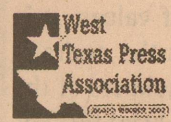


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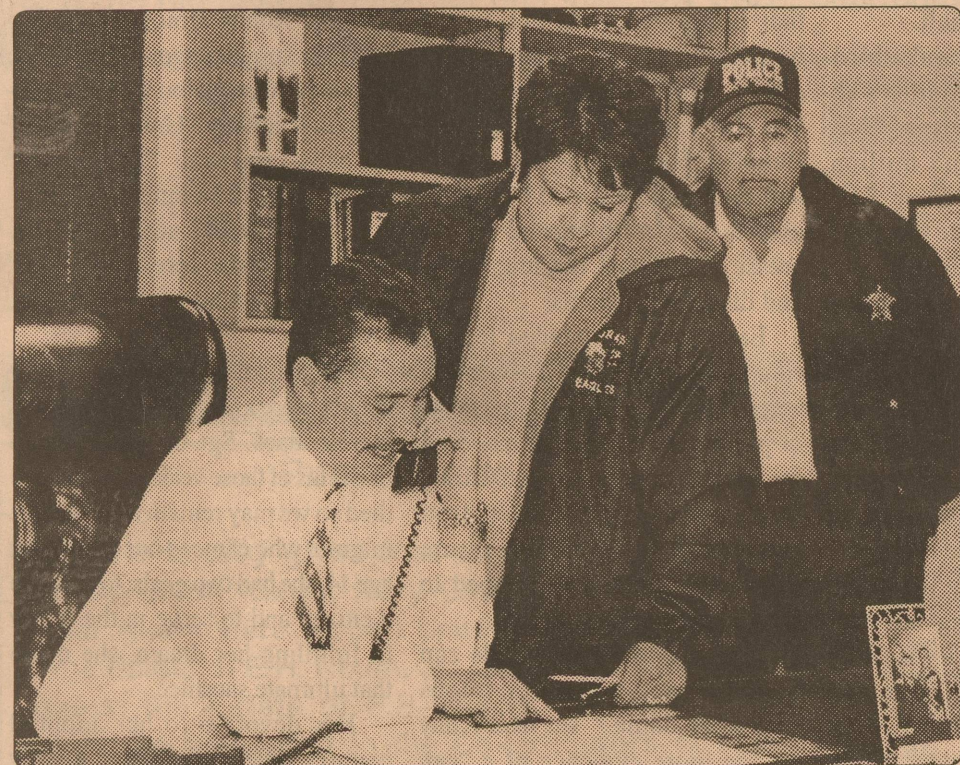
# THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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Going over the numbers — Sheriff David Doran, Jail Administrator Lesa Martinez and Chief Deputy George Arispe reviewed election returns Tuesday evening as results from the local election trickled in. Doran won reelection over challenger Robert Bybee by a 903 to 411 vote margin.

## Doran, Snelson win local races

### President Bush wins reelection over John Kerry

Schleicher County voters went to the polls in record numbers Tuesday, and during the two-week early voting period, to decide who will serve the next four years as their Sheriff and Tax Assessor/Collector.

Sheriff David Doran won easy reelection to his third term over Robert Bybee by a better than 2-to-1 margin. Doran, running on the Republican ticket polled 903 votes to 411 for his Democratic challenger.

Jeanne Snelson was the voters choice to succeed retiring Tax Assessor/Collector Lou Ann Turner. Democrat Snelson received 792 votes, winning by a 490 vote margin over her Republican challenger, Leanne Higgins.

"I am humbled by the outpouring of support," Sheriff David Doran said once the results were known. He had to wait several hours before claiming victory, however, as election workers struggled to count 718 votes cast during early voting, more actually than were cast on election day.

"I am very pleased with the large voter turn out," Jeanne Snelson told the Success after learning of her victory. "I appreciate the citizens of Schleicher County who helped in my election to the Tax Assessor/Collector job."

Doran and Snelson took early leads that they never relinquished as, one by one, the four election day polling places reported their returns. Then came the long wait for early voting totals, which weren't released until 3:30 a.m. Wednesday morning. As late as the returns from Eldorado were, they still beat the nationwide returns, which eventually showed that President George W. Bush had won reelection with over 51 percent of the vote.

Unlike the now infamous 2000 presidential election that carried on through multiple recounts and legal challenges for 36 days before then Vice-President Al Gore conceded the race, this year's election ended somewhat earlier. Democratic candidate Senator John Kerry telephoned President George W. Bush shortly before noon on Wednesday to concede the election after returns from several battleground states, including Florida and Ohio, made it apparent that Bush had won.

Bush not only won the battle for electoral college, he also sewed up the popular vote, winning over Kerry by some 3.5 million votes. And, his coat tails extended down the ballot sweeping numbers of new Republican senators and representatives into Congress, as well as dozens, if not hundreds of Republican state legislators and other state officials nationwide.

One of the biggest upsets of the election was the defeat of Senate Minority

Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota. He lost to Republican challenger John Thune by a 51 to 49 percent margin.

Closer to home, several Texas Democrats lost their seats in congress, prominent among them Charlie Stenholm, who currently represents Schleicher County, but who found himself paired against incumbent Republican Randy Neugebauer of Lubbock. Neugebauer won handily as did incumbent Republican congressman Pete Sessions who

unseated incumbent Democrat Martin Frost after the two were placed in the same congressional district.

Locally, Schleicher County will be represented in Congress by Republican Mike Conaway who coasted to an easy win over Democrat Wayne Raasch by a 76 to 21 percent margin in the newly created 11th congressional district.

Other local races were officially decided in Tuesdays election. Raymond

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Texas deer season is here!

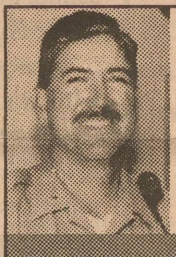
In case you didn't know the general whitetail deer season begins November 6. I'm sure that seeing an increase in trailers and four wheelers going down the road might have tipped some of you off. All is good in Schleicher County. Deer numbers are up according to the latest census from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Division biologists. Timely rains that have been spread out have lead to excellent range conditions going into the fall. Antler development along with higher body weights should be above average. Of course all this good news also means that hunting conditions will be more challenging. Deer will not have to travel very far in order to find food and probably won't be enticed to corn feeders as easily.

Even though dove season might be over don't put up that shotgun just yet. Quail season is underway, having started on October 30th. I have seen more quail this year than I have seen in

all of the previous three years of patrol. This should also be a very good year for this tasty bird.

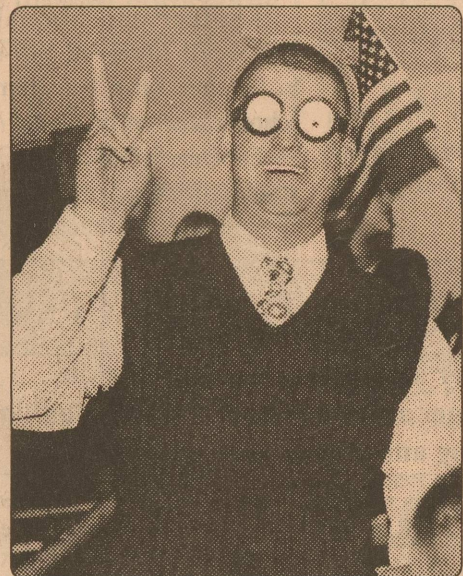
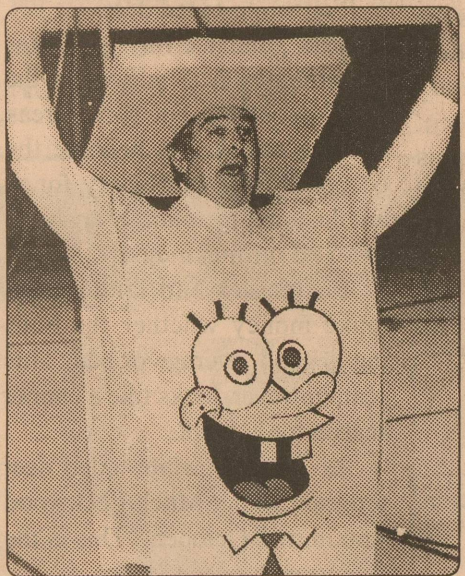
November 1st also marked the opening of the commercial furbearing season. Calling furbearers should also prove to be more challenging as the extra lush vegetation makes it harder to spot the varmints.

