

The Brackett News

For more Sports Photos

See page 5

16th year, No. 40

Serving the communities of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs, Spofford and Kinney County

1 Section, 8 Pages

Back-to-back undefeated District Champs



Enjoying in the moment
Brackett Tigers pause a moment from celebrating their victory win over Charlotte. This is the Tigers second consecutive undefeated season.

By Darin Koenig
Sports Writer

The Brackett Tiger football team has won back-to-back District Championships. The team came into Friday night's game against Charlotte needing a win to secure the district title. Brackett entered the game 9-0 and Charlotte entered the game 7-2.

With both teams holding 3-0 records, the winner of the game would take home the district champion and have the easier route through the playoffs.

The game began with the Tro-

jans taking the ball at their own 34 yard line. The Trojans broke loose on a 34 yard run and it was downhill from that point as the Trojans took an early 7-0 lead. The Trojans took the ball and began a steady march down the field.

Disaster struck once the Trojans crossed the 50 yard line as they fumbled the ball. Charlotte recovered the Tiger fumble on their own 44 yard line. The Tiger defense rose to the challenge and forced the Trojans to punt. The next Brackett drive produced the only Tiger highlight

of the first half. The Tigers were able to move the ball effectively and the drive ended when Kody Yeager found a wide open Tillman Davis breaking to the end zone. The Tigers missed the extra point attempt giving Charlotte a 7-6 lead. The Trojans would turn the ball over two more times and the Trojans would connect on a 25 yard pass to take a 14-6 lead into halftime.

When the Tigers came out after halftime, they were a completely different team. The Trojans began to move the ball effectively and Noe Talamantes

ended the opening drive with a 28 yard touchdown run. The Tigers went for the two point conversion, but the Trojans stopped Yeager at the one yard line to hold on to a 14-12 lead. The Trojans then had to dig deep into the playbook. The Trojans ran a 10 yard hitch route and the ball was pitched to a streaking running back who went 60 yards for the touchdown. With less than 5:00 left in the third quarter the Trojans faced their biggest deficit of the season. The Trojans responded when Yeager connected on his second touchdown pass of the night. This time it was Leon Woolsey going down the center field uncovered for the 32 yard touchdown. With Brackett trailing 21-19, the Trojans put the game in the hands of their defense. The defense shut down Charlotte's offense and they were forced to punt.

With the Trojans showing pressure on the punter, the ball was snapped over the punter's head. After scooping up the ball, he tried to get off a punt but the punt was blocked and Woolsey scooped up the ball and ran 30 yards for his second touchdown. Charlie Slaughter then rumbled three yards for the conversion and gave the Trojans a 27-21 lead.

The fourth quarter began with Charlotte driving down the field. Facing a fourth down, the Trojans were stopped and the Trojans took over at their 25 yard line. The Trojans put together a 75 yard drive that ended with Talamantes finding the end zone from 18 yards out.

The two teams would trade

turnovers and Charlotte would find the end zone one more time to make the score 34-28. The Trojans tried the inside kick, but the Trojans would recover with 2:18 left. The Tiger offense would tally two more first downs and run out the clock for the victory.

The Trojans were led by Kody Yeager who completed four passes for 105 yards and two touchdowns. The running game was headed by Talamantes who carried 17 times for 162 yards and two touchdowns. Miles Braesicke added 12 carries for 102 yards, Brand Wylie carried three times for 17 yards, and Clyde Adams had one carry for 15 yards. Mark Kesteloot carried four times for nine yards and Charlie Slaughter added eight yards on four carries. Slaughter led the receiving corps with two catches for 44 yards, Woolsey contributed the 32 yard touchdown reception, and Tillman Davis added his 29 yard TD catch. The Trojans totaled 416 yards of offense while holding Charlotte to 252 yards on the night.

With the victory the Trojans secured the path they will take through the playoffs. The Trojans will receive a first round bye because there is no district 30 in class 1A.

With the week off, the Trojans will take the time to get some of their injured players healthy and work on some areas that need improvement. The Trojans will anxiously watch Flatonia play Ben Bolt as they await the winner of that Bi-District game.

BRIEFS

New garbage hours

The City of Brackettville's Transfer Station hours have changed. New hours of operation will be 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, Monday - Friday, effective immediately. Brush area closed by City of Brackettville until further notice from TCEQ. Contact City Hall at 830-563-2412 if you have any questions concerning the brush area.

Carranza Puppets

The Kinney County Arts Council, in conjunction with Brackett I.S.D., are pleased to present the Carranza Puppets, Monday, November 15th, 2004, 9:00 am at the school auditorium. The marionette theater will perform one of childhoods most beloved literary classics, "Pinocchio". The Carranzas exquisitely handcrafted marionettes will convey to the elementary students the value of a good education and the importance of staying in school.

4-H Reminders

The 4-H Junior and Senior meeting will be held Sunday, November 14th from 4-5 pm at the Fort Clark Springs Service Club. Officers meet at 3:30 pm.

There will also be Lamb and Goat Project meetings held on Sunday, November 14th. The Goat Project meeting will be at 2:00 pm and the Lamb Project meeting will be at 3:00 pm at the Hobbs residence.

Major Stockshow sign up will be Sunday, November 14th from 5-7 pm and Monday, November 15th from 8am - 5pm at the Extension Office. County entry deadline will be Wednesday, December 15th. If you have any questions contact the Extension Office at 563-2442.

Fitness Center

Laughlin's new \$12 million fitness center opens 1 p.m., Nov. 10, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new 72,000 square-foot fitness center replaces two older facilities and offers its users a state-of-the-art fitness experience. In addition to group exercise and training rooms, and basketball and racquetball courts, the center contains a 6-lane 25-meter indoor lap pool, a juice bar, and a family fitness room.

Last year, when Air Force Chief of Staff General John Jumper ordered new "Fit to Fight" physical standards for all Airmen, physical fitness became a more important part of each Airman's life, said Tom Kerr, the Laughlin AFB fitness director. "This fitness center offers our Airmen everything they need to lead a fit and healthy lifestyle. Their new responsibilities in today's more mobile, deployable Air Force demand no less," he said.

Council dismisses veteran employee

By Gus Garcia
Editor

After an hour-long executive session, the Brackettville City Council dismissed a 27-year plus employee.

Alderman Matt Bland made the motion to terminate Juan Cardenas from his position Tuesday night. The motion was seconded by Alderman Tully Welch and passed unanimously with all members present.

The decision followed a closed session with the council to discuss/possible action/termination on salary, job performance, and employee evaluation for David Martinez Jr., Juan Cardenas and Juan Oscar Lopez. All three are long-term employees with the City of Brackettville.

There was no comment from the council on the decision. City Manager Bonnie Rigby declined comment as well. "I'm not going to comment anything on that," she said early Wednesday morning.

Cardenas was with the city for many years and operated the Citizens Collection Site on U.S. 90 West. There was no action on Martinez or Lopez in Bland's motion.

Rigby did note that the Citizens Collection Site is running "business as usual. From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m."

The council also discussed the possibility of an interlocal agreement between the city and Kinney County. The agreement would have Justice of the Peace John Ford act as a part-time municipal judge for the city. The city dissolved the position, held then by Gil Ramer, in 2002.

