

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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Red ink makes SCMC trustees sing the Blues

Nursing home dragging down hospital district's finances

Schleicher County Hospital District trustees met Monday evening, June 28, 2004, in the hospital's board room and spent much of their time trying to come to grips with a sudden tidal wave of red ink in the Schleicher County Nursing Home. The nursing home that has long been a revenue center for the district is now suffering... and the problem isn't limited to Schleicher County.

Board President Randy Mankin noted that nursing facilities in several neighboring counties have already closed, or are currently contemplating closure. Most recently, the Sterling County has been in the news as officials there are faced with closure or bankruptcy.

"I don't want us to get to the point that we're forced to close," Mankin advised the board as he urged them to "think outside the box."

"What we've been doing isn't working and what our neighbors have been doing isn't working. We've got to find another way," Mankin said.

Vacant beds are part of the problem, but not the whole problem, explained hospital consultant Andy Freeman, who spoke with the trustees via telephone conference call. He noted that new accounting procedures handed down by Medicare are forcing the local hospital to book much of its overhead and operating expense in the Nursing Home, the one area where it isn't reimbursed by Medicare.

Currently the 34-bed facility has only 24 residents and only 13 of those are from Schleicher County. Still, the nursing home came within a few dollars of breaking even, that is until a large portion of the hospital's operating and maintenance expense was charged to the facility. "That's what pushed us way into the red," Freeman explained. "And even worse, those dollars weren't reimbursed to the hospital under Medicare's Critical Access program."

One option that drew a lot of attention from the trustees was the possibility of separating the nursing home and hospital and placing them under separate boards. "As long as the two are connected and under the same management, Medicare is going to force us to book costs to the nursing home. Costs that really aren't associated with the nursing home," Freeman said.

Another option was the creation of a foundation or non-profit corporation to run the nursing home...or the hospital. After a prolonged discussion of the issue, Mankin appointed a committee consisting of himself, Ricky Fuessel and J.D. Doyle to work with attorney James Kosub and Andy Freeman. The committee's job is to brainstorm and present the board with an workable option for separating the nursing home and hospital.

Another major topic of discussion was the closure of Eldorado Pharmacy and the dire need for a full-service pharmacy in Eldorado. Hospital Administrator Sharon Dietz explained that she had already arranged for pharmacy services for the nursing home, hospital and clinic. She said that clinic or emergency room patients who receive prescriptions may get their first dose from the hospital and that a pharmacy service will deliver the remainder of the prescription to the clinic the following day. The new service will accept insurance cards, as well as Medicare, Medicaid and credit cards.

The trustees agreed with Dietz's arrangements, at least for the short term. They decided, however, to look into set-

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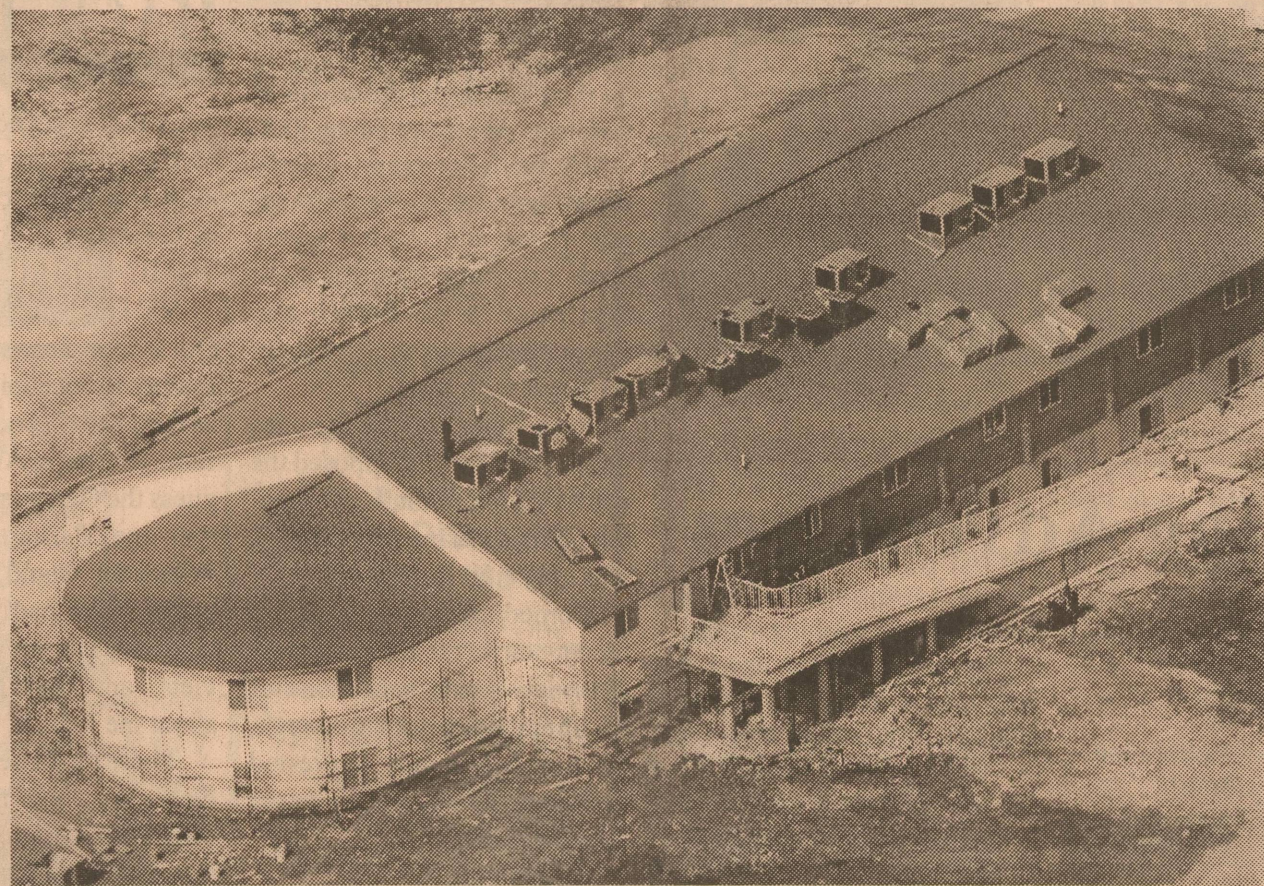


PHOTO BY JACK KURTZ
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

And the beat goes on — Workers installed air conditioning units Tuesday atop a giant building on the YFZ Ranch, some four miles north of Eldorado.

Could problems in Utah have prompted FLDS to build a new town in Texas?

Construction continues apace at the YFZ Ranch, four miles north of Eldorado, even as the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (FLDS) finds itself under increasing pressure in the Arizona and Utah borderland. That pressure comes in the form of heightened scrutiny from the Utah Attorney General's office, and a series of setbacks in Utah courts. Add to the mix the fact that the region's only bank, the Bank of Ephraim, a strong supporter of the FLDS community in Colorado City, AZ and Hildale, UT, failed last week.

But things aren't all rosy for the FLDS here in Texas. After the group's cover story was exposed in March, and Eldoradoans learned that their new neighbors were more interested in building a town than a corporate hunting retreat, the operation at the YFZ Ranch began attracting more than media attention --- it caught the eye of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

That isn't to say that any of the FLDS faithful have turned their backs on Prophet Warren Jeffs, or that any of the workers are giving up and leaving the YFZ Ranch. To the contrary, construction there seems to be accelerating, even to the point that a grid of roadways is starting to appear, making the whole thing look more and more like a new townsite.

Meanwhile, former members of the FLDS, some of them recently excommunicated by Warren Jeffs, are adamant that the YFZ Ranch, is more than just a getaway retreat for church members. Ben Bistline, the author of "The Polygamists, a History of Colorado City, Arizona" told the Success recently that "a goodly number of people in Colorado City are packing to move to Texas."

Recent events involving the FLDS include an eight-

month investigation by the Utah Attorney General's office that concluded last week with a report alleging that seven of the thirteen-member joint police force serving C-City/Hildale, are practicing polygamists, a criminal offense in Utah. The report also claims that the officers failed to police one another, also a violation of the state's criminal code.

The charges come less than a month after Rodney Holm, a former member of the C-City/Hildale police force, completed a jail term following his conviction on a bigamy charge and two counts of unlawful sexual contact with a minor.

Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff's office also alleges that members of the C-City/Hildale police force exaggerated the hours of training they have undergone. The entire Hildale police force was suspended in August, 2003 for failing to maintain its training hours. They were reinstated after catching up on their training hours. It is precisely that sudden round of training that is now in question with investigators asking if any of the training every took place.

The Attorney General's charges are currently under investigation by the Utah Police Academy and the Washington County, Utah District Attorney's office.

It should be noted that Attorney General Shurtleff has been hesitant to prosecute individuals on polygamy charges, as have most Utah prosecutors. However, Shurtleff now maintains that police officers should be held to a higher standard since public trust is eroded when police officers are seen in open defiance of the law. Police officer Rodney Holm's conviction in Washington County Utah was a watershed event and

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PHOTO BY JACK KURTZ
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

A gridwork of new roads? — An aerial view of the YFZ Ranch on Tuesday revealed what appears to be a grid of six intersecting roadways that are under construction amid a complex of eight new buildings in various stages of completion as well as a number of mobile homes and travel trailers (foreground).

To be, or not to be

County looks into public status of private road

Schleicher County Commissioners called for reinforcements Monday as they considered the status of 3/10 of a mile of roadway in the southeast part of the county. Alfred Sykes, who owns property adjoining the road in question, asserts that the roadway is actually owned by the county, despite the fact that it lies behind a locked gate. Meanwhile, neighboring landowners, including John Ben Cawley assert that the roadway is private, and the disagreement found its way before Schleicher County Commissioners last Monday.