Overall it looks to be a very good hunting season. Don't forget that to be successful this year you might have to work a little harder but that will only increase the enjoyment factor and after all isn't that what it's all about. After you have everything packed and ready to go don't forget that hunting license. If anyone has any questions please ask, It's better to know BEFORE you go. Also remember that even the weather can't ruin a hunting trip faster than an avoidable accident. Let's not forget to follow good gun and knife safety. Good Luck! See you out in the field.



### Game Warden Update

by Marco Alvizo



PHOTOS BY KATHY MANKIN

Eldorado Elementary students got in the act Tuesday as they cast their ballots for two of their favorite cartoon characters. The candidates, Spongebob Squarepants, portrayed by Jim Runge, and Arthur the Aardvark, portrayed by Leonard Wideman, made a series of campaign promises to the youngsters during an old-fashioned campaign rally in the Elementary gymnasium. Preliminary returns indicate that Spongebob was the winner by 78-53, but Arthur has yet to concede the race, leaving open the possibility of a recount, and/or a series of court battles.



Jeanne Snelson won the Schleicher County Tax Assessor/Collector race in Tuesday's election by 792 to 490 over Leanne Higgins.

PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

## Nikolauk named to NACCU board

Bill Nikolauk, President of 1st Community Federal Credit Union, based in San Angelo, with offices in Eldorado, Ballinger and Fort Stockton, was elected recently to the National Association of Community Credit Unions Board of Directors.

Nikolauk, who was elected in October for a one-year term, says he is looking forward to his association with credit union personnel from some of the largest, most progressive credit unions in the country. His new position will also allow him to explore new opportunities for additional products and services to provide to the members of 1st Community FCU.

1st Community Federal Credit Union was one of the first community chartered credit unions in the nation.

The NACCU supports community credit unions throughout the nation. Community credit unions are the fastest growing sector of the credit union industry. The Board and members of NACCU work together to advance the Credit Union philosophy throughout the world — the cooperative effort of



Bill Nikolauk, President 1st Community Federal Credit Union

"People Helping People."

Bill Nikolauk is an Eldorado native, having graduated from Eldorado High School in 1977 and Angelo State University in 1984. He became president of 1st Community Federal Credit Union in 1997. He is the son of Mayor and Mrs. John Nikolauk of Eldorado.

## Game Dinner slated Saturday at Civic Center

The Eldorado Game Association will be hosting their eighteenth annual Game Dinner on Saturday, November 6, with festivities slated to begin at 11:00 a.m. in the New Schleicher County Civic Center.

In addition to plenty of great food, the Game Dinner will feature numerous prizes that will be raffled away, including a grand prize Raptor 4-Wheeler. As is the custom, at least 50 guns will be raffled along with a wide array of other prizes including a deer blind. Raffle tickets are only \$1 each and County Judge Johnny Griffin will emcee the prize drawing.

This year's meal will consist of barbecue brisket and deer chili with meal tickets costing a mere \$5.00 per plate.

The Eldorado Game Association is a non-profit organization established in 1986 to promote hunting and wildlife conservation. It also provides a better understanding and awareness of proper wildlife management to the landowners and hunters within Schleicher County. Each year the association sponsors the Big Buck Contest.

The Eldorado Game Association derives its revenues from the sale of meal tickets and raffle tickets as well as business and individual donations to the annual game dinner. The funds are used to purchase door prizes and food for the annual dinner. Surplus funds are donated to other organizations within the community such as the Boy Scouts, Eldorado-Divide Soil And

Water Conservation District, Masonic Youth Hunt and the local Emergency Service Explorers. The Big Buck Contest is sponsored by the association to promote proper wildlife harvesting techniques.

Membership is \$30.00 a year and comes with a game association hat. Hats can be picked up at the game dinner or any monthly meeting which are held every second Tuesday of the month.

We hope to make this the biggest game dinner to date. If you would like to become a member, purchase tickets or make a donation please call 325-650-9559 or mail inquires or donations to Eldorado Game Association, PO Box 553, Eldorado, TX 76936.

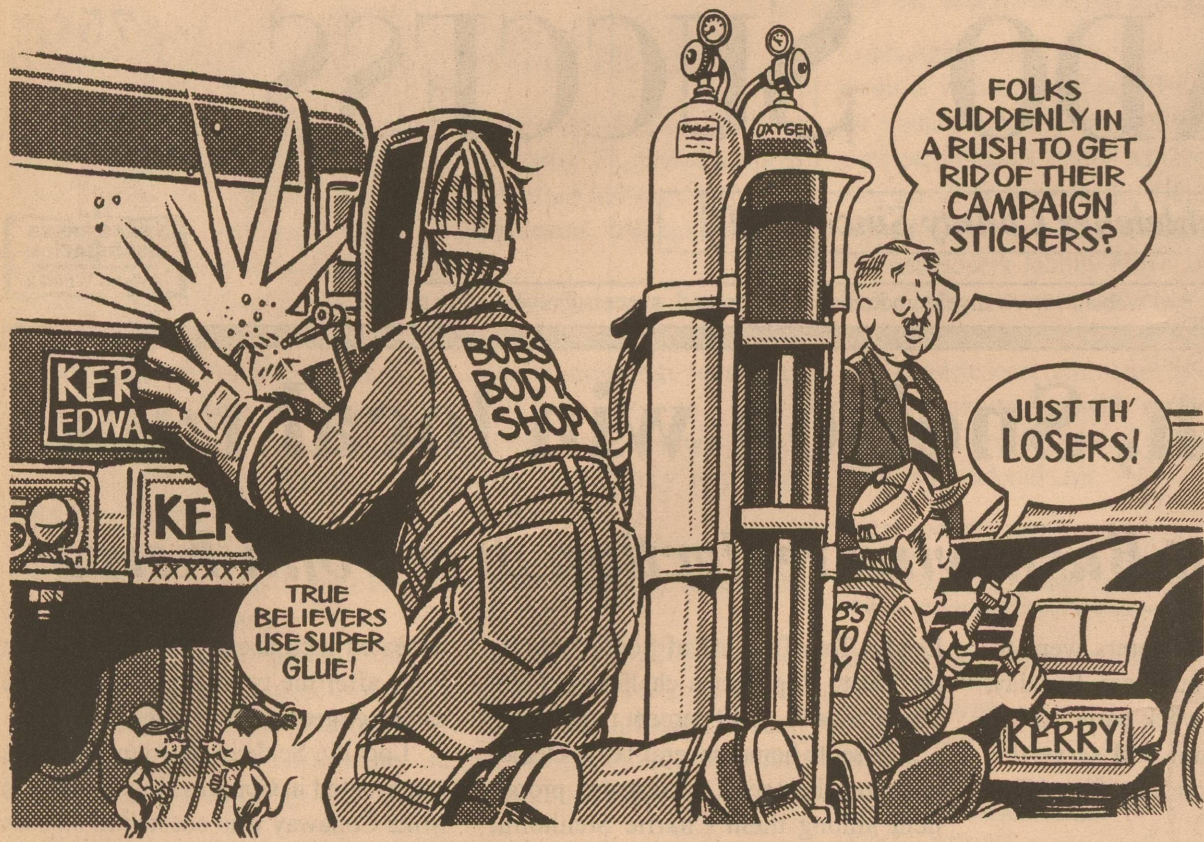
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## Jerry Traylor runs marathons on crutches

I met a remarkable man this past week. His name is Jerry Traylor and he lives in Arizona. He is a professional speaker who spends a lot of time in Texas talking to school kids, prisoners, athletes and community leaders.



by Tumbleweed Smith

I heard him on two different occasions and both speeches were completely different. After his remarks to some federal prisoners, nearly every inmate in the audience stood in line to shake his hand. At a luncheon speech, he got a standing ovation.

