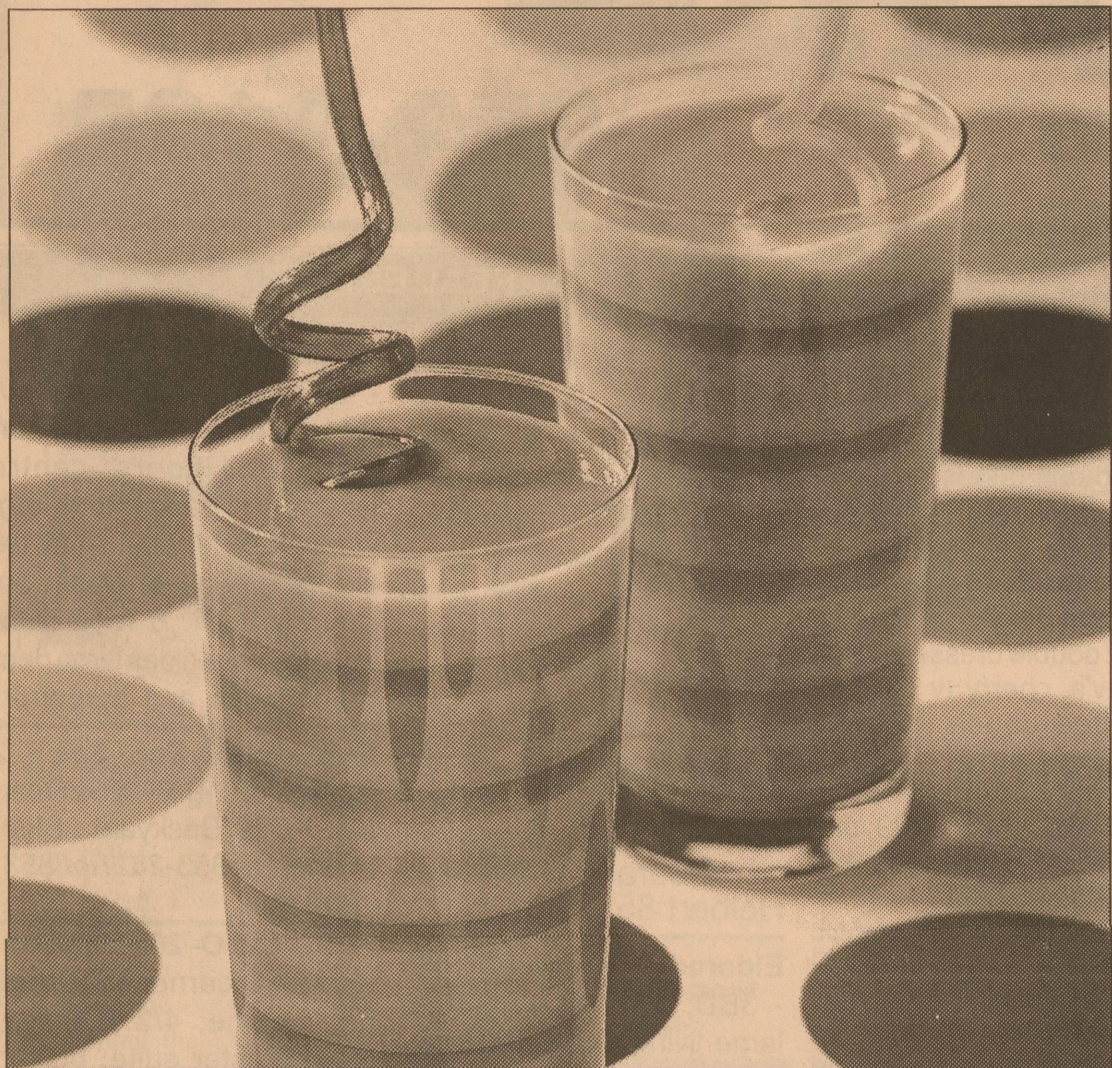
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Hungry? Thirsty? How About Healthy?



Apple-Licious Smoothies

Apple Healthy Snacks for High Energy Kids

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE
The call goes out many times a day. Kids always seem to be hungry, and they're always asking for a snack. But, high-energy kids need healthy snacks that keep them up and at 'em — all day long.
Easier said than done, you say? It doesn't have to be!
Take apples, apple sauce and apple juice, for example. We've all heard the age-old saying that "an apple a day keeps the doctor away." But, research collected by Mott's is now helping define exactly why apple products are so healthy. As it turns out, apples and apple products have multiple nutrients:

fiber, vitamin C, potassium and antioxidants. Consuming these nutrients can work toward achieving whole body health. What's more, 1/2 cup of apple sauce or 6 ounces of 100% apple juice count as fruit servings, which makes 5 A Day a much easier goal for kids.
Another piece of good news is that the fiber and water in apples and apple products help give a feeling of satiety or fullness. With childhood obesity a growing concern, helping to curb children's appetites can help them avoid eating more calories than their bodies need to stay healthy.
So the next time your kids call out that they are hungry or thirsty — give them an apple healthy snack that not only tastes great, but is good for them too!

Apple-Licious Smoothies

- 4 (1/2 cup) containers Mott's Healthy Harvest summer strawberry apple sauce
- 2 cups Mott's apple juice
- 2 cups low-fat vanilla yogurt

In small pitcher, combine all ingredients and mix until thoroughly combined. Cover and chill until ready to serve.