Among the people meeting with the commissioners were San Angelo attorney Drew Darby, as well as Cawley, Bob Halbert and Wayne Milligan. County Judge Johnny Griffin told the men that Schleicher County doesn't "have a dog in the fight." He went on to say that the county would employ surveyor Myrl Sudduth to define the metes and bounds of the roadway in question.

County Commissioners then voted to hire attorneys Chad Elkins and Jesus R. Lopez of the law firm of Kosub and Griffin to research the question. The disputed roadway connects with County Road 243, but is blocked by the gate that was reportedly placed across the road some two and one-half years ago.

In other business, the Commissioners voted to accept a bid from Griffin Fuels in the amount of \$1.385 per gallon for a transport load of diesel fuel. They also met with Matt Jones, representing WTU Retail, regarding a fixed rate contract for electric service. Jones explained that the proposed plan would save the county 25 percent each year of its 3-year term.

The court took no action on Jones' request, opting instead to find out if it is legal for governmental entities to enter into 3-year contracts.

Commissioners Johnny Mayo, Bill Clark, Kirk Jones and Matt Brown were in attendance for the meeting. Among other business, they voted to accept the appointment of election judges for the November General Election, as recommended by the Democrat and Republican party chairmen.

Next, Schleicher County Extension Agent Scott Edmonson updated the court on the search for a replacement for Nancy Lester, who retired last year. Edmonson said that the Extension Service has received three applications and that one of the applicants will go through the interview process. An applicant must have an degree in home economics and have a 2.5 grade point average.

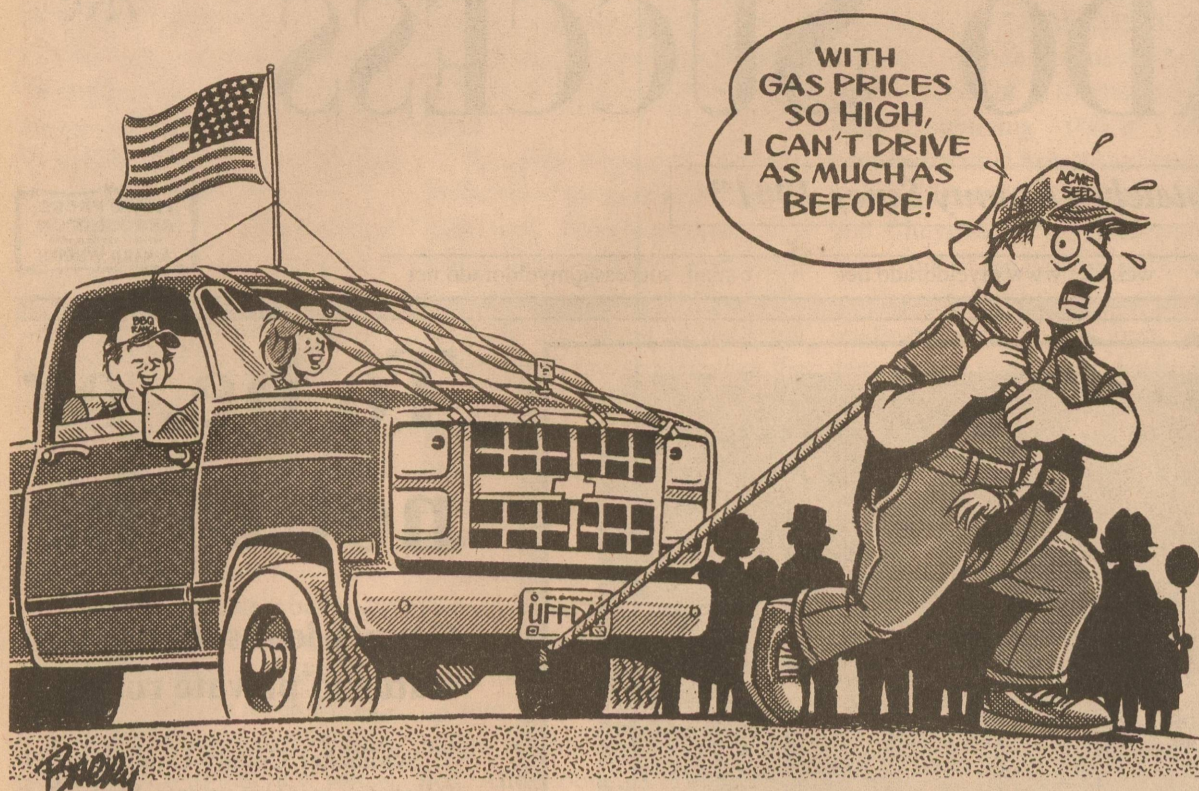
Justice of the Peace Jimmy Doyle, then met with the Commissioners on behalf of the Mias Amigas Club. He asked if the court had any objections to the club donating and planting an oak tree on the court house square. No objections were voiced by the men.

The court then voted to hire Tony Martinez Sr. as a full time maintenance man. Also, the Commissioner's Court voted to accept Angela Walker as a full time county employee to be paid by the month. Ms. Walker has been working as custodian at the courthouse and Memorial Building since the retirement of Ramon Avila. The two positions will cost the county approximately \$40,000.00 per year.

Next, County Treasurer Karen Henderson advised the men that the Clifford Schooley trial cost the county about \$6,000.00.

Before adjourning, the men approved an indigent request payment of \$101.47 for a utility bill.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY...



The Home of the Free and the Land of the Naive



by Randy Mankin

Another democracy joined the community of nations this week. I point this out only because it happens so rarely.

When Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi took the oath of office Monday, he did so with little fanfare from his American benefactors. Instead of mugging for the TV cameras the way most diplomats would have done, U.S. envoy Paul Bremmer, quietly slipped onto an Air Force transport plane and headed home. And, it probably came as quite a surprise to the French and Germans that he didn't take any oil home with him.

Remember, they're the ones who so vehemently opposed the war in Iraq and made all manner of wild claims that the U.S. was only fighting for oil.

Comedian Dennis Miller, a recent convert to the conservative view point, asked one of his liberal detractors this week, "If America is only interested in the oil, how come we never take the oil?"

Good point.

Of course, the violence continues in Iraq and it will for some time to come. But lest you

think that is sufficient cause to tuck tail and run, consider how long the violence continued in Germany following World War II?

VE Day was May 18, 1945. Our troops were still taking casualties in "occupied" Germany well into 1947. And then, in 1948 came the Berlin Airlift. Ooops, I guess the Germans forgot about that one. Perhaps Chancellor Schroeder would have liked it better if we had pulled out of Germany and left it all to the Soviets... and, don't get me started about the French.

There's a lot being said these days about how no one in Europe likes Americans anymore. The fact is, they never liked us. They only tolerated us for a few years because they needed us to keep the Soviet bear away from

their doorstep. Now that the USSR is no more and Europeans don't feel threatened, they are ready, willing and eager to criticize us.

But, back to Iraq. Ask yourself, would the world be a safer place if Sadaam Hussein had remained in power? Or, aren't we better off now that there's a chance to foster democracy in the middle of the Middle East?

Still, it's an election year and George Bush's enemies are going to continue to snipe at him. They will continue to show the bloodiest of the bloody details in Iraq and they will continue to ignore the victories -- the schools that have opened, the hospitals that are up and running and a fledgling democracy where none had existed before.

I think sometimes that America has gotten soft. That's certainly what our enemies hope.

You remember them don't you -- the guys who crashed those planes into those buildings? Or, are we still so naive as to believe that we can make them like us?

Gary De's Fishing Adventures

Gary DeArmond of Mineola is a fishing guide on Lake Fort.

"It's a great lake for fishing. You just never know when you're going to catch the next state or world record. It has plenty of seven and eight pound bass. Texas Parks and Wildlife says there are more seven pound plus fish caught on Lake Fort in a month than other lakes produce in a year. Pretty amazing. I'm in a really good place to do what I love to do."

Gary has fished since he could walk and talk and has been guiding for more than 20 years. He moved to Lake Fort 5 years ago.

"I used to guide on Sam Rayburn and Toledo Bend but Lake Fort was such a great lake with big bass I just had to move up here."

He has the phrase "Fishing Adventures" painted on his truck.

"I always say if you go fishing with me it's an adventure. Good or bad, it's an adventure. I don't guarantee anybody anything, other than they get a good boat ride and the opportunity to fish. I call it fishing. I don't call it catching."

I asked him how he knows where the fish are.

"Experience on the water. I will



by Tumbleweed Smith

say there's always a luck factor involved. Some people who have never fished before will catch a ten pound bass during a tournament and win tons of money. You take an educated guess based on sky conditions, temperature of the water, time of year, then depend on luck."

Gary furnishes the boat and if need be, the tackle. He always wants his customers to have a good time, whether or not they catch any fish. Apparently the people he takes fishing like him because they refer him to their friends. He says he has never had a complaint. He considers fishing to be an experience with nature.

"I like to watch eagles fly. I like to watch the deer on the shoreline. I like to watch beavers swim. I've been doing this for many many years and I still love going out that lake every day. I've never got tired of fishing. It's a great life."

He has some fishing stories.

"A couple of years ago I was involved in a corporate trip. A large company from out of town came in and hired about 25 guides on the lake. I drew these two fellows from California. All they brought with them was a huge ice chest full of beer. Before we were a hundred yards from the ramp I heard this guy open a beer can. I'm running 70 miles an hour and he's opening a beer.

"After fishing awhile, we go in for lunch. On the way back to shore I heard this POP. One of them had opened a bottle of champagne. I asked him how was he going to get the cork back in the bottle. He told me he didn't need it. He turned it up and drank the whole thing. He was stone cold sober.