Ford said he would serve in that capacity, only with the blessings from the county and sheriff's office. His only concern would be the bookkeeping.

City Secretary Bonnie Rigby notified the council that the city had been fined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. She said a fine of \$12,000 - so far - has

See City/Page 8

City receives \$267,844 grant

By Gus Garcia
Editor

Brackettville's City Manager Bonnie Rigby accepted a \$267,844 grant for the new water tower on the city's east side.

The new water tower is slated to be constructed in front of the St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Cemetery just off Pafford and Veltman streets.

The city received the grant via the Middle Rio Grande Development Council. "The MRGDC took care of everything," Rigby said.

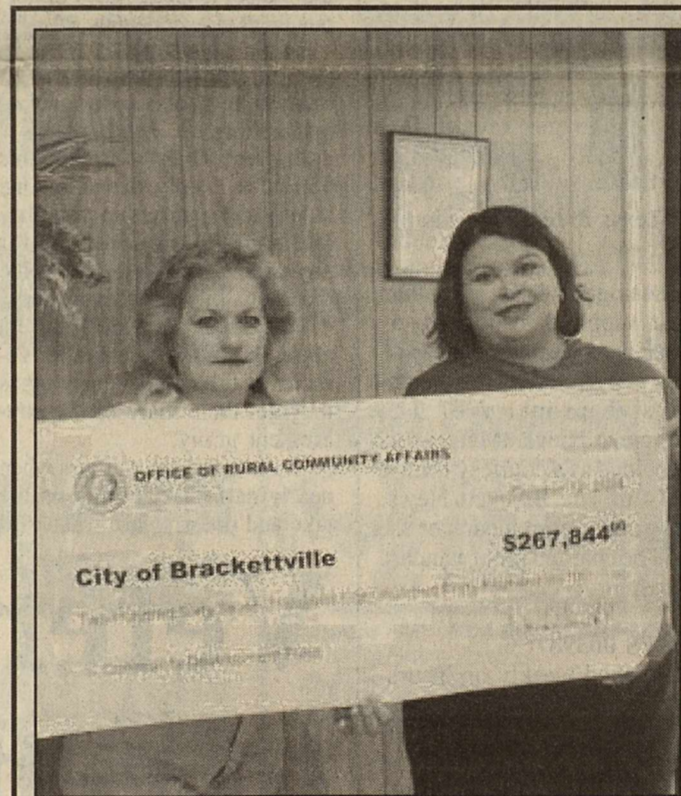
Brackettville was one of 73 grant recipients of more than \$16,088,897 in total grants from the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) between Sept. 1, 2003 and Aug. 31, 2004.

Rigby said the new tower is needed in Brackettville, citing the various amounts of water pressure. "Some residents have better water pressure than others, she said.

"But with the new tower, all pressure should be equal throughout the city."

The new construction is set for early next year. "It should start April or May," Rigby said.

Rigby also said the city is up for another grant to enhance the water lines and valves throughout the city.



\$267,844 Grant
City Secretary Bonnie Rigby (left) and Clarissa Martinez, OCRA Community Services Specialist display grant check for new water tower project.

Photo by Jewel Robinson

She noted that if there's a water break, the whole town would have to shut down. With the new grant, valves would be installed,

allowing only certain portions of the city having to be shut off from water, rather than the whole town.

Girls Cross Country qualifies for state meet



Cross Country Regional Meet
Back row from left: Stanford Conoly, Clint Conrad, Justin Calk, Travis Nowlin, and Cullen Duncan. Middle Row: Bianca Terrazas, Harmony Pettett, Elva Garcia, Cody Robinette, Valentin Barrutieta, Heather Baggett, and Jessi Crane. Front row: Timmeke Simmons, Lauren Cornelius, Gabriela Schroeder, Ivory Perez, Daphne Hunt, Julie Castillo, Elena Molinar, and Samantha Moore. Down in front: Juliann Ashabranner.

Courtesy photo

By Darin Koenig
Sports Writer

The Brackett Tigerettes qualified for the State Cross Country Championship this past week.

Coming off a District Championship, the girls laid it all on the line in a meet that welcomed 172 runners and 23 teams.

The Brackett Tigerettes finished the meet in second place with 126 points.

Thorndale won the Regional Championship with 60 points and Priddy finished third with 130 points.

Brackett was paced by a third place finish from Juliann Ashabranner who finished with a time of 12:52. Daphne Hunt finished just out of the top ten while running a 13:17, while Gabby Schroeder finished with a time of 13:35, and Elva Garcia finished with a time of 14:18.

Julie Castillo ran a 14:29, Ivory Perez finished the race

with a time of 15:21, and Jessie Crane rounded out the Brackett squad with a time of 15:35.

With the second place finish in the meet, the girls will travel to Round Rock on Saturday to compete in the Cross Country State Championship.

The Tigerettes hope to have your support as they seek to bring the State Champion title to Brackettville.

Justin Calk was the lone competitor representing the boys cross country team at the regional meet.

Calk was competing in a race that featured 155 runners trying to qualify for the state meet. Calk ran well but was not able to make it to the state meet finishing with a time of 20:20.

This marked the end of the Cross Country season for the Trojans, but they will now focus on throwing their support behind the girls team and their quest for a state title.

INSIDE

Kay Hutchison

Americans pay tribute to those extraordinary men and women who in every war have unfailingly answered the call to duty.

Opinion/Page 2

Chuck Hall

They have no fear of going out where the water's deep and the fish are big. They are not fearful of venturing into the unknown realm.

Opinion/Page 2

Donald Smith

With God's help I will live a chaste and clean life until God gives me a life partner in the sacrament of marriage.

Religion/Page 7

INDEX

Classifieds	8
Community	3
Lifestyles	4
Opinion	2
Religion	7
Service Directory	6
Sports	5

New and Old, Old and New

Connie got a new mobile phone recently. No, that's not right. She had a mobile phone, but she got a new cell phone. I'm not sure when mobile phones became cell phones, or even why, but they did. Is there a difference that I am not aware of?

Anyway, she got a new phone. Same number, new phone. She had to. The old one just died. It passed away from too much human ear contact. But I guess it's ok.

The old one was from the pre-civilization era. I won't miss that old clunker. It had coin slots, a hand crank, and was just too bulky. And the batteries had to be checked and filled with water too often.

The new one, ah, now there's a fancy piece of ringary. New technology is a true wonder. That phone does everything but cook. It takes pictures! You can send visual images to folks.

The first thing I did was take a picture of my shoe. I'll always wonder where it went, and who got it. And what they thought of it.

My kids had to help us set up all of the many features. I'm no good at modern marvels. I'm still stuck somewhere in the



But I Could Be Wrong

Chuck Hall

1900's. The early 1900's. But not the young people today.