"I got into the speaking business by accident in the late seventies," says Jerry. "It seems I was doing some things that astounded people and they wanted me to tell them about it. So I did. I never intended to be a speaker."

Jerry was born with cerebral palsy. As a child he had a severe speech impediment. "My mother kept telling me to speak clearly. I worked at it." Growing up, he had to do chores right along with the other kids.

Jerry had fourteen operations by the time he was fourteen years old. As a six year old he was in the hospital eleven months and missed a full year of school. He was a C student in high school, and never felt he had to try because people would cater to him. He

entered college and became a social butterfly and dropped out. He eventually went back and got his business degree in 2000 at the age of 46.

When Jerry was 24 he ran his first three mile race in 36 minutes and forty one seconds. A few months later he decided to do a marathon. That took seven hours and seventeen minutes. He started jogging in marathons as a hobby and kept improving until he could do 26 miles in just over 5 hours.

He walked up an old mining trail, sometimes blocked by boulders, that goes straight up Pikes Peak. His ascent from 6,000 feet to 14,000 feet took six hours and thirty-six minutes. He did it twice more, improving his time each trip.

Jerry says the most important thing in making a speech is to know your audience and to show genuine concern for your audience. "It's like giving a pat on the back to the people sitting in

front of you."

He tells his audiences to learn to do incredible things even in your imperfection. I asked him to tell about some of the outstanding things he has accomplished. He replied, "I once ate a dozen burritos at one sitting." Jerry is a funny man. "I have several parks named after me," he says. "But they spell my name wrong. They spell it trailer."

He has run in 35 marathons, danced in 16 dance marathons and jogged across America. All on crutches. Already established in his speaking career, he spent seven and a half months walking across the country.

From the Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco to the Brooklyn Bridge in New York City. Thirty five hundred miles. From the Pacific to the Atlantic. He covered 18 miles a day, making a mile in nine and a half minutes. "Most walking paces are about fifteen to twenty minutes a mile. So I generally think I ran across America." He made 250 speeches along the way.

I asked him if he considered his walk across America his most spectacular accomplishment. He said, "What I do everyday is more spectacular because I'm changing lives."

## Veterans Day is a day to remember sacrifices

From the brave last stand at the Alamo in 1836, to rugged Monte Casino during World War II, to the desert sands of Iraq, Texans have earned a reputation for not backing down in the fight for freedom even when it may cost them their lives. It is to honor these brave soldiers that we celebrate Veteran's Day, and take time to remember so much given on our behalf.

Texas has our nation's third-largest veteran community, according to the 2000 census. Over 1.7 million of our 26.5 million veterans live in the Lone Star state. Texas is also home to a large number of defense facilities, with over 114,000 military personnel stationed in our bases. Texans serve around the globe, on land, sea and air, defending this nation and all who value freedom. As we pay our respects this Veteran's Day, I hope we will also pause to show them our gratitude as well.

I try to express my thanks to our veterans by doing my part in Congress, where I serve on the Veterans Affairs Committee. There I have worked with my colleagues to ensure we provide our veterans the best possible resources and care. In recent years, we've passed a range of legislation that addressed the needs of our veteran community: the Veterans' Opportunities Act, which created new life insurance and health care benefits for up to two million eligible spouses and children of veterans; the Homeless Veterans



### CAPITOL COMMENTS

by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

Comprehensive Assistance Act that authorized \$1 billion to aid homeless veterans and prevent others from becoming homeless; and the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act, which authorized more than \$3.1 billion over five years to expand and increase educational, housing, burial and disability benefits.

Earlier we introduced legislation to assist Medicare-eligible veterans struggling with the costs of prescription medications. And, we have continued to pass strong Defense and Military Construction appropriations bills to ensure our troops are fully equipped to face the enemy.

Fighting in distant lands can be lonely and trying for troops who miss home. Yet every day we see more evidence of a "can do" spirit and Texas ingenuity to help bridge the gap between our troops and their loved ones. Eighteen-year-old Victor Roger's dad proudly saw him graduate from high school in Belton even though his father is serving in Baghdad. Several enterprising high schools in the Fort Hood vicinity hooked up a video system to allow proud

parents and their children see each other on graduation day. If anyone wants to talk about family values, they should look at our men and women in uniform.

And speaking of values, it is good to know that the courage that burned in the soldiers of the Alamo still shines brightly. Sgt. Pamela Osbourne used to call her husband Rohan almost every day from her supply depot in Baghdad. Her last conversation with her husband is poignant. "Hold your head up, baby," she said. "I'm coming home. Even if I come home in a box, you should know that I did it for you. Take care of the kids. Stay strong. And remember that I love you."

Unfortunately, she and a fellow soldier were killed the next day in a mortar attack. Sgt. Osbourne joined the ranks of those veterans who have died so we may remain free. An immigrant who came to our country at age 14, she had two goals; to become a citizen and to serve in the Army. In fulfilling her dream, she made that ultimate sacrifice.

Her devotion to her adopted country reflects the fierce loyalty which makes America the greatest nation on earth. This Veterans Day, Americans pay tribute to those extraordinary men and women who in every war have unflinchingly answered the call to duty. Their memories will remain part of the fabric of our nation forever. To our veterans and their families: Thank you and God bless you.

## Legislature eyes accountability in school finance

AUSTIN — Unless it had to do with the election, Austin was pretty quiet last week.

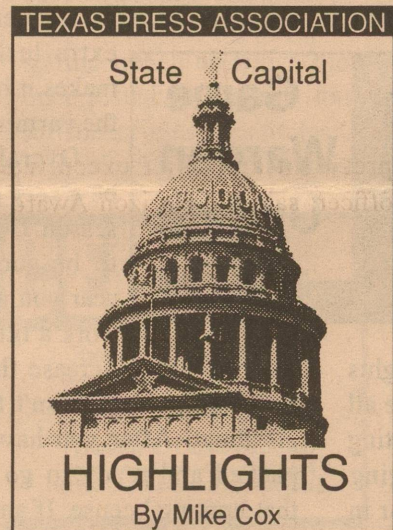
The business of state government went on, of course, but to say that most elected officials had a singular focus would be an understatement.

House Speaker Tom Craddick, addressing the Permian Basin Petroleum Association in Midland, did make it plain that the next session of the Legislature (assuming the governor does not call a special session, which seems unlikely this close to January) would be interested in more than the funding side of public education in Texas.

"I don't believe the only way to fix education is to throw money at it," he told the oil folks. "I believe we need some reforms in the system."

Indeed, one buzz word when it comes to education seems to be "accountability."

Craddick said work on a plan that would include more accountability measures is nearly complete.



called a guidance letter on what school districts should do if a class exceeds 22 students.

That's clearly a touchy issue with teachers. Not long after the letter went out, the Texas Classroom Teachers' Association and other groups complained that how class size waivers are handled should be settled through TEA's regular rulemaking process.

In response to that, Neeley rescinded her letter late last week.

### Armed men fan out in Texas...

Saturday is opening day of deer season across most of Texas.

The numbers reported by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are impressive: Some 500,000 hunters (and many of those on opening day) will be aiming for a shot at some of Texas' 4 million white-tailed deer.

This annual effort generates an estimated \$2.5 billion for the Texas economy. For some areas, hunting season has become the economy. In Llano County, for example, hunting annually amounts to a \$3.5 million industry.

Businesses and landowners make money whether the hunting is good, average or bad. This year, however, looks like a banner season for hunters.