"After lunch he asked his partner if he wanted to fish some more or just drink beer. The guy said he wanted to just ride around in the boat. They spent the afternoon casting spinner bait at turtles, trying to knock them off logs. They had a blast. They didn't want to catch a fish. They just wanted to ride around, drink beer and cast spinner baits at turtles. The turtles were perfectly safe."

ORCA spouts money to rural Texas communities

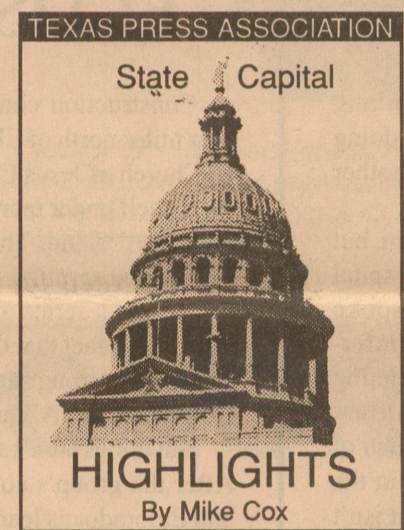
AUSTIN — ORCA is not a whale, but it's been spouting a lot of money lately to Texas' smaller cities and counties to help them with infrastructure and public facility improvement.

The money comes from the Office of Rural Community Affairs. It goes to applicants, according to ORCA, based on a needs-based scoring system.

In May, the agency awarded \$46.5 million in federal funds through the Texas Community Development Program. Last week, the agency awarded more than \$3 million to 15 rural cities or counties from the unallocated remnants of the community development fund administered by the agency.

"These are important dollars for small communities in Texas," said ORCA's executive director Robert J. Tessen, "and we awarding every available penny from this fund in support of local projects across the state."

Recipients and grant amounts include: Bay City, \$104,449; Combes, \$211,107; Crockett County, \$154,111; Edna, \$105,182; Fort Stockton, \$350,000; Grimes Coun-



ty, \$250,000; Pinehurst, \$187,325; Polk County, \$186,553; Ralls, \$148,344; Robstown, \$382,833; Rochester, \$82,186; Roxton, \$210,830; Trenton, \$217,440; Wellington, \$166,029; and Wortham, \$244,497.

ORCA, an agency intended to hold rural communities in health care, housing and infrastructure, is a creation of the 77th Legislature.

Spy vs. Spy...

Seen that black and white television commercial featuring two weird-looking guys with pointy

noses and pointy hats, one black, one white? Clearly intended for Baby Boomers, the soft drink spot is a take off on "Spy vs. Spy," a popular feature in Mad Magazine back in the Cold War days of the 1960s.

The old comic strip also is becoming increasingly symbolic of the ongoing Gov. Rick Perry-Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn political feud.

In the latest episode, Strayhorn gave a speech last week accusing Perry of a "witch hunt" by orchestrating a State Auditor's Office examination of her office.

Perry's office countered that the governor does not have any stick over the auditor's activities. "The state auditor's office is overseen by a six-member committee of the Legislature, not the governor," one of his spokesmen said.

Latest school finance buzz...

In a word, August.

Ogden weighs in on state pay increase...

Senate Finance Committee chairman Sen. Steve Ogden (R-Bryan) has told the Texas Public Employees Association that he favors a cost-of-living pay raise for the 200,000-plus state employees.

TPEA, which has an aggressive public relations campaign on to add members, is also vigorously pushing for a 4.5 percent pay raise for state workers for each year of the next biennium.

If the Legislature goes along with that in its regular session next year, it would be the first pay hike for state workers since 2001 and only the fourth since 1993.

ERS gets new director...

Ann Schwartz Fuelberg has been named the new executive director of the Employees Retirement System.

Fuelberg, a former deputy comptroller, was the first director of the Department of Information Resources when the Legislature created it in 1989. She left state service in 1993.

With a business degree from the University of Texas and a law degree from Texas Tech, she will oversee operations of the state's retirement and benefits program and manage a trust fund of more than \$20 billion.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Thomas ___ Edison
5. Mediterranean island nation
10. A fan of
14. Muddy up
15. Israel's Sharon
16. Sign gas
17. Pine board feature
18. Kidney-related
19. Give a hoot
20. DeLange/Hudson/Mill kudos?
23. Industrious insect
24. Fix, as a fight
25. Dojo discipline
29. Wise old head
31. Pro-___ (some tourneys)
34. Still breathing
35. Supermarket section
36. Fit of pique
37. Henry Mancini's trip up the Mississippi?
40. Deck quartet
41. Andes capital
42. Underdog's win
43. Bottom line
44. Small and weak
45. Villainous looks
46. "Get it?" ___
47. Home loan org.
48. Van Morrison's

DOWN

1. Ararat lander
2. Like a hippie's hair
3. Fretted fiddle
4. Type of sax
5. "Semper fi" serviceman
6. "You ___

Catharticyielding plant

64. Sloth's hangout

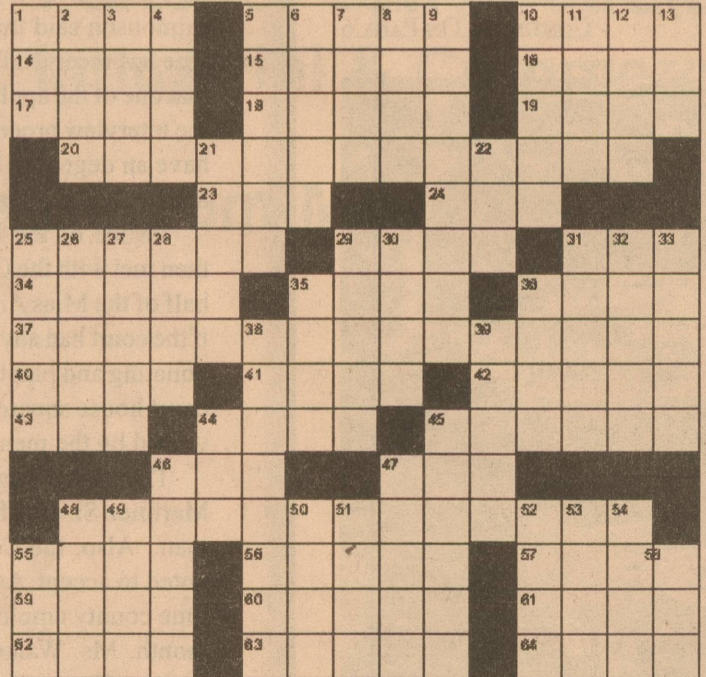
kidding!"

7. Ding-a-___ (airhead)
8. Salty drop
9. Breaking out or sneezing, say
10. Disguised, informally
11. Within earshot
12. Civil wrong
13. Sacagawea denomination
21. Desert's dearth

22. Shoo-fly ___

25. Designer Donna
26. Trixie's sitcom pal
27. Rosie's fastener
28. Some Monopoly properties: Abbr.
29. Sordid
30. Utah ski spot
31. Ouzo flavoring
32. Scrooge McDuck, for one
33. Dele undoers
35. Bump off
36. Movie extra, for short
38. Sinatra feature
39. Charge toward
44. Chest muscle, in gym lingo
45. Cascades peak
46. Dorm annoyance
47. Refrigerant gas
48. Extinct bird
49. Bug-eyed
50. Lawn pest
51. Similar in nature
52. Letterman Leno
53. Eggs order
54. Dogtag info
55. Inside-the-Beltway figure
58. Tell it like it isn't

MOON TUNES



See solution on Page 6

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:

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Office: (325) 853-3125 Fax: (325) 853-3378
E-Mail: success@myeldorado.net
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MEMBER 2004
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



Ring out for the 50 Year Class --

Members of the EHS Class of 1954 gathered in front of the Old School Bell last Saturday. The rang the bell to officially start the annual meeting of the Mias Amigas Club. Class of '54 members include (L-R) Lynn Griffin, Raymond Mittel, Jerry Perry, Shirley Sofge Jackson, Jack Steward, Frieda Yardly Hanusch, Billy Jack Etheridge, May Runge Kisko, Jimmy Doyle, Fae Davis Conner, Fred Barrett, Ann Rogers Schooley, Glenna Edmondson Johnson, and Jack Stanford.

PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN



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Mias Amigas Class of 1984-

Members of the EHS Class of '84 gathered in front of the Old School Bell last Saturday as they were officially inducted into the Mias Amigas Club. Class members included: (Front L-R) Douglas Ussery, David Corbell, Luke Brame, Randy Scott; (Middle L-R) Mark Payne, Gary Robinson, David Mejia, Daniel Mejia, Richard McCarron, Charlotte Mobley Hill, Bill Clark, Mark Hardee, George Orr; (Back L-R) Letecia Fuentes Porras, Missy White Sims, Norma Belman Bautista, Rita Adame Raymond, Vikki Cavaness Cathey, Pam Dunham Baker.

PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

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- JULY**
1st Eric Loomis, Jimmy Doyle, Glyn Hutto, Debbie Joy, Kristen Gray, Betty Smith
2nd Jennifer Lee, Ruth Finnigan, Lauren Lloyd, J.C. Bumgardner, Thelia Mayo, Marissa Barrera, Ross Whitten, Stephanie Thomas, Crystal Sherrod, David Wike, Jennifer Stafford
3rd Bernell O'Conner, Ashlie Whitten, Jimmy Saldivar, Maxie Holley, Stephanie Nolen, Tommy Johnson, Chris Barajas, Chris Pena, Abbie Mayfield
4th Gordon Jones, Kathy Newman, Kimberly Jones, Rudy Saldivar, Ryan Bass, Kurtis Homer, Jason Charboneau, Gertrude Webb
5th Taylor Jenkins, Dan Griffin, Betty Richardson, Lonnie Middleton, Wayne Bybee
6th Verna Cawley, Chuck Jones, Christina Redish, Gabe Schooley, Nina Saldivar, Michelle Mora, Lauren R. Lloyd
7th Nancy Sproul, Will Griffin, Wayne Mikeska, Dest Sudduth

ANNIVERSARIES

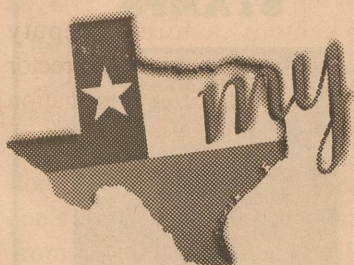
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

Questioning need for two superintendents

Dear Editor:

I was wondering why, in these times of tight budgets, when every school program, academic and athletic, has faced cutbacks, we are paying for two superintendents? Our children are sent out on one fundraiser after another so that they can have the things that our tax dollars used to buy, but for some reason that escapes me we can afford to pay for two superintendents.