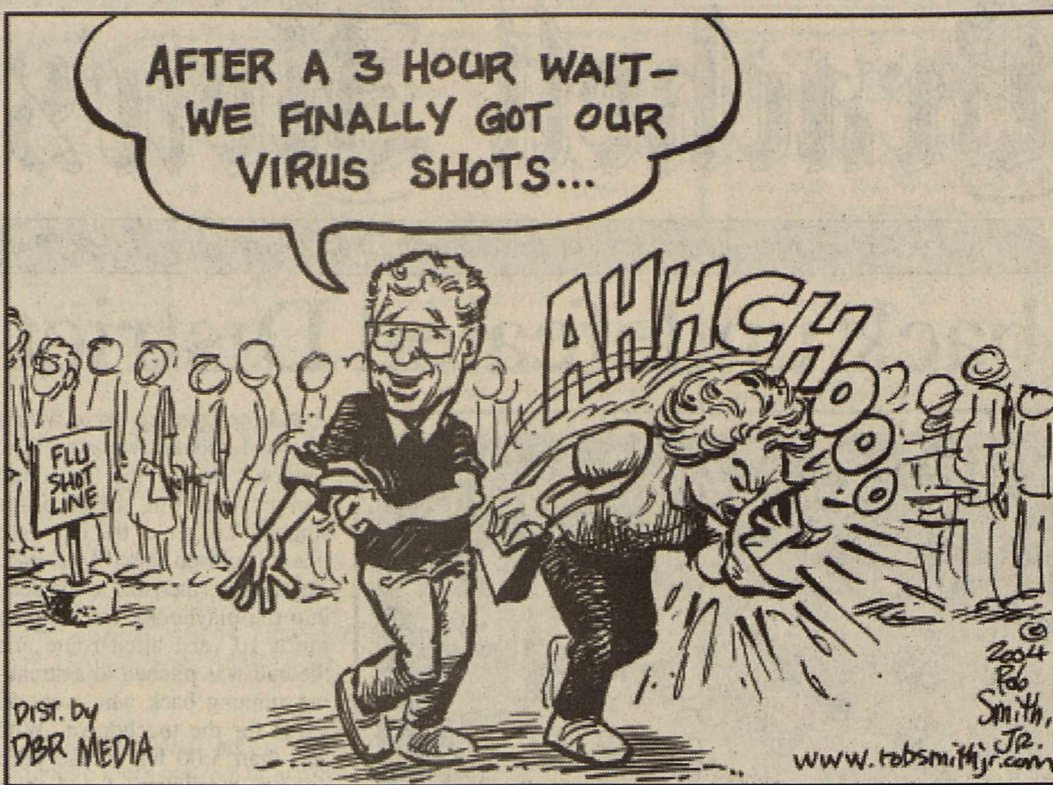
I guess that's the one single feature of that generation that I admire most. They are not afraid of technology.

They are adventuresome. They have no fear of going out where the water's deep and the fish are big. They are not fearful of venturing into the unknown realm.

They better not be. I suspect that they will have more problems ahead of them in their lives, in their time, than they can imagine.

They are going to have to sort out all of the mess that my generation started. Sort it out, and fix it. Turn this world around into a livable place again.

All of this while not allowing new dilemmas to emerge. I suspect they'll do a better job in this world than we have. But I hope I'm not wrong.



A deeply divided nation

In the L.A. Times: "Just as in 2000, Bush on Tuesday mobilized a massive coalition of culturally conservative Americans, centered on married families, rural voters, and people who own guns or attend church regularly, according to a nationwide Times exit poll of voters leaving polling places."

If the above is accurate, and I truly believe it is, what exactly does that tell you about the people who voted for Kerry?

Again from the L.A. Times: "More than half of Bush's voters cited moral issues as a principal reason for their support — more than any other issue, including even terrorism. By contrast, nearly half of Kerry voters named the economy as their top concern — nearly double the number that picked moral issues."

In the national poll, more than half of Bush supporters cited leadership and picked honesty and values as the next most important choices.

Strikingly, Kerry's supporters were more indifferent in picking the personal qualities important in their decision.

Kerry backers did not cite any single attribute nearly as often as Bush supporters picked leadership.

It seems clear to me that this nation is deeply divided. One side understands that morality and honesty are necessary for any nation to survive, and value those qualities in their leaders.

The other side could care less about the moral strength or veracity of their leaders as long as they get their share of the government gravy.

It is a sad state of affairs when nearly half the nation is on the take and doesn't care what hap-



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascio

pens to the nation as a result.

It is not, to me at least, striking that Kerry's supporters were indifferent to any personal qualities he possessed. They weren't voting for him because of his qualities.

I doubt that many of them really believed he was the best man for the job. A great many, in fact, stated that they weren't voting for Kerry, but against Bush. I suspect that even more of them were voting for him because he promised them more money, more entitlements, more government giveaway programs. His leadership qualities don't matter if he is buying your vote!

Some of the more ignorant also said they thought Kerry would regain respect for the United States with foreign governments. If they really believed that they haven't a clue what respect is.

You can't buy respect. Respect is earned!

It is earned with the exact qualities that the voters admired most in Bush — honesty, integrity, personal faith, high moral values, and the strength to make tough decisions and stand your ground when not everyone agrees with you — all the things that John Kerry lacked.

Kerry does have one quality that earned him many votes. He has the ability to look you in the eye and lie convincingly.

The division in this country is something that cannot be

healed by words. It is a basic rift of moral and economic principals, and of core values.

One side believes the government should be limited in its powers and held to the standards that made it strong in the first place.

The other side believes the government should be given more power and the people shouldn't care about the personal qualities of their leaders, just as long as the economy is good and we don't tick off any foreign governments.

One side believes that there are things worth fighting and dying for, while the other side doesn't think anything is worth such a sacrifice.

I have made my choice, and at least for the next four years, so have the American voters. However, we cannot rest.

You can bet that the liberal side won't. They are already working to undermine the conservative majority and are planning for the next national election.

Just like the Serpent, they will never rest until they are destroyed.

America is still strong, let's keep her that way! And watch out for Hillary Clinton in 2008!

Luke 12:51-53 — "Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Important information for Women



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

Hormone replacement therapy is an issue for every adult woman. There are so many new stories giving piece-meal information. In an effort to offer clear and straight forward advice about hormone replacement therapy, I was proud to join with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as we launched a national education campaign.

This campaign emphasizes the increased risks to women. As many women in my district know, those risks include higher rates of breast cancer, blood clots and heart disease. I believe women of America need the facts. There are too many stories out there giving inaccurate information. It's hard to tell what is fact and fiction. This initiative will take away the guess work and help better educate women on Hormone Replacement Therapy.

Working in collaboration with Department of Health and Human Services agencies, the FDA has developed science-based informational materials on its latest menopausal hormone therapies (estrogens and estrogens with progestins). The Agency is working closely with women's health organizations, community-based organizations and other experts to get this information out to women and healthcare providers.

The main tools of the campaign are a menopause and hormone-therapy fact sheet, and a purse guide that provides questions for discussion with a health professional. These materials will be available in both English and Spanish from the National Women's Health Information Center (NWHIC).

As a long-time advocate of women's health education, I am happy to know that more women in this country will be armed with knowledge. This helpful information is available on the government website, www.4woman.gov, and will be distributed in fliers in government offices and by women's health groups. A questionnaire for women to use when discussing hormone therapies with their doctors was created as well. Choosing hormone replacement therapy is a tremendous decision—I hope this campaign helps make it an educated decision.