As TPWD's white-tailed deer program leader Mitch Lockwood said in mid-October, "This is the best year I've seen."

Many ranchers, he said, "are saying range conditions are the best in 20 years."

### Main Street cities announced...

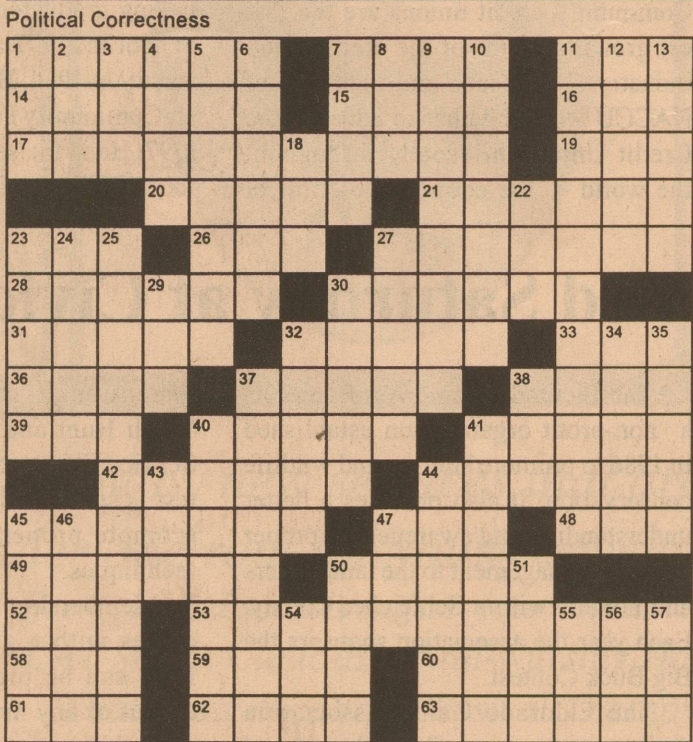
La Porte, Livingston, San Angelo and Sinton have been selected by the Texas Historical Commission as 2005 Main Street Cities.

Those four cities join more than 80 other communities designated as Main Street Cities included in THC's historic downtown revitalization program. When a city gains Main Street status, it qualifies for state help in developing strategies to use historic preservation as an economic stimulus.

For more information on the program, check the agency's Web site at www.thc.state.tx.us.

## Weekly Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS
1. Former Turkish bigwigs
7. Put together
11. Links org.
14. Type of skiing
15. Hertz rival
16. Moon or sun, poetically
17. Application for a bone break
19. Produce hen fruit
20. Slaw, fries, etc.
21. Deals from the bottom, say
23. Bit of toy ammo
26. Ruby or emerald, e.g.
27. High (Western peaks)
28. Twist or North
30. Tank (waste disposal system)
31. Wisconsin college
32. Oil-bearing rock
33. Rural stopover
36. Fifty-fifty
37. Ill will
38. Rock's Cream was one
39. Mistletoe mo.
40. Dictation pro



American Profile Hometown Content See solution on Page 6

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

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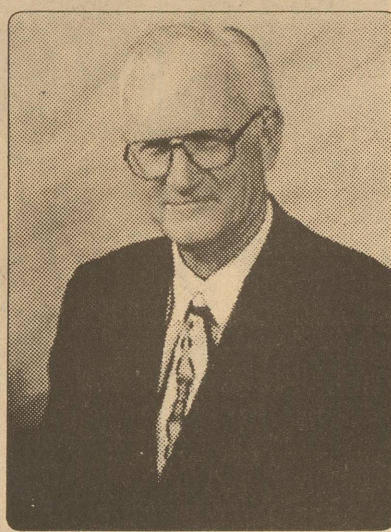
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## Novemberfest Renewal planned at Community Baptist

Community Baptist Church of Eldorado will begin a four day revival, called Novemberfest Renewal, on Sunday morning, November 7, 2004 and continuing through Wednesday, Nov. 10th.

The Reverend Pat Bullock of Wichita, Kansas will be the guest speaker and lead in worship during the renewal services. Rev. Bullock, is a native Texan, but is currently on loan to the Heart of Kansas Southern Baptist Association where he serves as the associational missionary and where he is known as a friend to pastors and churches alike.

Rev. Bullock is a graduate of Texas A&M University and the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He pastored churches for 32 years, serving in Big Spring, Amarillo, Houston and Corpus



COURTESY PHOTO  
Rev. Pat Bullock

Christi, before being called into the associational ministry in Kansas.

Rev. Bullock served Texas Baptists for many years in the Baptist General Convention of

Texas and the Southern Baptist Convention. He is currently a trustee on the board of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth. Despite his recent absence from the pulpit in the role of pastor, Rev. Bullock has a heart for preaching the word and describes himself as a simple Bible-believing preacher.

Other than serving as the associational missionary in Wichita, Kansas where Rev. Bob Jacobsen pastored a church before moving to Eldorado, another of Rev. Bullock's claims to fame is that Christian Comedian Mark Lowry was a student of his during his time as a principal of a Corpus Christi school. He will almost certainly share a few stories about Lowry, and maybe even tell a few on Rev. Jacobsen, as he leads the worship

services. Joining Rev. Bullock for the four-day event will be Rev. Bobby Roger, who will lead the song service. Rev. Roger is pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in San Angelo.

Novemberfest Renewal will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 7 and will continue Sunday evening through Wednesday evening with services beginning at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited and a nursery will be provided.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Sienna Riley Chestnut

### It's a girl!

Kelly and Angela Chestnut would like to announce the birth of their first child, Sienna Riley Chestnut. Sienna arrived on September 3, 2004 at 3:53 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 10.6 ounces, and was 20 1/4 inches long. The proud grandparents include Bertha Rebeck & Paul Rebeck of Eldorado Texas, Roger & Grace Gomez of Quinton Virginia, and Dale & Sandi Chestnut of Newport News Virginia. Her aunt's and uncle's include Liz & Rudy Bautista, Jr. of San Angelo Texas, and Trudy & Kevin Mock of Sarasota Florida. She is also welcomed by her cousins K.C. & Emory Bautista, of San Angelo Texas, Kenny Bautista, currently attending UTEP in El Paso Texas, and by Ryder Mock of Sarasota Florida.

## AEP recognizes employees with Safety Award

AEP Texas, a unit of American Electric Power recognized area employees from Eldorado, Eden, Junction, Menard and Sonora with the company's Horizon Award for achieving safety excellence.

Area employees who received the award are: Gus Hinojosa of Eldorado, Jimmy Sims and Bobby Zuniga of Sonora, Steve Terrell, Johnny Brown, Paul Peterson and Georgia Stansbury all of Menard, Zane Blackwell of Eden and Kenny Smart of Junction. Each employee received a commemorative gift in appreciation of his or her safety accomplishment.

The Horizon Award was created to recognize leadership commitment and excellence in improving and promoting safety. It is the highest award that can be attained by AEP work locations throughout the company's 11-state territory.

One of the most important criteria in determining the winner is outstanding safety performance and accident-free operation. This involves all recordable incidents, not just lost time accidents. In addition, this performance has to be exemplary by industry-wide standards, not just by comparison with other AEP operations. Ballinger area employees are part of the Corpus Christi Distribution Region, which won the overall Horizon Award designation.

The region, which includes Corpus Christi, Victoria, Laredo, the Rio Grande Valley, Abilene and San Angelo districts, has reduced the number of personal injury cases by 50 percent in the past two years and by 85 percent over the last six years.

Gary Prazen, a nationally ac-



COURTESY PHOTO

AEP Texas employees who received the company's Horizon Award for safety excellence include (Front L-R) Steve Terrell and Jimmy Sims (Back L-R) Johnny Brown, Zane Blackwell, Gus Hinojosa, Bobby Zuniga, Kenny Smart and Paul Peterson.

claimed sculptor from Utah, created the bronze sculpture for AEP. Michael Morris, AEP chairman, president and chief executive officer, said the Horizon Award sculpture itself "has us looking toward the future and the day when we have zero incidents."