If our school board is unhappy with Mr. Gesch, and they don't want to fire him outright, then

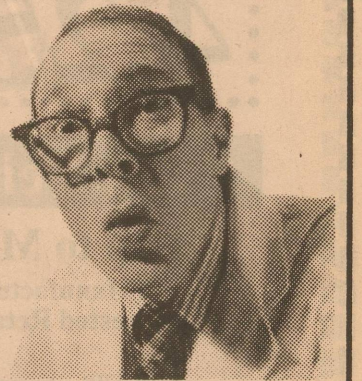
they need to reassign him and give him other duties. Aren't we currently looking for an elementary principal?" If nothing else, then have him work as a crossing guard -- that way we can get some good for our money.

I say that our school board needs to explain to the taxpayers why they think they can waste \$80,000 in taxpayer money paying for someone to sit on the sidelines and have a paid vacation for a year.

John Ben Cawley

Births, Deaths, Weddings, Engagements are all reported in
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"BUT I MAILED A CHECK!"



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN YOUR CHECK TURNS INTO AN ELECTRONIC PAYMENT

1. More and more billers are taking advantage of automated processes that allow consumers to continue writing checks while they realize the efficiencies of electronic funds transfer.
2. Companies are required to notify you before you mail or drop off your check that they will process your check electronically.
3. Electronic payments appear on your bank statement in the same area as ATM withdrawals and debit card purchases.
4. For your protection, the billing company makes a copy of your check and destroys the original.
5. Electronic payments are generally withdrawn within one or two days, which is about the same as a paper check.
6. Contact your bank if you discover an error or have reason to question any charges on your account statement.

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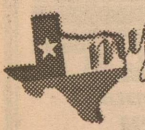


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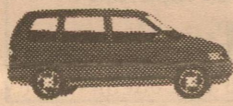
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PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Softball players -- 2004 Marlins Softball Team 10 and Under: Front L-R: Brittany Galan, Abby Fuentes, Sierra Arispe, Brittaney Gauna; Back L-R: Coach Selina Rojas, Victoria Olivan, Caitlyn Self, Madison Albin, Macy Mikeska, Ashley Sullivan.



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Softball players -- 2004 Tornados Softball Team 10 and Under: Front L-R: Adriana Hernandez, Addye Chatham, Odette Barrientos, Sasha Rodriguez, Nikki Herrera, Ysenia Ramirez; Middle L-R: Mary Lou Martinez, Torey Griggs, Amy Alvizo, Marissa Gonzales, Kiki Rodriguez; Back: Coaches Tonya Alvizo and Marco Alvizo.

Fourth of July safety precautions listed

Homemade or illegal fireworks are extremely dangerous and should never be used by your family. Fireworks legally available for sale to the public also can be harmful if not used properly, and they should never be treated as toys. If using fireworks, experts urge parents to remember to follow fireworks laws in their area, practice extreme caution and remember the following safety guidelines recommended by the Coalition for SAFE KIDS:

- Only adults should handle fireworks.
- Even sparklers aren't safe for small children. They burn at

the temperature of a household match and can ignite hair and clothing. Tell children that they should leave the area immediately if their friends are using fireworks and keep a bucket of water handy.

- Discuss safety procedure with your children.
- Teach children "stop, drop and roll" if their clothes catch fire. Make sure they know how to call 9-1-1, and show them how to put out fireworks by using water or a fire extinguisher.
- Read labels and carefully follow directions.

as well as those that appear to have been wet, then dried.

- Never use fireworks indoors.
- Be sure spectators are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never aim or throw fireworks at another person.
- Never place your face or any other body part over fireworks.
- Never try to re-ignite fireworks that malfunction.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves and flammable materials. Never shoot them in metal or glass containers.

How many people do fireworks injure each year?

Although the number of people enjoying fireworks today is significantly greater than ever before, the fireworks industry's numerous safety campaigns and consumer education programs are paying off, as evidenced by the 44 percent decrease in the injury rate of fireworks-related accidents. Unfortunately, a large majority of these injuries are the result of the misuse of legal consumer items or the use of illegal explosives.

How can we best enjoy a fireworks display?

- Don't get too close. Sitting at least 500 feet from the fireworks provides the best view of the show.
- Watch for the quality and brightness of the colors. Deep blue and dazzling white are especially difficult to produce. Count the number of explosions in a shell. High-quality display shells may have multiple explosions that vary in color. There should be no lag time in a professional show. There should always be something going on for you to enjoy.
- Resist the temptation to keep any leftover material you may find after a show. The professionals that put on the display will clean up all materials afterwards

Eldorado Boys & Girls Basketball Camp Scheduled for July 12-15 Has Been Cancelled.
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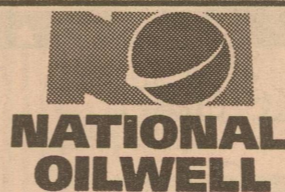
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Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, July 5
 Bar-B-Que Beef Sandwich, Baked French Fries, Baby Carrots, Bun, Coleslaw, Peaches w/ Whipped Topping, Milk

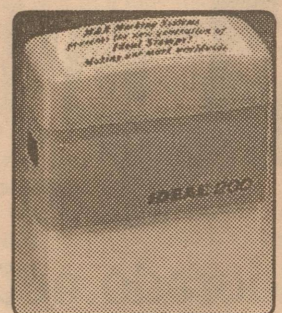
Tuesday, July 6
 Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Wheat Bread, Macaroni Salad, Cubes Canteloupe, Milk

Wednesday, July 7
 Beef & Noodles w/ Gravy, Peas, Dinner Rolls, Toss Salad w/ 3 Tomato Slices, Banana Pudding, Milk

Thursday, July 8
 Chicken Fajitas w/ Onion & Green Peppers, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans & Cheese, Flour Tortillas, Lettuce & Tomato, Fruited Gelatin, Milk

Friday, July 9
 Baked Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Sliced Beets, Dinner Rolls, Strawberry & Banana Mix, Bread Pudding w/ Raisins, Milk

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Panhandle's big hole means big family fun

by Mark K. Campbell

While we were surprised at how much Palo Duro Canyon dramatically changes the Panhandle landscape, imagine how pioneers felt.

They were just tooling along in their wagons, fending off Indians and scrounging for some West Texas water that wasn't salt-laden — I'm kind of guessing/summarizing the Old West a smidgen here — when all of a sudden they come upon this gigantic canyon right in the middle of the road. A canyon that goes on for miles in each direction and is as much as 800 feet deep.

The wagon conversation could've gone:

MAN: You gotta be kiddin'!

GUIDE: Oops.

WOMAN: That's it! I'm going back to New York!

Anyway, even if all that occurred, all involved surely would've still had to have been impressed with the expanse and beauty of Palo Duro Canyon. Especially under the current circumstances.

At the canyon

Those circumstances? The weather was freakishly cool and wet. While most of Texas is undergoing one of the wettest/coolest springs/summers on record, it's really a rarity in the Panhandle.

Park officials said they were astonished. This time of year, the six low water crossings in the park almost never have any water from the meandering Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River flowing across the road, they said. When we were there in late June, five of the six had substantial amounts of water rushing over the pavement.

The mild weather caused a flood of daytime visitors to the park that already had almost all of its overnight camping areas entirely booked. But, lucky us, we not only got a place to stay but scored one of the Cow Camp cabins.

As you approach the park from the only road in, Highway 217, the flat prairie abruptly falls away. You get few glimpses of the majesty of the area — unless you come in from the north and spy a bit of the tailend of part of the canyon back on Highway 1541 — until you come upon Sunday Canyon Road near the park entrance. There, the earth literally drops away into a gaping chasm. In one step, you're in good shape and the next you're plummeting hundreds of feet, most probably screaming madly.

It's \$3 a head to get into the park; kids under 12 are free. The camping fees vary, from \$10 for a primitive tent site to \$95 for the best cabin on the place. More about those later.

The three stylin' cabins are on the right soon after you enter. Soon there's a Visitor Center and Park Store with a pull-out that offers a canyon-wide view. Palo Duro shares the same problem as Big Bend: You need to take vista photos early in the morning before the haze sets in. Boy, the second

biggest canyon in America at 120 miles long is a sight! The claystone gives the place a red backdrop for the stunning greenery, white gypsum, and gray and lavender mudstone that color the entire area.

It's almost impossible to record an image that illustrates how fantastic the colors are. (Even renowned landscape photographer Ansel Adams shot almost exclusively black and white!) But even an amateur will get something of value at Palo Duro Canyon.

Driving the park

After the pull-out, the road begins a steep, switchback decline that would give a Coloradonian pause. Still, RVs have no problem if they take their time. And most people do anyway, because the views are so magnificent.