Big Mama Sez!



What the heart has once owned and had, it shall never lose.

The Brackett News

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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,



Capitol Comment

Kay Bailey Hutchison

which created new life insurance and health care benefits for up to two million eligible spouses and children of veterans; the Homeless Veterans 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 fearlessly 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.

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**Happy Birthday
Dimple
Nov. 11
From The
Brackett
News Staff**

FCA "Thanks for Giving" food drive

Brackett High School's Fellowship of Christian Athletes Chapter (FCA) will collect food and household items for one week, to help families this Thanksgiving. Student FCA members received a list of needed items at their meeting last night and may knock on your door to ask for donations for this project. The food will be delivered to families on Wednesday, Nov. 17th.

"We have a specific list of needed food and household items we need, so that the gift boxes can be well balanced and stocked with a variety of things every family uses. We want to try to give the very best we can," according to Tiffiny Blore, one of the FCA/Coach Sponsors, who is helping to coordinate the student chapter's efforts. All foods and containers must be unopened and nonperishable.

Donations from the following list can be dropped off in the collection box at Super S between now and 6pm on Wednesday, November 17th. In addition to items toward a Thanksgiving meal, household and personal hygiene items.

Brackett's FCA Chapter has nearly 100 student members and is the largest student organization on campus. The "Thanks

for Giving" food drive is one of about 10 service ministry projects the students will work on this school year.

The Adult Chapter's next meeting is Sunday, November 14th, 2pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church.

FCA Thanks for Giving Food Drive items needed: canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, canned yams, pumpkin pie mix, pie shell mix, dream whip, jello or pudding mix, stuffing, instant potatoes, gravy mix or canned gravy, 5 pound bags of sugar or flour, pickles, olives, apple sauce, canned fruit, Hollandaise sauce packets, tea, cake mix, frosting, and salad dressing.

Other Food Items & Household items needed: biscuit mix, canned tuna, rice, boxed cereal, oatmeal, tomatoes, raisins, pecans, coconut, boxed dinners, boxed macaroni & cheese, kool-aid, jiffy mix, corn meal, ketchup, mayo, mustard, jellies, peanut butter, canned meats, coffee, dried beans, soup, sardines, crackers, ramen noodles, tomato sauce, pasta & noodles, toothpaste, tooth brushes, lotion, bar soap, dish soap, laundry soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, razors, trash bags, light bulbs, plastic silverware, paper plates & napkins.

Commissioners make nominations for appraisal board

By Elizabeth Jaso
Contributing Writer

In a regular meeting on November 8, 2004 the Kinney County Commissioners Court nominated Tom Ertle and Wes Robinson to serve on the Kinney County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2005-2007. Commissioners discussed

use of the Nutrition Center and Civic Center to prepare and serve food for the annual Thanksgiving feast. The motion by Judge Senne was approved unanimously pending legal review.

Steve Burch EMS director addressed the court regarding provided support to the Fire Department. Burch stated that EMS

could respond with life saving equipment such as the Jaws of Life when needed. The Sheriff's department will donate a van for EMS use.

Librarian Sara Terrazas reported that Detention Center staff will continue to use the Fritter Room and other library resources until their facility is completed. Records are being

kept of the times and supplies being used and the Detention Center will reimburse the Library for these expenses.

A motion was passed to abate ad valorem taxes for real properties leased and owned by the Kinney County 4-H Club and the bills and budget adjustments were approved and departmental reports given.

Swinson resigns from school board

By Elizabeth Jaso
Contributing Writer

The Bisd Board of Trustees adopted a new name for the Alternative School at Monday's night monthly meeting. The Brackett Alternative School will now be called the Brackett Educational Center. In recent years the term "Alternative School" has fallen in to disfavor in the educational community.

Superintendent Bobby Templeton reported that the new band hall is now paid in full. He also advised the board that the district had been offered two grants. Hillcrest Foundation has of-

fered \$50,000 for computerized instruction and the State Energy Conservation Office has offered \$50,000 to upgrade the HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air conditioning) systems.

The Board voted to accept both grants and commended Templeton for his work on the grants.

In regular business administrative reports were given by George Burks, Paula Renken and Hector Jimenez, and a financial report was given by Templeton.

After a brief executive session, the board returned and voted to accept the resignation of board member Tom Swinson.

Miss Kinney County pageant

It's not too late! Are you the one? The Innermind Connection is looking for Miss Kinney County Teen USA.

You could be the one to advance to the Miss Del Rio Teen USA pageant and ultimately to the Miss Texas Teen USA pageant.

"We know that Brackettville and Kinney County have beautiful, smart and poised teens," Claudia C. Lopez said. "We are giving teens from there a chance to compete for the top prizes and notoriety."

The Miss Kinney County Teen USA pageant is set for Saturday, Nov. 20, 2004 in Fort Clark Springs Town Hall. The event will boast two areas of competition: fashion wear and evening gown. There is no swimsuit or interview competitions. The winner of the title of Miss Kinney County Teen USA will go on to compete in the Miss Del Rio USA competition Feb.

19, 2005. The search is open to girls age 13 to 18. There is a \$100 registration fee.

"We are also looking for our Mini Miss Kinney County," Lopez added.

That competition is open to girls from six months to 12 years old. The winner from the Mini competition will receive a free ride to the Mini Me Miss Latina pageant next year. The Mini Miss Kinney County has two areas of competition, fashion wear and party wear.

The event has different divisions: 6-18 months (up to 1 1/2 yrs old) Baby, 19-36 months (1 yr 7 mths to 3 yrs) Mini, 4-6 Year Tiny, 7-9 Year Little, 10-12 Year Jr. Miss.

To sign up, contact Claudia Lopez at 830-703-8373 or log on to www.dreamsofcrowns.com. "We are excited to bring this competition to Brackettville and Kinney County," Lopez said.

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, November 1
7:30 p.m., Ricardo Riojas-Guzman, 22, and Pinedad Angel Rodriguez, 19, both from Acuna, Mexico, were arrested by Deputy Ron Ring for burglary of habitat. Riojas-Guzman and Rodriguez are still being held at this time.

Tuesday, November 2
12:25 a.m., Deputy Lopez of Del Rio asked for assistance escorting a man to the east Kinney County line. The man's friends had left him in Del Rio and he had no ride back to Uvalde. Deputy Donald Page was advised.

5:45 p.m., Jose Luis Narvaez, 29, and Alberto Riojas Guzman Martin, 31, both from Acuna, Mexico, were arrested by Deputy Ring for burglary of habitat. Narvaez and Martin are still being held at this time.

Wednesday, November 3
9:48 a.m., Sandra Villarreal, 32, of Brackettville, was arrested by Sheriff Buddy Burgess for assault with bodily injury and criminal mischief. Villarreal was later released after posting a \$1,500 personal recognizance bond for each offense.

1:30 p.m., A man stated that someone had broken into his locked vehicle and stole a backpack full of food. Deputy Johnny Fritter was notified.

7:45 p.m., Manuel Cardoza, 56, of Uvalde, was arrested by Constable Guidry for a warrant out of Crystal City. Cardoza was released at 9:45 p.m. because warrant was not active.