Mark Baker, manager of distribution systems for the San Angelo District, said, "I'm extremely proud of all our employees. Our business of providing electric power to customers is a dangerous one, which is why working safely is so critically important. It's also quite an honor to be selected as the safest regional work unit in all of AEP."

AEP Texas delivers electricity to 901,000 homes, business and industries in south and west Texas. AEP Texas provides regulated energy delivery service to customers, regardless of which Retail Electric Provider they choose. The

region headquarters is in Corpus Christi.

American Electric Power owns more than 36,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the United States and is the nation's largest electricity generator. AEP is also one of the largest electric utilities in the United State, with more than 5 million customers linked to AEP's 11-state electricity transmission and distribution grid. The company is based in Columbus, Ohio.

### Meals for Friends Menu



**Monday, November 8**

Meatballs & Spaghetti w/ Tomato, Seasoned Spinach, French Bread, Toss Salad, Banana w/ Pudding, Milk

**Tuesday, November 9**

Roast Pork, French Cut Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Stewed Prunes, Milk

**Wednesday, November 10**

Turkey Tetrazzini, Broccoli, Toss Salad, Dinner Roll, Raspberry Pears, Milk

**Thursday, November 11**

Pork Chop w/ Gravy, Mashed Potato, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Coleslaw, Fruit Cocktail, Milk

**Friday, November 12**

BBQ Chicken Breast, Pinto Beans, Mustard Greens, Corn Bread, Sliced Tomato, Canned Peaches, Milk

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## Nominations due now for Historical Commission awards

AUSTIN, Texas — Now is the time to submit nominations for the Texas Historical Commission (THC) awards presented at the Annual Historic Preservation Conference April 14-16, in Austin. Nominations close on Friday, Dec. 10 at 5 p.m.

The THC awards recognize leadership and accomplishments in historic preservation, and there are a number of areas for acknowledgment. The John L. Nau, III Award of Excellence in Museums recognizes significant individual contributions and offers a \$1,000 stipend to the honoree's museum.

The Anice B. Read Award of Excellence in Community Heritage Development rewards exceptional work in downtown revitalization, preservation planning or heritage tourism.

The Award of Excellence in Historic Architecture distinguishes an architect or architectural firm for exemplary work contributing to the preservation of Texas' architectural heritage. Additional

awards include the George Christian Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award, the John Ben Shepherd County Historical Commission Leadership Award, the Ruth Lester Lifetime Achievement Award and the Curtis D. Tunnell Lifetime Achievement Award in Archeology. The Texas Historical Commission Award of Excellence in Media Achievement promotes excellence in print or electronic media on preservation and/or heritage tourism issues, increasing awareness of the states' prehistoric and historic resources.

The Governor's Award for Historic Preservation, is the most prestigious award presented by the THC. The award recognizes an individual's or organization's highest achievement in preserving Texas' heritage and is presented in a special ceremony arranged with the governor's office.

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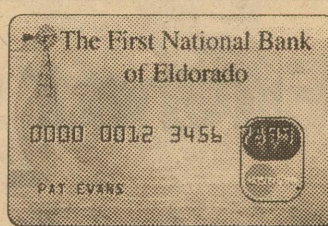
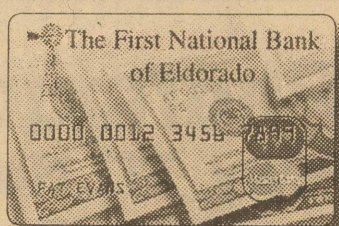
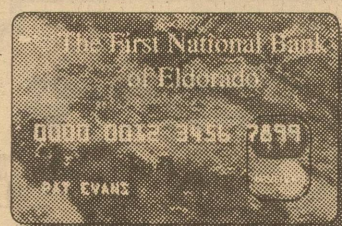
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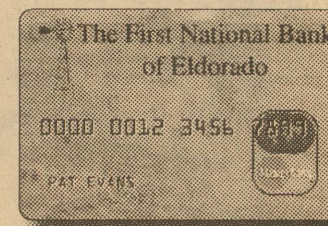
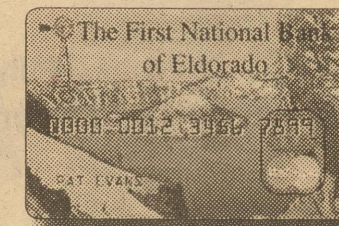
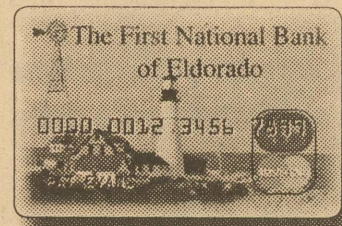
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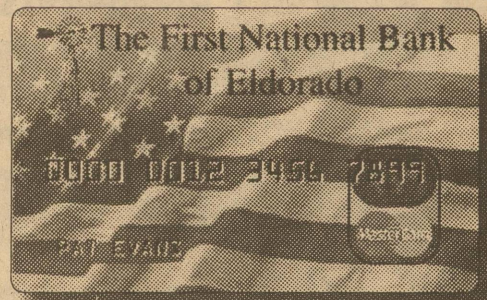
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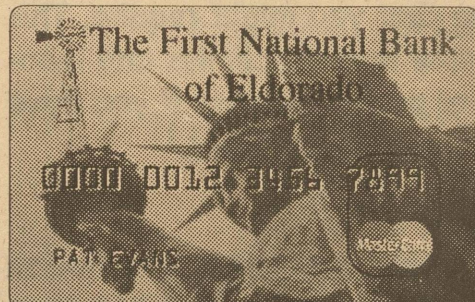
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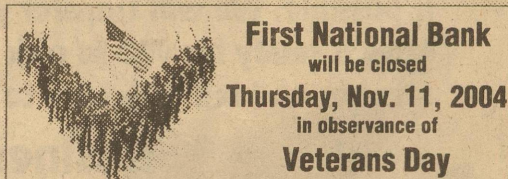
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 Saturday 9:00 AM-1:00 PM  
 CLOSED SUNDAYS

## Eagles fall 59-14 to Mason as Punchers clinch District title

A week after falling 36-0 to Ozona, the Eldorado Eagles found themselves taking the field in Mason last Friday facing their strongest challenge of the year.

The Mason Punchers, who would clinch the District 2-2A title before the evening was over, wasted no time jumping all over the Eagles, posting a 32-0 lead in the opening quarter. By the final buzzer Mason had amassed 468 yards rushing on the way to a 59-14 win. Mason passed the ball only four times for another 39 yards.

Offensively the Eagles managed only 73 yards rushing. Ryan Cathey counted for the Eagles only rushing touchdown when

he sprinted in from 5 yards out with 6:06 left to play in the third quarter. A two-point conversion attempt failed.

The Warbirds had a little better luck through the air, notching up 139 yards and another TD when Ryan Cathey connected with Terrell Boysaw for 64-yard pass and run. Frank Edmiston ran in the 2-point conversion to round out the Eagles scoring.

The Eagles must now set their sights on the Wall Hawks who come to town tomorrow night. Eldorado faithful are encouraged to come out and support the Eagles in their final game of the 2004 season. Kick off is slated for 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN  
 Frank Edmiston soared high in the air last Friday night to deflect a pass away from a would be Mason receiver in the Eagles final road game of the season. Mason won the game 59-14 to clinch the District 2-2A title.

## EMS Eagles win one, lose one

The Eldorado Middle School football teams left Mason with a win and a tie after playing a double-header there last Thursday.

In the eighth grade contest, the Eagles, now 7-1, scored three touchdowns en route to an 18-6 victory over the Punchers.