Once you reach the bottom hundreds of feet down, the paved road continues for about six more miles, past a variety of camping areas, an amphitheater that conducts nightly productions — "Texas Legacies" (about the history of the Panhandle) every night but Sunday when "Heavenly Country" (a Yankee music critic is sent to Country Music Heaven, which he considers Hades) — the Trading Post (where we had a good hamburger and hand-cut fries), a stables, and an interpretive theater.

And that's before you reach the first water crossing.

Also on the road is a replication of Charles Goodnight's dugout living area, a failed oil well remembered with a plaque, a few day use areas (including Cottonwood which was closed due to flooding), and way in the back, the Cow Camp cabins and an equestrian area.

Just past crossing No. 2, the road Y's and Alternate Park Road 5, to the right, takes visitors to the western wall of the park where the most easily accessible cave is just a few hundred feet off (then up) the road.

You need to keep an eye out

while driving. The entire park is 30 mph everywhere (except for the descent, of course), mainly because this place is a haven for families. There are people everywhere on bicycles. It's mostly flat on the canyon floor and riders of any skill level can ride. Plus some trails are mountain bike friendly and one — Capitol Peak — is for bikers exclusively.

Another reason to drive carefully: wildlife. "Wild" turkeys — they obviously aren't too wary of humans — wander around all campgrounds and, in the late afternoon, tarantulas strut across the roadway. The huge spiders seemed to fascinate visitors more than any other critter. They (the humans) got up close for pictures, apparently not aware that the spiders can leap 10 feet.

Also plentiful at the park are deer, rabbits, lizards (including a guard lizard that manned a big rock at the entrance to our cabin), and birds, like a bright painted bunting we saw often.

The cabins

The three cabins at the entrance of the park have housed workers at various times. The trio — Sorenson (\$95), Lighthouse, and Goodnight (\$85 each) — permit a maximum of four persons. All have heating/air-conditioning, a fireplace, microwave, and mini-refrigerator. The big kicker for these cabins is that, aside from linen service, they have bathrooms and a shower.

That, we quickly discovered, was a sizeable drawback at Cow Camp No. 4. The are just four, each permitting two people. No. 4 was the biggest of the new cabins with a great view of the west canyon wall. But you paid for the seclusion by being farthest from the restrooms — about one-quarter mile, which is a long way at 2 a.m.

The cabin was great, otherwise. It had a flat fiberglass roof you could sit on and watch for wildlife in the tree-heavy terrain below that filled the floor along the Prairie

Dog Town Fork. (The "river" is tiny; you can easily jump across it in many places. It's remarkable to think that this fork carved out such a spectacular canyon just one million years ago.)

Inside No. 4 were two twin beds, a table, two chairs, a microwave, an end table, and a mini-fridge. That's it, no linens (sheets, towels). The floors were stone while a large part of the ceiling consisted of telephone poles.

Early on, that painted bunting dropped by and we could soon identify her in the woods below by her distinctive song. Another morning, several turkeys passed by our window, calmly eating the red berries off our bush.

But the mattresses inside No. 4 were a nightmare. Remember those springy mattresses babies used to sleep on in the Eighties? These were just like those except 100 times worse. And we had pads to put on them! I slept at 35 degree angle. It felt like training for TV's Survivor.

The trails

It's hard to believe that not too long ago, the early 90's, there were few trails in the park. Like exactly one: the Lighthouse. Now there are plenty, including the newest one, the 2.5-mile Rojo Grande Trail. It, like many others, sticks close to the river (boy, it's hard to call that a river) and through the shady canopies offered by the trees on the canyon floor.

Three trails stand out. The Juniper Trail off the Alternate Road not only travels near that cave but has access to some high cliffside boulders that allow for a panoramic view of the south and east parts of the park. Watch for horses — they have the right-of-way.

Another is the Given, Spicer & Lowery Running Trail which is a "rugged" jogging path. Mountain bikers are allowed, but this windy, 11-miler would give any athlete a workout — especially when the red clay gets wet.

The running trail winds its way to the oldest and most famous path, the Lighthouse Trail. Eroded and now resembling a lighthouse, the



PHOTO BY PAULA CAMPBELL

Deep Cave — This cave, is easily accessible off Alternate Park Road 5. It's one of many sights you must see at Palo Duro State Park.



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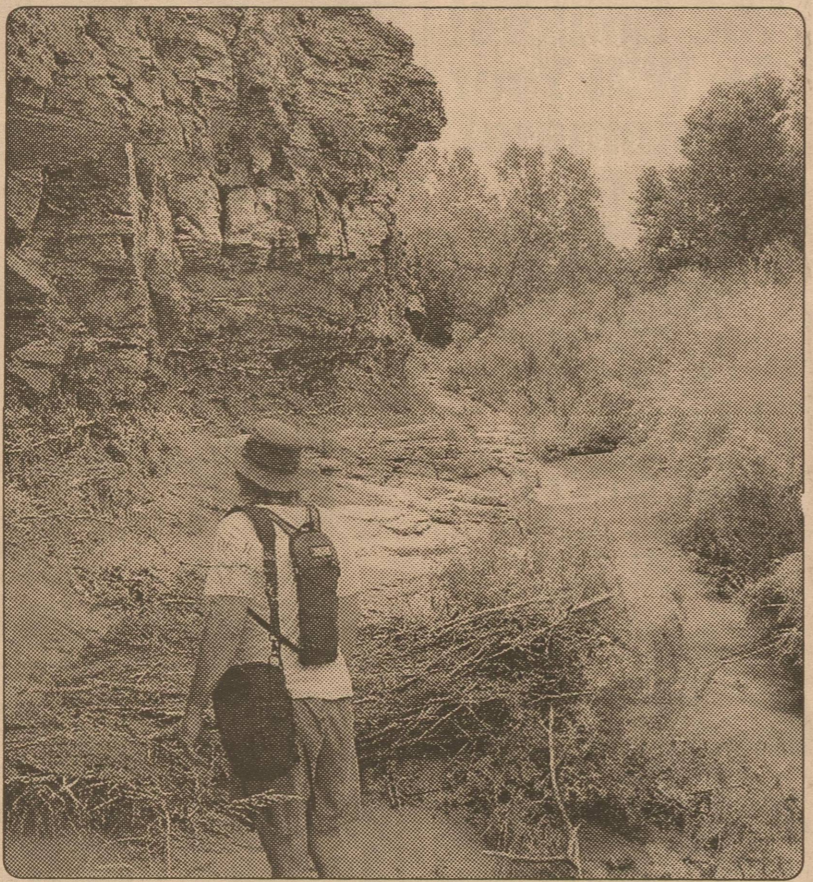


PHOTO BY PAULA CAMPBELL

Long hike -- The beginning of the mystic hike required walking a muddy path between cliffs and the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River.

Hospital trustees seek answers for Nursing Home & Pharmacy concerns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ting up a full service pharmacy at the hospital so that local patients wouldn't be forced to take their prescriptions out of town.

The meeting was the hospital board's regular monthly session. It was called to order shortly after 6:00 p.m. by Board President Randy Mankin. Trustees Shirley Joiner, Susie Richters, Ricky Fuesel, J.D. Doyle and Jim Martin were on hand for the meeting. Trustee Frank Williams was absent due to illness. Also on hand were Hospital Administrator Sharon Dietz, Assistant Administrator

Beverly Minor and Attorney James Kosub.

In other business, the board met briefly behind closed doors for the discussion of personnel issues but returned to open session without taking action on the matter. They also reviewed and approved the minutes of the previous meeting as well as the district's financial reports.

Sharon Dietz then explained opportunities that would be available through the Office of Rural Community Affairs for board member training. She also announced that 100 percent of the

hospital's employees have signed up for direct deposit of their payroll checks.

Before adjourning, the board voted to contribute an amount equal to 2 percent of the annual payroll to an employee retirement fund. The contribution totaled just over \$27,000.00. The trustees also okayed a lease for three Kyocera Mita copy machines. The machines will replace three Xerox machines currently in use.

The next meeting of the hospital board is slated for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26, 2004, in the hospital board room.

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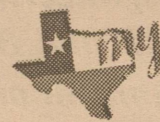
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Micah Mariano to perform at Community Baptist July 4

Community Baptist Church will host singer Micah Mariano Sunday, July 4th during their Sunday morning worship at 11:00 a.m. Micah has spent the last five years of his life ministering through music and teaching. Most of his time was spent leading worship with the band Ornan's Floor (formerly know as barefoot). He also has spoken at "Stand", a college Bible study at Angelo State University similar to "Breakaway" at Texas A&M, and "Grace" in Abilene. Now, Micah is teaching a discipleship program for college students, and is traveling to various places leading worship and preaching the Word of God.

Micah is no stranger to Eldorado. He has performed at the last two Baccalaureate ceremonies at Eldorado High School.