8:15 p.m., A woman reported a suspicious man walking around local businesses. Deputy Ramon Gutierrez was advised.

Thursday, November 4
8:39 p.m., Jose Gilberto Lopez, 51, of San Antonio, was arrested by Trooper Torres for warrant out of Bexar County. Lopez was later released after posting \$800 cash bond.

Friday, November 5
4:00 p.m., A man reported an accident one mile south on Highway 693.

Saturday, November 6
12:01 a.m., Sentry Security reported an alarm sounding at a local business. Deputy Donald Page was dispatched. The building was secured and the owner was notified.

12:16 a.m., A man stated that he had been assaulted by several male individuals at his ranch on highway 3348. The individuals were in a grey mustang and the other vehicle was not identified. Deputy Page was advised.

5:11 p.m., A woman requested a deputy concerning deer feeders being removed from her property. Game Warden Henry Lutz was informed and spoke with the individual about the situation.

6:56 p.m., A man requested to talk with a deputy. Deputy Gutierrez was informed.

Sunday, November 7
10:18 p.m., A man requested to talk with Deputy Gutierrez. Deputy Gutierrez was informed.

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2004 Pontiac Bonneville	24,094 miles	SN 5218	2003 Chevrolet Suburban	29,311 miles	SN 5166
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2004 Pontiac Grand Am SE	30,435 miles	SN 5230	2003 Chevrolet Cavalier	27,547 miles	SN 5202
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2004 Buick Rendezvous	16,358 miles	SN 5238	2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer	35,988 miles	SN 5234
2004 Buick Regal LS	16,982 miles	SN 5239	2003 Chevrolet Silverado Crewcab	57,992 miles	SN30485A
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Crusted Chicken & Black Beans

1 (3 lb.) cooked chicken (app. 3-4 cup. chopped/shredded chicken), *1 med. tomato, peeled & chopped, juices included, 1 (15 oz.) can black beans, drained, 1 1/2 cups bottles salsa, 6 oz. monterey jack cheese, shredded, divided use, 1 tbsp. chopped cilantro leaves, 1/2 tsp. ground cumin, salt and pepper to taste, 4 (8 in.) flour tortillas, cut into quarters, *2 tsp. corn oil.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Use vegetable spray to coat 2 1/2 qt. casserole (9x13 dish), if possible, a wide dish rather than tall is best. Set aside. Shred or cut chicken



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in small pieces & place in large mixing bowl. Add about 3/4 of the cheese and all other ingredients but the tortillas. Mix well and scrape into prepared casserole dish. Arrange tortilla quarters overlapping each other over the top, *sprinkle with oil, cover and bake for 30 minutes.

Remove from oven, uncover, sprinkle remaining cheese evenly over top & bake 10 to 15 minutes longer (uncovered) until top is golden and crusty.

*If fresh tomato is unavailable app. 1/2 can canned diced tomato plus juice may be substituted.

*In place of sprinkling 2 tsp oil, lightly spray top using cooking spray of your choice.

Old Quarry presents 'Mornings'

The first play of the 2004-2005 season of the Old Quarry Society (OQS) for the Performing Arts will be Thursday, Nov. 11 and Friday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m. at the Post Theatre. The play is titled "Morning's At Seven" by Paul Osborn, and tells of the lives of four sisters and their families.

The cast includes many of the community's "old" favorites, whose names are well-known on the OQS stage, and in some cases, are returning to the stage after too long an absence. Also in the cast are several newcomers, whom will hopefully be seen again in OQS productions.

Starring as the four sisters are Lois Carlson as Esty, Ruth Spencer as Cora, Suzanna Lowery as Ida, and Ida Holley as Arry.

Esty's husband, David, is played by Gil Raymer, Cora's husband, Thor, is played by Dr. Kent Lowery and Ida's husband, Carl, is played by Ray Pilgrim. Pat Melancon plays Homer, the son of Ida and Carl, and Cindy Pilgrim is Myrtle, Homer's fiancée.



Photo by Leigh Volcsko

Members of the Old Quarry Society presents "Mornings at Seven" this weekend. Performers include from left, Ray Pilgrim, Dr. Kent Lowery, Cindy Pilgrim, Suzanna Lowery, Pat Melancon, Ida Holley, Gil Raymer, Lois Carlson, Ruth Spencer.

The play is directed by Lynn McNew and is presented with permission from Samuel French Publishing.

Please note the original production dates have been changed this play will be presented Nov. 11 and Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m. at

Post Theatre. Tickets are available at the Adult Center, from cast members or by calling 563-9229 or 563-2296.

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Center accepting entries for writing competition

The Art Center for the Islands of Port Aransas, TX is now accepting entries for the 2005 Texas Laughing Gull Writing Contest. This is the sixth year of Art Center writing competitions.

It is open to all writers, regardless of place of residence. Both prose and poetry submissions will be accepted. Prose entries may be either fiction or non-fiction.

Entries must be received at the Art Center by November 30,

2004 and must conform to contest guidelines.

Winners will be announced at a reception at the Art Center for the Islands in Port Aransas the evening of Friday, January 9, 2005. Out of town winners will be notified by mail or e-mail. Prizes of \$100, \$50.00, and \$25.00 dollars will be awarded to first, second and third places in three separate categories: poetry, prose-fiction, and prose-non-fiction.

Two Honorable Mention Certificates in each category will also be awarded. In addition a \$125.00 "Best of Show Grand Prize" will be awarded to the best entry overall.

Judging will be done by a panel of four judges: Carolee Crider, a retired program administrator for the Department of the Navy and current Port Aransas resident; Lucia McKay, Port Aransas author; Rita Reed, English teacher at Port Aransas High School; and Phil Reynolds, reporter for the Port

Aransas South Jetty.

Entry fees must accompany each submission and are \$3.00 per entry and entries must conform to contest guidelines which are now available at The Art Center for the Islands, 323 N. Alister, P.O. Box 1175, Port Aransas, TX 78373 or by email at: laughinggull_5@hotmail.com.

For further information contact Toni Somers, at 361-749-3386 or the Art Center, 361-749-7334.

Cancer drug enrollment benefit

AUSTIN — The American Cancer Society is encouraging cancer patients eligible to participate in the Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration (MRDD) to act quickly and sign up during the limited enrollment period.

Enrollment has been available to up to 50,000 Medicare beneficiaries with certain life-threatening diseases. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has dedicated half of these slots to cancer patients.

The project implemented by CMS will enable thousands of eligible Medicare beneficiaries to receive coverage for certain life-saving oral anti-cancer drugs before Medicare's full prescription drug benefit goes into effect in January 2006.

Drug coverage under the MRDD will continue through December 31, 2005.

"Society volunteers and staff worked hard to secure this tran-

sitional coverage for cancer patients in the Medicare reform law President Bush signed last year," says Mark Redrow, President of the American Cancer Society, Texas Division. "Inclusion of the benefit was a significant victory for the Society and cancer patients."

CMS is accepting applications from cancer patients who are taking drugs specified in the project, but who do not currently have comprehensive drug coverage. Applications are being accepted in the order in which they are received and coverage will begin on a "rolling" basis as applications are processed.