"I have been real impressed with the way we have played the last few weeks," Eldorado coach Doran Schoenhals said. "They've been playing well all four quarters and that's what has helped us win."

Gabriel Gomez and Dustin Ramirez each rushed for a touchdown and Austin Grubbs connected with Rance Cathey for a 28-yard TD pass on fourth-and-18 for the Eagles' scoring in the contest.

The two seventh-grade teams battled to a 8-8 tie. Eldorado is now 7-0-1 on the season.

Mason scored early on a 74-yard run, and Eldorado later tied the game in the third quarter. David Tirado raced 45 yards for a touchdown and Ivany Sanchez ran

## Cross Country season ends

"Cross Country-no time-outs, no water breaks, no substitutions, a true sport," stated High School Cross Country Coach Edie Niblett as she reflected on a T-shirt she had seen at District Cross County. The District meet was held Monday, October 25 at the State Park in San Angelo.

Coach Niblett explained, "These kids have worked extremely hard this year and Coach Kittie Gibson and I are very proud of all of them. We appreciate Eric being such a leader all year and setting such a high standard for our future cross country teams."

The weather turned overcast and cool with air heavy with moisture, which made the rough course slippery in places. Varsity and JV girls, along with Middle School runners compete on a 2 mile course and varsity boys runners go an extra mile to finish their competition.

Senior Eric Garcia, placed 6th at District and will run at Regionals, Saturday, Nov. 6th at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock at 9:30 a.m. This will be Garcia's last attempt in his high school career to make it to state.

District results are: Varsity Boys: Eric Garcia-6th, Jeremy Ussery-13th, David Ramirez-23rd, Russell, Cathey-36th, Sammy Estrada-39th, Louie Buitron-45th, Drew Bosmans-47th;

Varsity Girls: Alicia Corrales-24th, Allison Reynolds-29th, Chandra Wanoreck-35th, Deysi

Rios-39th, Katey Blair-45th, Josie Diaz-53rd, Desiree Valeriano-55th;

J.V. Boys- Jorge Mata-6th, Lalo Sanchez-9th;

J.V. Girls: Tiffany Hernandez-28th, Maxie Holley-42nd, Chelsey Hill-43rd, Karina Sanchez-48th, Chelsi Sellers-49th, Britney Sellers-50th, Taylor Baker-52nd, Leslie Cruz-53rd, Kassi Tyler-55th, Joy Martinez-56th;

Middle School District Results are: 7th Grade Girls: Maureen Martinez-12th;

7th Grade Boys-Mason Baker-8th, Hunter Alvizo-10th;

8th Grade Girls: Cassandra Buitron-20th, Veronica Belman-35th, Haley Higgins-39th, Bridgett Mitchell-44th, Marcela Huerta-46th, Corie Williams-48th;

8th Grade Boys: Jesus Vasquez-9th, Rance Cathey-14th, Johnathon Belman-16th, Marc Garcia-18th, Dustin Ramirez-22nd, Chris Minor-23rd, Landy Alfaro-27th.

## Eagles JV wins over Mason

Eldorado's junior varsity football team overcame a 13-point deficit and scored 24 unanswered points to claim a 32-21 win over the Mason Punchers last Thursday.

The junior varsity is now 7-1 on the season.

"The kids played great for two and a half quarters," Eagles coach Don Richters said. "I was a little worried at first that they didn't show up to play. They showed a lot of character. They could have just thrown up their hands and quit, but they kept fighting."

Mason jumped out to a 13-0

lead in the opening stanza Thursday night before Eldorado scored its first touchdown at the 4:42 mark in the second quarter when quarterback David Hernandez crossed the goal line from 1 yard out. Hernandez then ran in the conversion to pull the Eagles within five points.

The Punchers scored with 1:49 left in the second period to go up 21-8, but Russell Cathey broke loose on a 59-yard scamper 22 seconds later.

Hernandez ran in the conversion as Eldorado pulled within 21-16 before the half.

Hernandez added another touchdown run of 25 yards at the 2:53 mark in the third period. He ran in his third PAT to give the Eagles their first lead of the game at 24-21.

Cathey iced the win as he scored on a 15-yard TD run with 8:41 remaining in the contest. Cathey also ran in the two-point conversion.

Eldorado will close its season tonight with a road game against Wall. The Eagles will win district outright with a victory. Kickoff is slated for 6:30.

## School Lunch Menu



**Milk & Bread Offered**  
**Menus Subject To Change**  
 ½ pt. Milk & 4 oz.  
 Juice offered w/each  
**BREAKFAST MENU**

**Monday, November 8**  
 YEAH!! No School!

**Tuesday, November 9**  
 Blueberry Muffins, Cereal, Apple Sauce, Milk

**Wednesday, November 10**  
 Oatmeal, Buttered Toast, Jelly, Mixed Fruit, Milk

**Thursday, November 11**  
 Sausage, Egg, Tortillas, Applesauce, Choice of Juice, Milk

**Friday, November 12**  
 Glazed Donuts, Cheese slices, Choice of Juice, Pear halves, Milk

**BASKET LINE**  
**Monday, November 8**  
 YEAH!! No School!

**Tuesday, November 9**  
 Sausage Wrap, French Fries, Pork-n-Beans, Lemon Pudding Topping

**Wednesday, November 10**  
 Crisptos, Cheese sauce, Carrot Sticks, Dip, Tossed Salad, Jello Topping

**Thursday, November 11**  
 Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Spicy Fries, Broccoli, Sweet Potato Pie

**Friday, November 12**  
 Cheese Pizza, Dip, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad, Ice Cream

**CAFETERIA LINE**  
**Monday, November 8**  
 YEAH!! No School!

**Tuesday, November 9**  
 Corn Dogs, Tator Tots, Pork-Beans, Lemon Pudding, Topping

**Wednesday, November 10**  
 Burritos, Mexican Corn, Tossed Salad, Jello Topping

**Thursday, November 11**  
 Turkey and Dressing, Gravy, Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Hot Rolls, Sweet Potato Pie

**Friday, November 12**  
 Pizza, Dip, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad, Ice Cream

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## Abundant rainfall is a mixed blessing for hunters

Some have said this year has seen the best range grass production ever in the western Plateau – for sure the best grass production in the last 50 years – and that comes from some of our native landowners who've been here for a very long time. Although rains have fallen quite generally over Schleicher County for the most part this year, there have been parts of the county that were bypassed and experienced dry spells. Generally, non-farming range conditions are truly the best they've ever been with some areas experiencing well over average rainfall levels reaching past 30" in parts of the county.

The sorts of range conditions we've experienced this year can mean several different things for our wildlife species – some good, some not so good, some definitely confounding. Rio Grande turkeys seemed to have gotten off to a good, early start this year with strutting and gobbling activity hitting a peak in mid March and again in mid May. (Reported results were not very good for those trying to call up wily spring gobblers.) Early hatches of poults were expected, but evidently the March and April showers that were received must have set production back somewhat to cause the mid May gobbling activity and subsequent normal brood rearing in June and July. Therefore, poult production for this year is not at an all time high, but neither did it turn out too shabby.

Production does not surpass the all-time highs of 1997 and 2001, but for 2004 the overall Edwards Plateau survey results showed 4.95 poults per broody hen (5.18 poults/broody hen in 1997 and 6.11 poults/broody hen in 2001) with 27% of this year's hens in the population having poults (71% in 1997 and 51% in 2001). Gobbler numbers are still on the rise with survey observations this year that show the population with 0.65 gobblers per hen over last year's observations of 0.50 gobs per hen.

All in all, Schleicher County ranks among the top turkey producing counties in the Plateau and maintains populations at densities of approximately 30-40 turkeys per 1,000 acres.