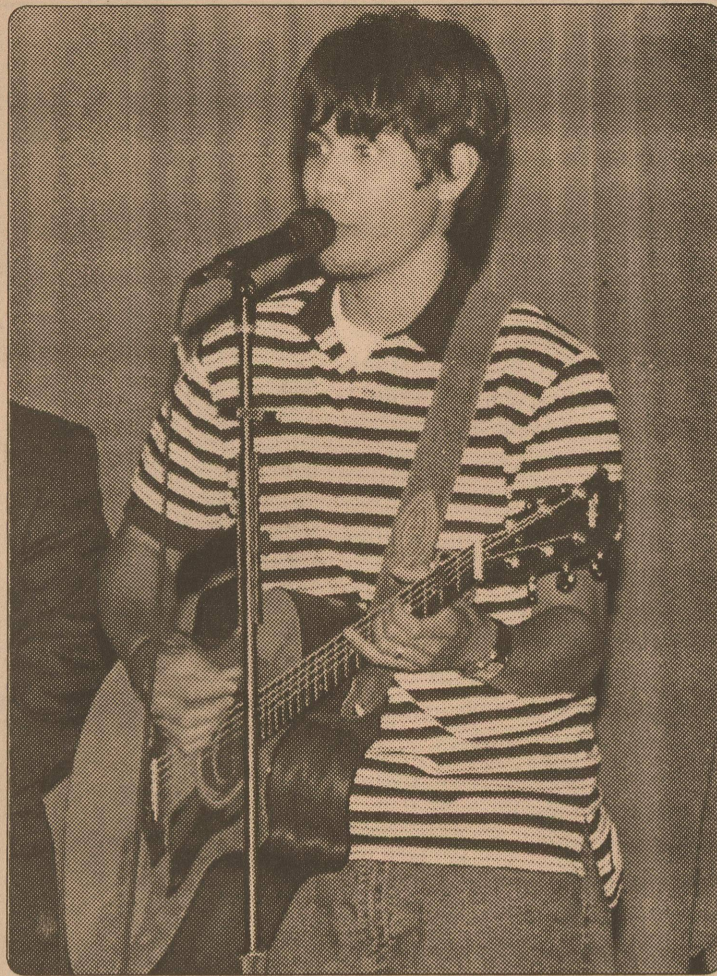


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Singing praises to the Lord -- Community Baptist Church will feature singer Micah Mariano during its Morning Worship Service on Sunday, July 4th. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. and the public is invited.

Utah problems pushing FLDS to Texas?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

it reportedly sent shock waves through the FLDS hierarchy in the Fall of 2003, helping to set the stage for at least a partial migration to Texas.

Not everyone agreed with the new direction the church was taking, especially since Warren Jeffs ascended to the Prophet's chair following the death of his father. The already tense situation, compounded by the Holm conviction, began producing rifts in the ranks of the FLDS faithful, prompting a round of excommunications. These only added fuel to the fire as the pro and anti-Jeffs camps began choosing sides.

Attorney General Shurtleff raised the ante by appointing a special investigator, Ron Barton, to look into the FLDS. And, it wasn't just polygamy that was being investigated. Soon, federal authorities were taking an interest in the FLDS and its financial dealings, especially as they might relate to federal organized crime statutes.

Another setback for the FLDS, and its members in C-City Hildale, came last week when the area's only bank, the Bank of Ephraim, failed and was closed by state examiners. While the bank's failure wasn't directly attributed to its dealings with the FLDS, questionable loans made to church

members were of concern to state banking officials.

According to published accounts in the *Salt Lake Tribune*, the bank's primary problem involved an employee who embezzled nearly \$5 million over more than 20 years. Bank officials were quoted as saying that the fault actually lay with state and federal auditors who failed to detect the problem for more than two decades.

The Bank of Ephraim is important to the FLDS story because it was one of the few lending institutions where C-City/Hildale residents could get a loan. Since much of the property in the town is owned by the FLDS through a trust called the United Effort Plan, it isn't sold to the residents who live there. Instead, the residents lease the land then mortgage their leasehold when they arrange for bank financing. The Bank of Ephraim was reportedly one of the few, if not the only, bank that would lend money against leaseholds. State banking examiners have openly questioned the wisdom of these leasehold loans.

Three of the bank's branches have been taken over by Far West Bank of Provo, Utah. But, Far West officials say they have no plans to reopen the Hildale branch, leaving C-City/Hildale residents without a local bank.

Also of interest is the fact that the Bank of Ephraim loaned a "significant amount" of money to building contractors, many of

them FLDS members from C-City/Hildale, according to sources close to the investigation. Those same sources tell the Success that much of the mortgaged equipment is now being used in the construction that is ongoing at the YFZ Ranch.

In another local note, TCEQ officials are increasingly frustrated by their inability to bring the YFZ Ranch into line with Texas environmental regulations. Among the concerns are sewage treatment facilities, or the lack thereof, as well as unlicensed cement and rock crushing plants.

While TCEQ officials will not say what their next move will be, there is a sense that the State of Texas plans to act, and soon. Exactly what that action may be, and when it will occur, remains a mystery.

At press time, construction continues unabated at the YFZ with aerial photos revealing that the building project may have actually accelerated. A grid of six intersecting roadways seem to be under construction on the ranch, giving the property the overall appearance that something very much like a town is under construction. Maybe not a town the size of C-City/Hildale, but certainly larger than the corporate hunting retreat Schleicher County residents were first told to expect.

The Success continues to seek comment from FLDS and/or YFZ officials. Neither are willing to talk to press.

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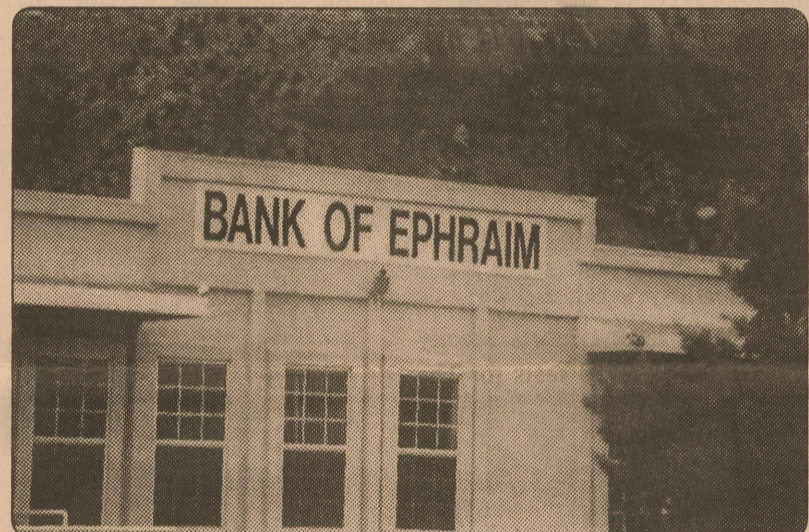
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Solution to puzzle on Page 2

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COURTESY PHOTO

The Bank of Ephraim branch in Hildale, Utah was the only bank that served the twin cities of Colorado City, AZ and Hildale. The bank failed last week, leaving residents of the FLDS towns without local banking services. Among the banks customers, are many of the contractors currently working at the YFZ Ranch north of Eldorado.

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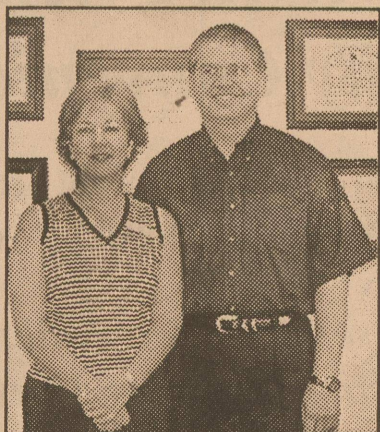


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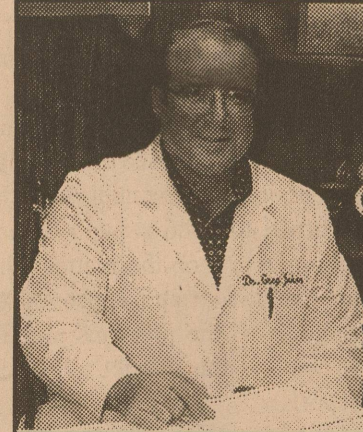
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“Dodgeball” leaves audience rolling in the aisles

Sometimes the Movie Man will recommend a picture and get floods of mail wondering about his sanity.

That will surely be the case with Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story. The Movie Man hasn't laughed so hard at a movie that he (intelligent, well-bred) shouldn't have since Jackass: The Movie.

Both that MTV-spinoff embarrassment (and hilarious-ment) of a movie and Dodgeball are some kind of freakish kissing cousins – silly, stupid, juvenile, and sometimes killer funny.

About the film

Dodgeball shocked film analysts (now there's an inflation-proof job for you) when it clobbered The Terminal in both's opening week. And Dodgeball is garnering that most sought after trait of a movie: repeat business.

It dropped only to No. 3 (in an admittedly weak week); lot's of people are going back to see it again. Lots of 11-year-old crude humor fans.

The Movie Man probably should've gone to see the big movie of the week, Fahrenheit 9/11. After all, Michael Moore's diatribe against President Bush tallied almost \$24 million and broke the record for the most money ever made by a documentary.

That shattered the prior record of \$221.17 made by Moore's prior picture, Bowling for Columbine. Ha, not really – that anti-gun movie made a few more dollars than that.

Like art house nerds, there are documentary nerds who will go see anything of that ilk before it reaches its usual resting place, PBS.

Yes, Moore's movie is “important” and he did the most masterful job of finding converts to fill seats this side of Mel Gibson. Mostly conservatives filled seats for The Passion of the Christ and it's now time for liberals to shoot a movie off into the cinematic stratosphere in the same manner.

(By the way, The Passion has ended up as the No. 8 money-making movie of all-time and, while, it will make a bit more than its \$370 million since it's still in some dollar theaters, it won't catch No. 7, The Return of the King. Shrek 2 just passed them both and is No. 6. That animated picture will reach the truly most sought-after Hollywood figure: \$400 million. It'll end up fifth, ahead of Spider-Man's \$403.7 million.

The Movie Man should mention that the humor in the Shreks is far different from that in Dodgeball. The former is [mostly] okay for kids, but the latter is certainly not.)

Still, being the Movie Man and all, the Movie Man decided to go see something funny instead of political. Plus, he'd gotten word from Movie Friends that Dodgeball was one demented, off-the-chart-in-goofiness film. The Movie Man is a fan of goofiness.

If there's one rule of thumb you can (kinda) compare Dodgeball to see if it's your cup of humor, it's Zoolander. Dodgeball is basically a very raunchy Zoolander (with a vigorous dose of Back to School.). Some people love Zoolander (also with Ben Stiller) and quote it (like Movie Family: “blue steel!”) while others think it's the stupidest thing ever. It depends on what your definition of stupid is.