However, there is a limit to the number of people who can enroll, so it is important for cancer patients to get their applications in as soon as possible. CMS has stated that they continue to process applications until they reach the limits.

Moving forward, the Society

will work to spread the word about the demonstration project so that as many cancer patients as possible can benefit.

At the same time, we are monitoring the project's implementation and its transition into the full prescription drug benefit package and communicate with CMS regarding any concerns that may arise.

Cancer patients eligible to enroll should: have Medicare Part A and B, have Medicare as their "primary payer" (i.e., it pays for health services first before other insurers), not have other comprehensive drug coverage and live in the 50 states or Washington, DC.

For more information or to receive assistance, patients should call 1-866-563-5386. Ad-

ditional information, including the program application, is available online at www.cms.hhs.gov/researchers/demos/drugcoveredemo.asp.

The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by saving lives, diminishing suffering and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

Founded in 1913 and with national headquarters in Atlanta, the Society has 14 regional Divisions and local offices in 3,400 communities, involving millions of volunteers across the United States.

For more information anytime, call toll free 1-800-ACS-2345. You may also find information at www.cancer.org.

Humanization of pets

West Chester, PA - Humanization of pets is the latest pet care trend - treating our dogs, cats, birds and pocket pets like beloved family members. As a result more cats now live indoors rather than outdoors. And while it's much safer for these born hunters to live inside the house, some felines may become bored. As responsible pet owners, we need to consider the instinctual needs of our domestic cats. Granted, they have a life of luxury - lounging on the lamp stand, listening for the can opener, and looking embarrassed when caught in the litter pan - but cats need to feel useful, too.

Without a sense of purpose, kitty may "get into trouble" - there goes the ficus you've been nurturing - and may suffer psychologically or even physically by demonstrating undesirable behaviors.

Ms. Gizzio has been reviewing and scrutinizing safe toys for cats and dogs for over seven

years. "Our pets play with their toys when we're not at home. Here are a few of Gizzio's suggestions for a cat safe toy box."

"Play n Treat Balls are great fun. They actually have a purpose, and that's to satisfy the instinct to work and hunt for food," suggests Gizzio. "As the ball rolls it dispenses yummy kibble for a snacking kitty." She assures that even the laziest couch potato will work for this treat. Aromatherapy - for pets? Try an organic, catnip-filled yarn ball to relieve stress through its activity and scent. Cats are predators. Occupy them with a swizzle bird feather wand, an interactive game. "One of my favorites is the Woolley Bully - not the song, the mouse."

"When it gets grungy, just throw it in the washer and dryer, and it's ready to be hunted and caught again."

If your cat could type, she would go to www.cat.toys.com for all these purrrrr-fect ideas.

Thank You!

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank everyone who supported me in the KCGCD election. I want to also invite all those who did not vote for me to come and see your board in action and how our tax dollars are being spent.

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Ten Tigerettes receive district honors

By Darin Koenig
Sports Writer

Ten of our Tigerette volleyball players received All-District honors for the 2004 season. The team finished the regular season with a 24-6 record and was the undefeated district 29-1A champions. These ten players receiving honors were named to six different categories.

First team All-District honors went to Senior Stephanie Bonner, Senior Shanae Simmons, and Junior Ashley Castillo.

Bonner was a constant force on the court for the Tigerettes this season, consistently being a team leader in kills, digs, and serving blocks.

Simmons was also a powerful defensive force for Brackett this season as well as being a team leader in blocks. Castillo led the team in every statistical category at some point in the season and will be back on the court next season for the black and gold.

Brackett players named to the Second team All-District squad were Senior Courtney Frerich, Sophomore Emily Valenzuela, and Sophomore Kara Yeager. Frerich was the anchor on the front line for the Tigerettes consistently adding blocks and kills to the Brackett statistics.

Valenzuela was a team leader in serving and kills for the Tigerettes. Yeager played well for

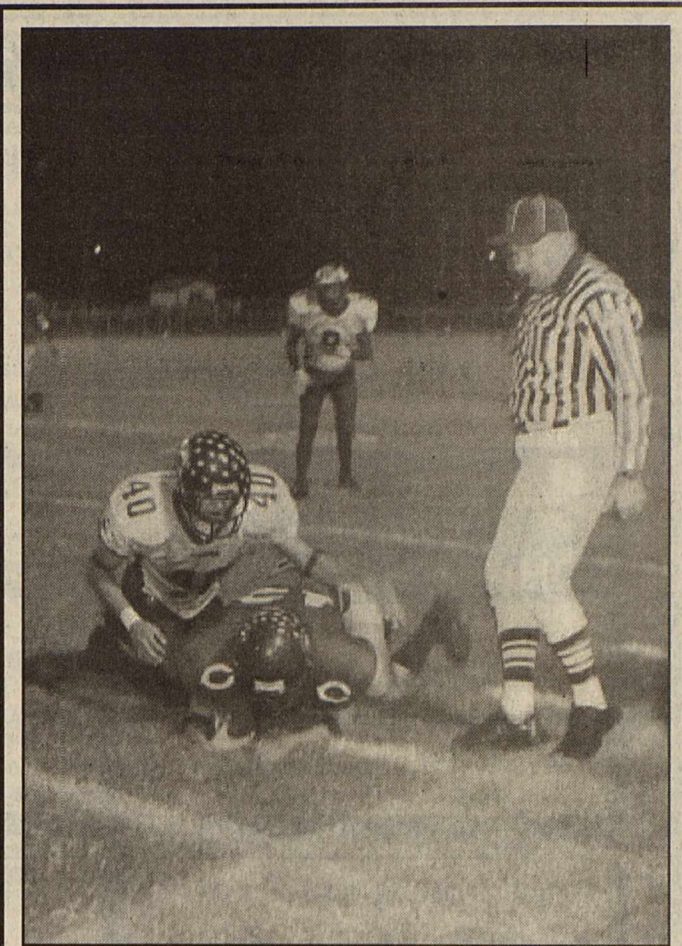
Brackett as a setter and a constant leader in serving and assists.

Senior Kristi Meyer earned her spot on the All-District Honorable Mention squad. Coming on strong during district play, Meyer led the team in serving and in digs to secure a spot on the All-District team.

District 29-1A also announced the Academic All-District squad for those who excelled in the classroom as well as in athletics and five Tigerettes received this honor. Senior Juliann Ashabrunner, Senior Courtney Frerich, Senior Kristi Meyer, Senior Shanae Simmons, and Sophomore Kara Yeager were all named to the academic

All-District team.

Two other Brackett players were awarded the biggest district honors for the 2004 season. Junior Timmeke Simmons was named the Most Valuable Player in district play. Simmons consistently racked up team highs in assists and was a team leader in serving throughout this season. The district's Newcomer of the Year honors went to Junior Jessie Crane. In her first year of varsity play, Crane helped the Tigerettes by providing great serving, leading in digs, and solid play throughout the season. Congratulations to all ten players who received honors and to the 2004 District 29-1A champions.