As for our other two popular game bird species, dove and quail – dove are a disappointment this year in most areas and quail are a great satisfaction. For the most part young dove production and feed production has been adequate this year for a viable crop of huntable birds. Those hunters utilizing agricultural grain fields had somewhat better results in bringing down doves as opposed to those hunting the 'good ole boy' way around stock tanks. Most likely cooler weather conditions and widespread rainfall (resulting in lots of residual rain puddles)

hampered most hunting outings. Nationwide status surveys on mourning doves maintain that dove populations are decreasing in their numbers.

Call count survey estimates during summer surveys reveal a trend that has shown a 15% decline in mourning doves during the last couple of decades. On the other hand, whitewing dove numbers continue to increase in Texas, particularly in urban areas, and the western plateau is no exception. Caution should be exerted when dove hunting as whitewings are currently moving into more rural locations than previously observed.

In order to get a better understanding of mourning dove ecology, biologists in Texas and 27 other states are participating in a substantial bird banding study that will update information about the species. Doves will be marked with metal leg bands containing a unique number and a toll free telephone number (800-327-BAND or 2263) which hunters can call to report the band. Bands may be reported on the Internet at (<http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl>). Hunters may keep the bands. It takes only a minute to report the band, doesn't cost anything, and hunters receive a certificate of appreciation that identifies when and where the dove was banded.

Quail on the other hand should be in good shape this year no matter which species you prefer. Because the western plateau area is a transition zone where scaled quail begin and flourish to the west and bobwhite quail begin and flourish to the east, population densities fluctuate wildly and are a true indicator of range conditions.

Long-time area residents have commented as to this area having had large numbers of birds before the 50's, but ever since those fateful, perilous, drought-ridden days their numbers have just 'never been the same'. With the super grass production experienced this year that brings on huge bug and seed production, coveys of both species have abounded. Their explosion may be short-lived and is definitely going to depend on how long the cover holds out, but this is the sort of head-start they need to reach proportions of the olden days.

As for white-tailed deer – there are several issues to debate on them – no political pun intended. Huge rainfall amounts this year in most parts of the county, spaced adequately throughout the summer, have created a sanctuary of amazing grass production, tre-

mendous growth of cover, and multitudes of bugs to boot. Most areas should experience really good antler development – especially those areas with older-age class deer.

A word of caution – it was observed during last hunting season that there were several good quality young bucks brought in as part of the harvest. These were mostly heavy-mass, 8-10 pointers that would have scored somewhere between 120 and 135 Boone and Crockett – and they were all 2.5 years of age. Caution should be practiced this year before harvest is initiated in studying the buck in the scope for signs of age. Just beware that conditions have been good enough again this year to make even the young bucks look old and ready for harvest.

It has been noted throughout the summer that deer have maintained frequent utilization of deer feeders. This occurrence is most likely due to the fact that there has been so much grass production this year. Usually the spring forb or weed communities produced in this area carry the deer populations through to early/mid summer and then fade out. This year there was adequate forb production early on but then the grass communities abounded and choked out the weed communities. That's not to say that grass production is a bad thing – it's been a long time since this area has experienced this sort of production and it has been sorely needed. It's just that grasses, while desperately needed for livestock use, range cover, and young-of-the-year protection, they do not make the best deer food.

High grass production will most likely be the reason localized deer populations kept utilizing deer feeders this summer. It would also be a reason why antler production might turn out to be less than expected in some areas this season.

Another area of deer debate this year is in fawn production. With the major double rut experienced last year there is most likely a widespread high fawn crop this year – however, TPWD population surveys indicate only 0.70 fawns per doe from this counting season. That is still an above-average figure and typical of the western plateau, but considering cover production and range conditions it could have been assumed that fawn production would have been greater this year. Since recruitment of young into the populations is what makes up future huntable numbers, their performance cannot be ignored. Several things affect their succession into the

adult segment, namely – range conditions (particularly feed and cover), predators, condition of mother, and disease.

Disease cannot be overlooked this year because with good rain and range conditions come flourishes of internal and external parasites as well as bacteriums and viruses. And those deer most affected are the young and those experiencing certain stresses such as fawn-rearing, rut, and post-rut syndromes. There have been numerous reports during the last few months of deer being found dead by water troughs or of deer that appeared normal and in good shape 2-3 months ago and are currently exhibiting poorer body conditions.

Normally in wet years more bugs are produced and normally those bugs are going to degrade certain animals themselves or they are going to carry certain diseases that ultimately are meant to reduce overpopulations of animals. Hemorrhagic disease, caused by either epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus or bluetongue virus, is by far the most important endemic infectious disease of white-tailed deer in the Southeastern US. It is transmitted by biting midges that are usually found in large numbers by late summer and early fall.

There are several other different viral diseases that deer can contract that either destroys the animal or reduces its immune system to the point that it develops other problems that kill it. Deer also are prone to brain abscesses caused by any number of bacteria usually infecting bucks and associated with antler development, shedding of velvet, and/or fighting.

Several other bacterial diseases such as leptospirosis, salmonellosis, and tularemia are just a few that may affect deer populations as

well as the possibility of liver flukes, lungworms, stomach worms, arterial worms, tapeworms and ticks whose numbers most certainly increase with the increase of wet weather conditions. Enterotoxemia most likely will also be a problem this year with bucks that are trying to forage through heavy grass production and build up fat reserves for the rut who then overeat on the abundant acorn crop and build up toxins in their systems that they cannot handle.

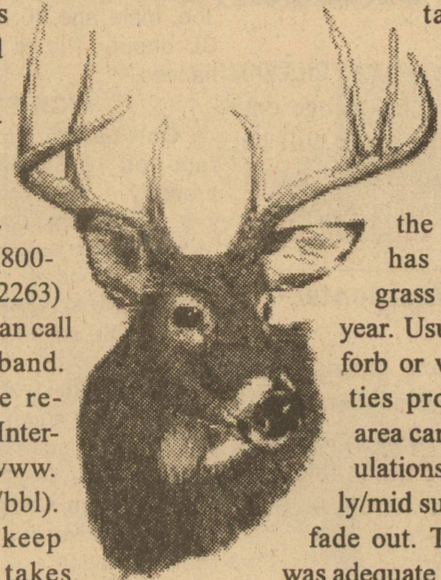
Anthrax in Schleicher County is most likely not a concern even though it has been found further south in a few counties. Even so, there were only a few diagnosed cases down south this year but the disease did not become a wildlife problem due to frequent rains in those areas where the cases were confirmed.

These are just a few problems that our native deer can experience, and Mother Nature's way of reducing overpopulations of animals while attempting to maintain a balance for the carrying capacity of the range. These observations are not meant to scare anyone away from hunting this year. These af-

fictions are common enough in our deer populations – they are just more noticeable during a wet year. It's always safe to say that if you're going to put meat on the table – take a healthy looking deer in your harvest.

Even with setbacks such as these in localized deer herds, there is not a shortage of deer in Schleicher County. Population surveys conducted in Schleicher County this year attest to a population of deer at 12.4 acres to the deer – up from 13.21 acres to the deer in 2003. The composition of the deer herd is at 2.91 does per buck with 0.70 fawns per doe. All in all, the wildlife in Schleicher County has had a tremendous year while experiencing some setbacks as well, but it adds up to what should be an interesting and exciting hunting season.

Should you need more information about our game species in Schleicher County or have concerns about your wildlife populations, please contact Game Biologist Mary Humphrey in Sonora at 325-387-5539. Above all, have a great hunting season – and while you're at it – take a kid hunting.