The plot

Likeable loser Peter (Vince Vaughn) runs a dilapidated gym frequented by real losers like Gordon (Stephen Root). His Average Joe's Gym is right across the street from the ultra-high tech Globo Gym run by uber-greasy White (Stiller).

Vaughn has neglected to pay his back taxes and lawyer Kate (Christine Taylor, Stiller's real-life



The MOVIE MAN

Dodgeball
7 out of 10

Starring: Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn, Christine Taylor, Rip Torn

Directed by: Rawson Marshall Thurber

Rated: PG-13 for language, crudeness, stupidity, and political incorrectness

wife) comes to foreclose.

Root, a fan of ESPN 8 “The Ocho,” figures out a way to raise the \$50,000 necessary to save Average Joe's – a national dodgeball tournament.

First, the ragtag Joe's must win a regional event. They enter the last one where only one other group must be beaten – girl scouts. Joe's gets creamed, but one girl tests positive for drugs (multiple uses!) and Joe's wins by forfeit.

From there, the gang, now joined by former softball pitcher Taylor, heads to Vegas for the big tournament. They manage to defeat a variety of foes before facing the Globo Gym juggernaut in the championship game.

What works

Holy cow there are some side-splitting scenes in Dodgeball!

The first one that had the Movie Man going was a scratchy, fake elementary school educational movie on how to play dodgeball. All-star dodgeballer Patches O'Houlihan (Hank Azaria) shows young Timmy the basics of the game.

The Movie Man was reminded of the classic take-offs on those creepy school film strips/movies The Simpsons used to do with Troy McClure (Phil Hartman). The one in Dodgeball is just as funny – especially the “5 Ds.”

Stiller plays oily great and plenty of jabs are taken at today's get-fit-at-any-cost lifestyles.

Root, forever in the Movie Man Hall of Fame thanks to voicing Bill on TV's King of the Hill, gets plenty of laughs as the fat guy who knows all about sports but can't play any.

Wheelchair-bound Rip Torn portrays the grown up O'Houlihan as the most foulmouthed character on screen in years. He's funny.

Also hilarious is Globo Gym's lone female team member, a mono-

browed, Eastern European (Miss Pyle) with teeth so horrible that it would make an Englishman gasp.

Keep an eye out for cameos, two of which figure prominently in the conclusion.

Much like Fred Willard Best in Show, the dodgeball commentators on The Ocho are just as funny as the action. Deadpan delivery by Gary Cole (reunited with “daughter” Taylor from the Brady Bunch movies) and, as the worst color man in broadcasting history, Jason Bateman draw plenty of laughs.

Then there's the scene after the end credits that simply defies description. The Movie Man wondered why so much of the audience was hanging around until the very conclusion of the movie – then he saw.

A scene unfolds that's horribly, hilariously disturbing and one that will forever immediately be inserted into your brain whenever you hear this specific song again. You'll see why patrons are leaving the theater wiping their eyes – it's either tears of laughter or they're trying to rip them out of their sockets!

New director Rawson Marshall Thurber keeps things hopping. Dodgeball has a Blazing Saddles feel about it – no race, color, or creed is free from ribbing. That's especially true in...

Best scene

Thurber assembles a montage of the victories that propel Joe's and Globo Gym to the finish.

Each team plays a variety of opponents – a scrawny Japanese unit swaddled in sumo diapers; a squad of African Americans maxed out in blig-bling; a team of brawny, flannel-lumberjacks (no one is spared from ridicule) – and to see them get eppered and clobbered

and knocked unconscious is like the ultimate version of America's Funniest Home Videos.

The pounding the players receive is relentless – and so were the laughs.

What doesn't work

Some of Dodgeball, especially early on, is simply unfunny. The jokes are flat and insipid. It's a fine line between silly funny and just dumb and Dodgeball offers plenty of both.

Almost all of the minor characters are that...minor. Especially wasted is Plano's Alan Tudyk who was so funny in A Knight's Tale as the easy-to-rile squire. He's wasted as a pirate here.

Sometimes Dodgeball goes all out to shock and it's obvious the filmmakers are trying to sting every target. They miss plenty of times as the movie has many, many off-color jokes. Or obvious ones like Taylor's scene after the title game.

The rating

The Movie Man wouldn't have complained if Dodgeball had gotten an R. This is a very hard PG-13 as some uncomfortable parents with preteens discovered.

Summing up

Dodgeball is often really funny. If your idea of humor is a grown man drilling a girl scout with a red rubber ball, then, like the Movie Man, you've found the right picture.

Next up

What else? Spider-Man 2.

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Dear Eldorado residents,

Eldorado pharmacy has merged with Eckerd Drug of San Angelo. All patient prescription records have been transferred to the Beaugard Eckerd Drug (653-4289). I also am a pharmacist for the same store and look forward to seeing you there. Eckerd Drug will treat you with the medical professionalism you deserve and expect. We look forward to servicing all your prescription and health care needs. Eckerd Drug wants you to know that they will mail all your medicines postage free providing they have your credit card information on file. Eckerd Drug will pay the lower of either their price or the price you received from Eldorado Pharmacy.

On a more personal note, I want to thank you for the memories that 21 years of working and running a pharmacy in Eldorado has created. It has been rewarding to live in a community that seems like family. I pray that God will bless you in all your endeavors and that health and happiness is with you always.

Thank you,
Smokey Taylor

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- VAN HELSING (PG-13)
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Grilling Across AMERICA



Great American Grilled Steak

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FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

While outdoor chefs from coast to coast will give their grates a serious workout this summer, the menu may vary depending on regional tastes and cultural influences.

Great American Grilled Steak

- 1 bottle (12 ounces) Lawry's Mesquite With Lime Juice Marinade
- 1 tablespoon Lawry's Garlic Powder With Parsley
- 2 teaspoons Lawry's Seasoned Pepper
- 1 1/2- to 2-pound steak (rib eye, sirloin or T-bone)

In large resealable plastic food bag combine Marinade and seasonings. Set aside 1/4 cup of Marinade mixture for brushing on during grilling. Add steak to bag; seal and massage bag to complete coverage of meat. Marinate in refrigerator 30 minutes to 4 hours. Preheat grill to medium-high. Remove meat from bag; discard used Marinade. Grill until desired doneness is reached, brushing often with remaining Marinade. Makes 6 servings

- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Seasoned Salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Nonstick cooking spray

Pierce chicken with fork. Place in resealable plastic bag; add 3/4 cup Caribbean Jerk Marinade. Seal bag and marinate in refrigerator for 1 hour. In small bowl, combine seasonings. Remove chicken from bag; discard used Marinade. Preheat grill on medium heat. Rub chicken with brown sugar mixture; spray both sides of chicken with nonstick cooking spray. Grill 15 to 20 minutes or until no longer pink and juices run clear. Baste often with remaining Marinade while grilling. Makes 4 servings

"Floribbean" Jerk Chicken

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 cup Lawry's Caribbean Jerk Marinade With Papaya Juice
- 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh lemon peel

For more recipes, visit www.lawrys.com



Southwest Citrus Chicken With Roasted Corn Salsa

Southwest Citrus Chicken With Roasted Corn Salsa

- Citrus Marinade**
 - 1 bottle Lawry's Herb & Garlic Marinade With Lemon Juice
 - 1/2 cup orange juice
 - 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 1/2 teaspoons Lawry's Lemon Pepper
- 1 teaspoon Lawry's Seasoned Salt
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 6 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- Nonstick cooking spray
- Salsa**
 - 3 ears of yellow corn on the cob, cleaned
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 2 medium tomatoes, diced (about 1 1/2 cups)
 - 1/2 cup diced red onion
 - 1/2 cup diced green bell pepper
 - 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Seasoned Salt

handle, remove kernels with sharp knife (about 2 cups). In medium bowl, combine corn, 1/3 cup Marinade mixture and remaining salsa ingredients; set aside. Remove chicken from bowl; discard used Marinade. Spray chicken on both sides with nonstick cooking spray. Grill over medium-low heat, 15 to 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink inside and juices run clear. Baste with remaining 1/3 cup Marinade while grilling. Top with corn salsa just before serving. Makes 6 servings

Sweet Carolina Ribs

- 4 pounds baby back pork ribs, scored
- 1 bottle Lawry's Dijon & Honey Marinade With Lemon Juice
- 2/3 cup dark packed brown sugar
- 2/3 cup cider vinegar
- 2 teaspoons Lawry's Seasoned Salt
- Nonstick cooking spray

If necessary, trim ribs and cut into lengths to fit in a large resealable plastic bag; place ribs in bag. In medium bowl, combine Dijon & Honey Marinade, sugar, vinegar and Seasoned Salt. Set aside 3/4 cup Marinade. Pour remaining Marinade over ribs. Seal bag and marinate in refrigerator 3 hours or overnight. Preheat oven to 300°F. Discard used Marinade and place

ribs on foil-lined baking sheet sprayed with nonstick cooking spray. Bake, covered, 2 hours or until tender. Finish on grill (medium-low heat), basting often with remaining Marinade until glazed. Makes 4 to 6 servings

Pacific Teriyaki Salmon

- 1 cup Lawry's Teriyaki Marinade With Pineapple Juice, divided
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 pound salmon fillets (about 4)
- 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Seasoned Pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Garlic Powder With Parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

In large resealable plastic bag, combine Teriyaki Marinade with soy; seal and mix well. Set aside 1/4 cup mixture. Place salmon in bag; seal. Marinate in refrigerator 30 minutes to 1 hour. Remove salmon from bag; discard used Marinade. Preheat grill to medium heat. In small bowl, combine remaining ingredients; mix well. Sprinkle salmon with seasoning mixture. Grill 10 to 12 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork, basting often with remaining Marinade. Makes 4 servings

Materials courtesy of Lawry's Foods



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Lucky Motorist-Driver Lucia Arroyo, 48, of Amarillo, waits patiently under a blanket while Volunteer Fireman Frank Estrada operates the Jaws of Life to open a jammed door on Arroyo's '93 Chevrolet truck. Arroyo truck was reportedly sideswiped early Sunday 2 miles North of Eldorado on U.S. 277. Andy Perez, 27, was arrested at the scene and charged with Driving While Intoxicated. According to investigators, Perez's 1995 Chevrolet truck crossed into the oncoming lane, hitting Arroyo. Arroyo was taken by ambulance to Schleicher County Medical Center. Perez was also charged with Assault with a Vehicle and Leaving the Scene of an Accident Involving a Person.