Noe Talamantes
Safety Noe Talamantes making a tackle during last Friday's final regular season game. Talamantes lead the Tigers in rushing with 162 yards on 17 carries.

Photo by Danielle Moore

Girls cross country wins district championship

By Darin Koenig
Sports Writer

The Tigerette Cross Country team won the District 29-1A championship on October 27, 2004. All four Brackett teams competed in the race in San Antonio.

The varsity girls won the meet with 35 points, Rocksprings finished second with 53 points, and Harper finished third with 63 points.

The Tigerettes were paced to victory by Daphne Hunt who won the race in a time of 13:34. Juliann Ashabrunner took home the silver medal with a time of 14:16 and Gabby Schroeder earned the bronze medal with a time of 14:36. Elva Garcia finished

the course in 16:08 with Julie Castillo right behind her, finishing the course in 16:12. Ivory Perez ran a 17:10 and Jessie Crane ran a 17:42. With the victory the team qualified to run in the regional tournament in San Antonio.

The varsity boy's team finished the district meet in fifth place with 96 points. Rocksprings won the meet with 39 points, Medina finished in second with 39 points, Harper finished third with 57 points, and 94 points was good enough for School of Excellence to edge past the Tigers.

The team was led by Justin Calk, who finished in seventh place with a time of 21:05. This

finish was good enough to qualify Justin to run in the Regional Meet in San Antonio. Travis Nowlin ran a time of 24:24, Clint Conrad finished the course in 25:11, and Cullen Duncan ran a 26:38. Stanford Conoly raced to a 27:11 finish, Cody Robinette finished in 28:23, and Valentin Barutieta rounded out the Tiger runners with a time of 28:27.

In the Junior Varsity competition the girls finished a remarkable season with first, second, and fourth place honors. Heather Baggett ran the race of her life to win the JV district championship in a time of 17:20. Timmeke Simmons finished second in a time of 18:15 and Lauren

Cornelius finished fourth in 19:28.

The Junior High girls squad also finished a great season with a solid performance. Harmony Pettett led the team with a third place finish of 15:21. Bianca Terrazas ran a 16:53, Nema Molinar finished with a time of 17:57, and Samantha Moore rounded out the Junior High team with a time of 18:03.

Stanley Marcus Scholarship announced

FOIFT Announces Stanley Marcus Scholarship to First Amendment Institute

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for the first awarding of the Stanley Marcus Scholarship made possible by a generous gift from the Belo Corp.

The Stanley Marcus Scholarship has been established for the Foundation's First Amendment Institute, a graduate-level study of the First Amendment, its principles, and its implications for our society. This unique program provides classes with an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of our First Amendment freedoms through concentrated study and interaction with a faculty of First Amendment authorities from across the country. It is the hope of the FOIFT that after such an immersion into First Amendment thought, participants will take the lead in protecting First Amendment freedoms for future generations.

The Stanley Marcus Scholarship is named in honor of Dallas' longtime retailer and civic leader, Stanley Marcus, who died in 2002. Marcus wrote a column for The Dallas Morning News for over 30 years and was the author of several books. Marcus was well known for his passion of the First Amendment, civil liberties and progressive political viewpoints, all of which were subjects of his columns.

By developing future First Amendment leaders, the FOIFT feels this is a very fitting honor for a man who embraced these rights throughout his life.

"The Foundation is excited to have this wonderful gift to honor Mr. Marcus by furthering the understanding of the freedoms he so dearly honored and practiced throughout his life," said Katherine Garner, executive director of The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. Texas residents engaged in the media or related fields are eligible to submit applications for the scholarship, which covers the FAI tuition cost. Recipients will be responsible for all hotel and travel expenses. For

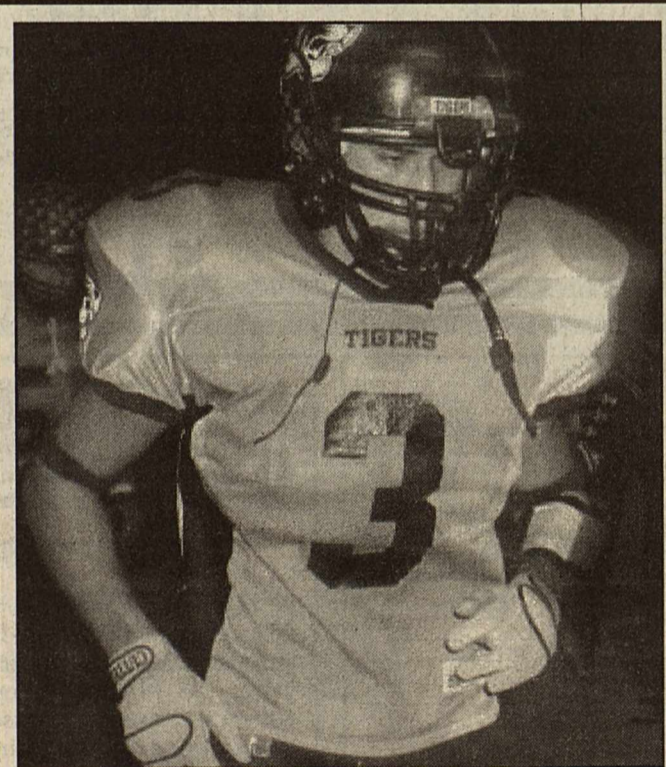
information on applying, contact the FOIFT at foift@foift.org or (214) 977-6658.

The purpose of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas is to encourage, sponsor and facilitate a greater appreciation, knowledge and understanding of the First Amendment. Working to ensure that the public's business is conducted in public, the FOIFT has successfully helped citizens access open meetings and documents that should be a matter of public record.

Since 1978, the Foundation's

goal has been to educate media and legal professionals, educators, students, public and business officials and individual citizens about their rights and responsibilities as citizens in our democracy.

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas is a non-profit 501 (C) (3) organization supported through grants and tax-deductible donations from private citizens, corporations and foundations. For more information, call (214) 977-6658, or visit our Web page, www.foift.org.



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Tres Rueda returns after half-time with his game face on ready to play.

Photo by Danielle Moore



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"Josie, I have the same kind of regrets. It's not something you just get over and leave behind." Rolando took Josie's hand as they walked. "This is what I've learned." He continued.

"Our memories and at times self-condemnation, are not some sort of punishment from God. They are the consequences of our own unwise decisions. They

are..." He hesitated, "a cross we must each bear."

They stopped walking and Rolando turned to face Josie. She expectantly lifted her eyes to his. He continued. "We are both prodigal children. We must thank God every day for our Christian families and for good Christian training in childhood. I don't know about you Josie. But I was on the edge of the precipice to hell. I know it was the prayers of my parents and of my grandmother who is in heaven with Jesus that rescued me."

Rolando's eyes clouded up with tears. "I thank God every day that I even lived through those years of disobedience. I know that the blood of Jesus paid the price for my sin. Every day



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

I live my life in such a way as to redeem myself in the eyes of my family and friends... and of you."

They continued walking in silence. Josie could feel Rolando's spiritual strength. There seemed to be a warm light surrounding them. She shivered momentarily and basked in the feelings she was experiencing. "You're right Rolando. Your strength gives me comfort. I guess that's why I enjoy our

times together."