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## Eldorado Game Association Annual Game Dinner

WHEN: November 6<sup>th</sup>  
WHERE: Civic Center  
(1 mile south Eldorado, Hwy. 277)  
TIME: 11:00 AM  
BBQ/Chili \$5.00 a Plate




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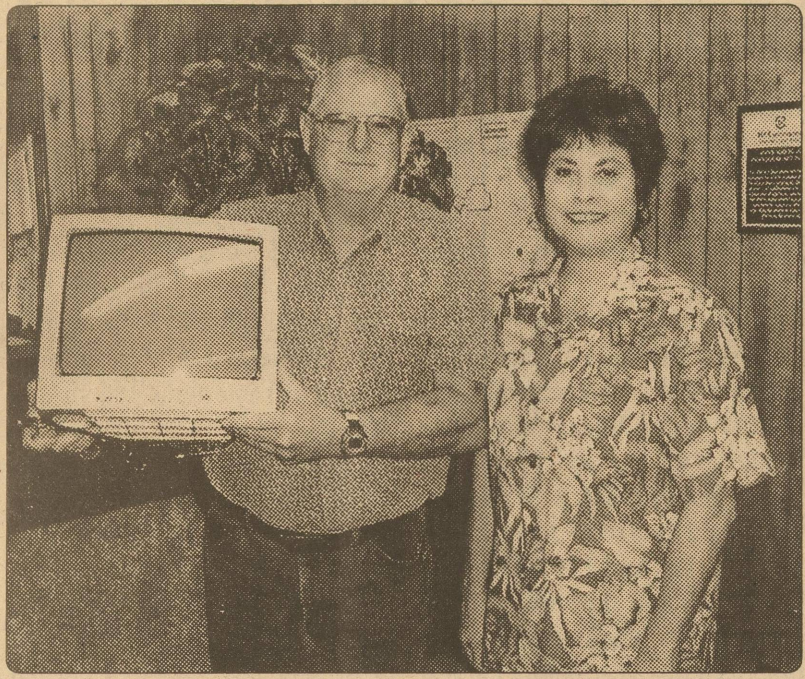
\* APR - Annual Percentage Rate \* Rates & Terms Based on Approved Credit

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COURTESY PHOTO  
The winner is! Robert Bybee is holding the Color TV he won October 21 at 1st Community Federal Credit Union annual Credit Union Day Celebration. Punch and cookies were served to members in the lobby where they could register for prizes. Presenting the grand prize was Branch Manager Dorothy Dacy.

**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**  
**October 29** • Banks, Dustin Clay Bert, male age 20, arresting officer SC deputy, offense No Drivers License, No Liability Insurance and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.  
**October 29** • Mendoza, Israel Estrada, male age 18, arresting officer DPS trooper, offense DWI 1st. Released on \$1,000.00 Surety Bond.  
**October 30** • Lozano, Charles Joe, male age 40, arresting officer SC deputy, Public Intoxication Enhanced.

**INCIDENTS**  
**October 25** • 5:00 p.m. Caller reported 12 Spanish bore on his property.  
• 7:57 p.m. Caller reported a reckless driver north bound Hwy 277. Officer responded.  
• 8:40 p.m. Caller requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.  
**October 26** • 9:35 a.m. Complainant requested a criminal trespass be served on a male subject. Officer responded.  
• 12:54 p.m. Complainant reported a reckless driver in a red pickup. Officer responded.  
• 6:16 p.m. Caller reported a gas leak. City was notified.  
• 6:25 p.m. Caller reported a fight. Officer responded.  
• 7:31 p.m. Caller reported a gas leak. Officer and City responded.  
**October 28** • 5:55 p.m. Complainant reported a fight in the middle of the road. Complainant advised that someone had broken up the fight and had taken off in a maroon pickup. Officer responded.  
**October 29** • 10:53 a.m. Hospital

requested an ambulance for a ACLS transfer. EMS 2 responded.  
• 12:19 p.m. Complainant reported a burglary in progress. Officer responded.  
• 12:36 p.m. Complainant reported members of his family are over due from football game. Officer responded.  
• 3:50 p.m. Sheriff's office was advised a man with a gun in a 2001 Red Dodge Ram Truck had pointed a handgun at someone. Officers responded. Subject was located by Menard Sheriff's office.  
• 4:54 p.m. Complainant requested an ambulance for an elderly male who was possibly having a stroke. Officers and EMS 2 responded.  
• 9:55 p.m. Complainant requested to speak to an officer. An 18-wheeler had its windshield busted out. Officers responded.  
**October 30** • 12:06 a.m. Complainant requested to speak to an officer about someone trespassing onto his business. Subject was arrested for public intoxication and issued a trespass warning for the business.  
• 12:24 a.m. Complainant reported finding some lab puppies at her residence.  
• 12:36 a.m. Complainant reported paint balls fired at his vehicle window. Glass grazed complainants neck. Officer responded.  
• 6:30 p.m. Caller reported a suspicious person walking in and out of building. Officer responded.  
• 7:34 p.m. Caller requested to speak with an officer concerning a citation his nephew had been issued. Officer responded.  
• 8:59 p.m. Complainant reported approx. 3 subjects throwing rocks at vehicles. Officer responded.  
• 9:23 p.m. Caller reported vehicle being hit by an object. Officer responded.  
• 9:40 p.m. Caller reported a group of people with suspicious bags. Officer responded.  
• 10:13 p.m. Complainant reported daughters car being hit with red paint and car wrapped with toilet paper. Officer responded.  
• 10:48 p.m. Caller reported kids running away from white pickup.  
• 11:20 p.m. Caller reported someone shooting people with a paintball gun. Officer responded.  
• 11:45 p.m. Caller reported a prowler on Colpitts Street. Officer responded.  
**October 31** • 8:28 a.m. Complainant requested an ambulance for an elderly male that had collapsed. Officers and EMS 2 responded.  
• 10:16 a.m. Complainant requested an officer check on a subject whose lifeline that had gone off. Officer responded.  
• 12:37 p.m. Hospital requested an ambulance for a ACLS transfer. EMS 2 responded.  
• 1:32 p.m. Complainant reported that some criminal mischief had been done to her property. Officer responded.  
• 2:44 p.m. Complainant requested that someone come out and check the building because there was a strong smell of burning wire. Officers responded.  
• 5:58 p.m. Caller reported a shot gun fired at The Eldorado Place Apt. Officer responded and was unable to locate.  
• 7:52 p.m. Complainant reported someone threw an egg at her vehicle. Officer responded.  
• 8:19 p.m. Complainant reported pumpkins smashed on Maple Street. Officer responded.  
• 8:20 p.m. Caller reported her front porch had been egged. Officer responded.  
• 10:07 p.m. Caller requested an officer for juveniles wrapping toilet paper. Officer responded.

**October 29** • 5:00 p.m. Caller reported 12 Spanish bore on his property.  
• 7:57 p.m. Caller reported a reckless driver north bound Hwy 277. Officer responded.  
• 8:40 p.m. Caller requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.  
**October 26** • 9:35 a.m. Complainant requested a criminal trespass be served on a male subject. Officer responded.  
• 12:54 p.m. Complainant reported a reckless driver in a red pickup. Officer responded.  
• 6:16 p.m. Caller reported a gas leak. City was notified.  
• 6:25 p.m. Caller reported a fight. Officer responded.  
• 7:31 p.m. Caller reported a gas leak. Officer and City responded.  
**October 28** • 5:55 p.m. Complainant reported a fight in the middle of the road. Complainant advised that someone had broken up the fight and had taken off in a maroon pickup. Officer responded.  
**October 29** • 10:53 a.m. Hospital

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**Cub Scout meeting slated**

The November Cub Scout Meeting time is slated for 7:00 p.m. Pack 18 meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2004 in Scout Hall Building (old Episcopal Church) on Pelt Street. Cubmaster Jim Runge emphasizes that new Cubs will be welcome. For more information contact Jim Runge at 854-2434.

**To Eldorado and Schleicher County Residents**  
Thank you for your support and encouragement during the Tax Assessor/Collector race. I was honored by the kind reception I received at every house. I enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones during my campaigning. It is a privilege to live in Eldorado. Jeanne Snelson was a kind opponent and will serve our community well.  
Thank you again,  
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**Weekly Scripture**  
For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have failed asleep.  
1 Thessalonians 4:14