Scripture
My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart. God is a righteous judge, and a God who has indignation every day.
Psalm 7:10-11

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.

\$1,000.00 Surety Bond.
June 27 • Perez, Andy, male age 27, arresting officer Sutton County DPS trooper, offense Driving While Intoxicated, Assault with a Vehicle, Leaving the scene involving a person, 3rd Degree Felony, Released on (2) \$3,000.00 Surety Bonds.

INCIDENTS
June 22 • 10:40 a.m. Complainant called and requested to speak with officer. Officer responded.
June 23 • 5:00 p.m. Complainant called to report a water leak. City personnel was contacted.
8:03 p.m. • Subject called to advise that alarm was going off at one of the local stores. Officer responded and contacted key holder.
• 10:44 p.m. Hospital called and requested a basic transfer to San Angelo. EMS responded.

ARRESTS
June 24 • Garcia, Ruben Adam, male age 21, offense Motion to Revoke-Burglary of Building, Failure To Appear/Assault.
June 24 • Reza, Crystal Belia, female age 24, offense Motion to Revoke-Probation, Unauthorized use of a Motor Vehicle, No Bond.
June 24 • Ramirez, Antonio Acevedo, male age 30, offense Motion to Revoke Probation, DWI.
June 25 • McGee, Francisco Javier, male age 35, offense DWI, Released on

• 5:27 p.m. Complainant requested to speak to a officer. Officer responded.
• 6:40 p.m. Complainant reported a reckless driver in an 18 wheeler pulling a low-boy trailer. Officer responded and arrested on subject for DWI.
June 26 • 10:55 a.m. Complainant reported some goats out near the highway. Officer responded.
• 11:33 a.m. Complainant reported someone shooting off fireworks. Officer responded.

• 12:41 a.m. Caller reported cows loose near his residence. Officer responded.
• 9:54 p.m. Complainant on Warner reported kids in a golf cart throwing fireworks in yards. Officer responded.
• 11:25 p.m. Officer was flagged down by a motorist and advised of the same part continuing throwing fireworks. Officer located the subjects near the school and confiscated the fireworks and sent the juveniles home.
June 27 • 12:42 a.m. 911 Caller reported a vehicle accident North 277. Officers, Fire Dept. and EMS responded.

• 2:43 a.m. Reported a loose horse in Sutton County but may have crossed to Schleicher County. Officer responded.
• 11:11 a.m. Complainant reported a black cow out near the highway. Officer responded.
• 11:40 a.m. Complainant reported a burglary of a habitation, suspect unknown. Officer responded.
• 4:27 p.m. Complainant stated that someone had been shot. Officer responded, located source, kids using fireworks.

• 7:28 p.m. Complainant requested to speak to an officer. Officer responded.
• 8:01 p.m. Complainant reported kids using fireworks. Complainant stated that kids were lighting bottle rockets and that they had landed next to a gas tank. Officer responded.
• 11:30 p.m. Complainant reported a prowler. Officer responded and located subject.
June 28 • 5:05 p.m. Criminal mischief was reported at the Middle School Gym.
• 6:18 p.m. Caller reported stolen property totaling \$130.00 Officer responded.
June 29 • 7:20 a.m. Complainant reported a possible house fire on Rudd Road. Officer responded. Subject started a fire in wood stove and passerby thought subjects house was on fire.

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| Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 60s. | Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s. | Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s. | Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s. | Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 60s. |

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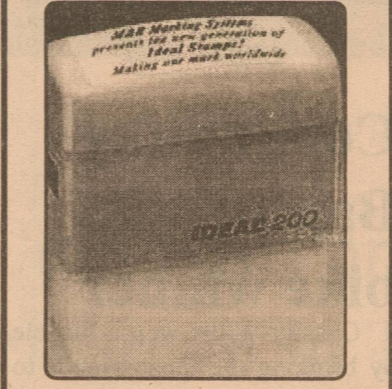
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First National Bank of Eldorado is seeking applications for a full time employee. High school diploma or GED required.

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Eldorado Spotlight



This week the Eldorado Spotlight camera focused on a scene from the final Virgils Wedding featuring "Moo Moo," played by Jan Barton, and "Mr. Purdy," played by Dr. Jim Brame. In the scene, the debonaire "Mr. Purdy" was caught puckering up, and getting a big laugh!

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Palo Duro Canyon offers many scenic vistas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

310 foot high stone is a National Natural Landmark. The entire hike, around Capitol Peak, takes almost six miles. It's very popular and always filled with folks.

But you can get a great shot of the lighthouse – and, if you're as agile as me (which is highly likely) – by scaling an incline in the first 20 minutes of the hike. You get mighty close.

However, the real trekking challenge came when a ranger told us about a trail not on any map...

A walk to remember

Outside after another bathroom jaunt, a ranger told us of a trail that led to an ancient, sacred Indian canyon, one where a revered medicine man was supposedly buried inside a cliff wall that now weeps with a spring.

Well, we had to check that out. His instructions were noted; he said it would take about 3.5 hours.

The path begins at the very south end of the park at the Equestrian Trail. There's a corral there where many visitors pen their horses between their travels within the park. We stayed by the river, as informed, pressed between the flowing water and a 30-foot cliff. But it had rained again the night before and the red clay was red mud often; our shoes were soon caked.

Eventually, the dry creekbed (which wasn't) arrived and we took it, the left fork. It was so wet there, too, that once we had to veer up into unblemished woodlands before settling back down on the bed. After about 15 minutes, the creek bent back north; we were

now heading behind Fortress Cliff, a soaring edifice that marked the place where Col. R.S. Mackenzie, after slaughtering 1,000 of 1,400 captured Native American horses, forced tribes of Kiowa, Comanche, and Cheyenne to surrender and march out of the canyon in 1874.

Current day horses had obviously traveled in this area. We came upon a huge sandstone boulder with etchings noting prior visitors from 1969, '71, and '99. The path bent back and forth over the now-dry creekbed, among ruddy cliffs hundreds of feet high and long, long rock slides.

About 1.5 hours in, a trickle of water began appearing through rocks that were increasing in size. Soon, boulders as big as army tanks blocked the path. We scaled them or went around them, as the water flow grew greater.

Along the way, cave openings were visible high overhead. We paused for a sandwich on one boulder, with the water pooling nearby. It was sunny and, while cool for June, still warm. The occasional breeze that blew up the canyon was welcomed indeed.

Finally, the sheer back wall of the canyon was visible. Getting there was a chore as slides and massive rocks were tumbled over each other. After 2 hours and 40 minutes, we at last touched the elusive wall we sought. The spring, pooled nearby and filled with cattails, frogs, and darting magenta dragonflies, began deep within the cliff wall, trickling through a 20-foot cascade of green maidenhair ferns.

It was cool and quiet there and more than a bit mystic. Someone had left a jug of water there. But we passed. We tarried a bit then began the long journey back. The truck was a lovely sight, after 4.5 hour out. So was the community bathroom shower soon afterward.

Canyon particulars

Horseflies wore us out on every trail. Repellent did little to deter them. A few gnats and mosquitoes buzzed about, but it was those darn relentless horseflies that were such pests.

The state park, the third largest in Texas, acre-wise, at 16,402 – Devil's River State Natural Area has 19,989 but even it pales to Big Bend Ranch State Park's 298,029 acres – is well maintained and clean, considering the number of people who visit. My wife said

there was a black widow in the women's restroom and some showers were marred with red sand, but it wasn't bad, really.

Palo Duro, like many Texas facilities, is suffering from some budget woes and an article in the Amarillo paper warned of pending shortfalls, especially in personnel. On the plus side, every camp area had a park host for information.

The annual productions in the amphitheater run from \$10-\$26. You can tack on a barbecue dinner for \$7.50 more. If you arrive at the park gate after 5:30 p.m., you don't have to pay the \$3 entry fee. Rain or shine, the shows go on – they are almost never cancelled by weather.

Palo Duro Canyon State Park was just crammed with families having a great vacation. The place was much better than we remembered it on a prior visit over a decade ago. Everyone seems happy to be there: It's rare when folks in passing cars – even Yankees! – don't wave hello as they pass.

One final thing: The park is thrown wide open. You can traipse anywhere. Now the footing is sometimes exceptionally perilous and kids will surely have to be watched. But it was nice not seeing "Stay on the Trail!" signs every time you turn around.

There sure wasn't one on the backside of Fortress Cliff, I'll tell you that. (Maybe the horseflies carried it away.)



PHOTO BY WALLY NICHOLS
Chasity Willis

Community Baptist VBS bike winner

Chasity Willis won a bicycle by bringing the most friends to Community's Baptist Church's "Power Up" Vacation Bible School last week. Also Jacob Sanchez (not pictured) also rode away on a boy's bicycle for bringing the most friends with him to VBS.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Class of '27 - Mildred Kent Stanford of San Angelo, a graduate of the EHS Class of 1927, represented the earliest class in attendance at the annual Mias Amigas Club meeting, held in the Memorial Building last Saturday.

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