Makes 6 servings
Nutrition Information per Serving: 140 calories, 1g fat, 5mg cholesterol, 55mg sodium, 30g carbohydrate, <1g fiber, 4g protein

For more recipes, visit www.getapplehealthy.com



Apple Sauce Splits and Kaleidoscope Pops

Apple Sauce Splits

- 1 medium banana, peeled and split lengthwise
- 2 tablespoons low-fat whipped cream cheese
- cup berries or diced fresh fruit
- 1/4 cup Mott's chunky style apple sauce
- Chocolate syrup, optional

Place split banana in shallow bowl or plate. Dollop with cream cheese. Sprinkle berries or fruit over cream cheese. Top with apple sauce. Drizzle with chocolate syrup, if desired.

Makes 1 serving
Nutrition Information per Serving: 210 calories, 4g fat, 10mg cholesterol, 60mg sodium, 43g carbohydrate, 6g fiber, 4g protein

Kaleidoscope Pops

- 2 cups diced colorful fruit
- 2 cups Mott's apple juice
- 6 (6- to 8-ounce) paper cups
- 6 craft sticks

Divide diced fruit between cups.

Fill evenly with apple juice (1/3 cup each). Place cups on level surface in freezer. Freeze until partially frozen, approximately 1 hour. Insert craft stick into center of each pop. Freeze until firm.

Makes 6 servings
Nutrition Information per Serving: 60 calories, 0g fat, 0mg cholesterol, 0mg sodium, 16g carbohydrate, 1g fiber, 1g protein

Fruity Parfaits

- 2 cups low-fat fruit-flavored yogurt
- 1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 2 cups diced fresh fruit
- 2 cups Mott's natural apple sauce

Divide 1 cup yogurt evenly between 6 parfait glasses. Sprinkle 2 teaspoons graham cracker crumbs over yogurt in each glass. Divide 1 cup diced fruit evenly between glasses, layering evenly over crumbs. Divide 1 cup apple sauce evenly between glasses, layering evenly over fruit. Repeat

layers. Cover and chill until ready to serve.

Makes 6 servings
Nutrition Information per Serving: 200 calories, 2g fat, 5mg cholesterol, 100mg sodium, 40g carbohydrate, 2g fiber, 5g protein

The Big Dipper

- 1/2 cup Mott's Healthy Harvest country berry apple sauce
- 1/2 cup low-fat vanilla or plain yogurt
- 2 cups fresh fruit chunks
- 8 bamboo skewers

To prepare dip, blend apple sauce with yogurt in small bowl until thoroughly combined. Divide fruit chunks evenly and place on skewers to form fruit kabobs. Place kabobs on serving plate with dip alongside. Cover and chill until ready to serve.

Makes 8 servings
Nutrition Information per Serving: 35 calories, 0g fat, 0mg cholesterol, 15mg sodium, 8g carbohydrate, <1g fiber, 1g protein

Materials courtesy of Mott's Apple Sauce and Juice



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Members of the Eldorado Eagles varsity football team displayed a banner during last Friday's pep rally expressing their sympathy and support for their teammate Manuel Arispe following the death of his mother Rosa Arispe.

12th annual Texas Mesquite Art Festival slated for Oct. 8-10 in Fredericksburg

The 2004 Texas Mesquite Association Art Festival returns to Fredericksburg, Texas on October 8, 9, and 10, 2004.

Juried artists from around Texas will gather in Fredericksburg's Marktplatz for a three-day celebration of the exquisite and attractive mesquite.

"Besides seeing the absolute best selection of mesquite, visitors will enjoy the largest mesquite show in the world," show organizer Al Carr said.

The festival, like mesquite wood itself, has come a long way since the first event in 1992. Fourteen mesquite woodworkers gathered then for a seminar. According to Carr, they weren't the only ones showing interest in mesquite.

"So many local people dropped in to see what we were doing and to try to buy our work, we realized Fredericksburg was the best place on earth to have a Mesquite Art Festival," Carr said.

The Mesquite Art Festival has become one of the top events in Fredericksburg. Organizers expect 12,000 visitors during the weekend.

Visitors will be treated to collections of sculpted wood from the

world's absolute finest mesquite craftsmen. Items range from large furniture items such as beds, dressers and chairs made entirely from mesquite, to unique craft and gift items such as beautifully turned lamps, delicate scroll work, handsome pen and pencil sets, unique Christmas tree ornaments, sturdy gun stocks, and sculpted vases, all carefully crafted of mesquite.

Once viewed as a nuisance, mesquite has become the darling of architects and retailers. Mesquite's growing appeal comes in part from the high profile offered by the Texas Mesquite Association and this festival, according to Carr. Articles praising mesquite's quality and value have appeared in such magazines as "Texas Highways," "Veranda," and "Fine Woodworking."

"Architects now vie to install mesquite accents in upscale homes," Carr said. Mantles, doors, flooring, art items, dining sets, tables, and other furniture is increasingly requested in mesquite. Prices for raw wood as well as finished pieces have soared.

An important purpose of the show is the continued development of craftsmen for generations to

come. Organized as a non-profit organization, the Texas Mesquite Association sets aside funds each year for scholarships. TMA has partnered with Texas State University to help underwrite the studies of industrial arts majors intending to teach.

The festival also includes exhibits of winners of a high school woodworking contest sponsored by the association.

"We want kids to receive recognition for their work in wood," Carr said. "We feel that putting something back into the education system will ensure students receive a good background in wood for many years to come."

The Texas Mesquite Association Art Festival is free and open to the public. Hours are Friday, noon to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Items are available for purchase, with food and drink sold on the grounds. Free parking surrounds the exhibit areas in downtown Fredericksburg.

More information on the Mesquite Art Festival and the Texas Mesquite Association is available at www.texasmesquiteassn.org, or by calling the Fest Office at 830-997-8515.

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Colossians 3:12

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