She continued. "Jesus once told a woman caught in adultery, 'go and sin no more [Mat. 8:3-12].' That's what I have vowed to do. With God's help I will live a chaste and clean life until God gives me a life partner in the sacrament of marriage."

Rolando smiled. "You are wise Josie. I've made the same vow. That means you and I can share a wonderful companionship instead of floundering in lust." (To be continued)

Editor's Note: This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project working in Brackettville to strengthen family, faith and education.

I love the Lord

I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications, Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon Him as long as I live.

The sorrows of death compassed me, and the paths of hell got hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

Then called I upon the name of the Lord: O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea Our God is mer-



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

ciful. The Lord preserveth the simple; I was brought low, and he help me.

What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? Psalms 116: 1-6, 12. Praise God!

Entering into a wonderful opportunity

This story is adapted from an old Jewish folktale. The Rabbi was asked, "Which is the true religion?" The Rabbi replied: "Once there was a magic ring which gave its bearer the gifts of grace, kindness, and generosity."

When the owner of the ring was on his deathbed, each of his three sons came separately and asked him for the ring. The old man promised the ring to each of them. He then sent for the finest jeweler in the land, and paid him to make two rings identical to the original. The jeweler did so, and before he died, the father gave each son a ring without telling him about the other two.



Our Redeemer Lutheran & St. Andrew's

Nathan Lafrenz

Inevitably, the three sons discovered that each one had a ring, and they appeared before the local judge to ask his help in deciding who had the magic ring.

The judge examined the rings and found them to be all alike. He then asked, "Why must anyone decide now? We shall know who has the magic ring when we

observe the direction your life takes." Each of the brothers then acted as if he had the magic ring by being kind, honest, merciful, and thoughtful. Now, the rabbi concluded, "religions are like the three brothers in the story. The moment their members cease striving for justice and love we now know that their religion is not the one God gave the world."

We here in Brackettville are entering into a wonderful opportunity to live out our Christian faith through service. Thanksgiving and Christmas assistance projects are underway at many of our churches, as well as through the Fellowship of

Christian Athletes. When you receive requests to provide food, toys, clothing, and other needs let us remember that we are merely stewards of our possessions.

Unity Christmas program is just around the corner as well. Please consider the many opportunities we have to give during these next several weeks. Let us continue to seek for justice and love in our community.

Come and join with St. Andrew's Episcopal and Our Redeemer Lutheran Churches each Sunday morning as we seek to better understand the ways we can be about justice and love in our community.

Thank God the elections are over

There's no cynicism in that remark - that's an earnest prayer! And I'm pretty certain I'm not the only one meeting the end of the election season with a sense of relief. It doesn't really matter who you voted for or what party affiliation you might claim; I think we're all worn-out, over run with arguments, and ready for blessed silence.

So when I say "Thank God the elections are over" it's truly a prayer of thanksgiving - not only that the season is completed, but thanks for all those who made the process possible. Not only the voters but the candidates, not just the ballot counters, but the election judges and even the deputies who kept the peace.

Standing outside the court-

house on election night, shivering in the wind, I was glad that the chilly air lent a feeling of mutual warmth and willingness to move on among the assembled voters. I watched congratulations and sympathies being shared, briefly, then folks moving on to discuss over matters. I saw some disappointment and a little elation. But mostly I saw friends and neighbors accept the news with quiet affirmation and mutual respect or at least dignity.

I hope I don't seem too skeptical when I mention that someone, somewhere, is probably going to tell us how God personally intervened in the elections to make sure the "bad guys" weren't elected/re-elected. I hope that any Christian would



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Roger Baker

approach such a remark with some healthy skepticism. Why?

In the first place, if we credit God's direct action with deciding who is elected and who is not, we've taken a giant step backwards in our Christian understanding in the relationship between church and government. Such ideas throw us backwards into the "divine right of kings" to rule and even beg the question "why vote?" God calls us to action, not just to sit idly

by, depending on His efforts when we can act.

Secondly, if we're quick to call for Christians to act, we know that when they do indeed act, that it is their faith and love of God that calls them into Christian action. I think that was the whole point of James' epistle (check out James 2:14-24).

At First United Methodist Church, we're glad for the freedom to worship and assemble how we wish. More importantly, we're thankful that we work together when our faith calls us to action!

Join us at 9:30 for Sunday School and stay on for worship at 10:45. Give God thanks for the end of the election season - and anticipate the start of the new Christian year!

New Bible for children available

NASHVILLE, TN — As the Christmas season grows near, now is a good time to help a child embark on the path of learning through the Bible in a non-threatening way. San Antonio's Max Lucado, best-selling author and noted minister, has released his version of the International Children's Bible called Hermie & Friends Bible.

The International Children's Bible is the very first Bible translation created just for kids as it is presented in a form that is easily understandable and fun to read and learn. Lucado's Hermie & Friends Bible (ages 5-8) brings the inspired ICB format together with Hermie, the Common Cat-

erpillar, and several of his good friends: Flo, Wormie, and Lucy.

Through specialized prayer, verse memorization, and guided application, Hermie and his friends help kids on their journey through building a prayer life. The cute characters prompt children to want to be like them as they model living a life of faith, being friendly, and listening to what they are told.

Max Lucado is one of the most well-known and respected leaders in the Christian book industry. He has penned 18 simultaneous best-sellers perched atop the Christian Booksellers Association bestseller list for 12 years, and has a New York

Times best-seller under his belt. He has written for both adults and children over the years and has shown a true talent for lyrical verse.

In addition to his nonfiction books, Lucado has authored several award-winning children's titles including *Just in Case You Ever Wonder*, *The Crippled Lamb*, and most recently, *Hermie: A Common Caterpillar*. Other titles include *Jacob's Gift*, *Alabaster's Song*, *Small Gifts in God's Hands*, and *Max Lucado's Christmas Collection*. His books *Hermie: A Common Caterpillar*, *Jacob's Gift*, and *The Crippled Lamb* were produced into 30-minute family videos and have

aired on national television. Lucado serves as the pulpit minister at the Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, where he lives with his wife Denalyn and their three daughters.

A young fan recently noted, "Hermie tells me what it means to be good and shows me how a regular caterpillar can turn into a beautiful butterfly. I want to be like Hermie and be nice to people I meet."

Lucado has a gift for reaching kids through a unique and inspirational medium. Hermie and his friends can also be found in board books, picture books, backpacks and videos for children.

The shade tree

We really didn't take notice of it till it was almost dead. It finally had to be cut down and there is nothing but bare ground where once stood a beautiful tall shade tree in front of our local church. People used to stand and visit under it's shade before and after church service. Watermelon and ice cream socials were held under it.

Enrollment for Vacation Bible schools was also held there. Young children would play around it or climb in its branches. Teenagers and young people would stand around and talk under it after services and even become engaged and married.

Newborn babies were shown off under it on their first Sunday at Church. Many, after they had accepted Christ, would pass by on the way to be baptized. Others would pass under its shade to bury a loved one or some passed under its shade to



Jerry Davenport

Brother J.

be buried.

That tree reminds me (sadly) of what is happening to Christianity and Churches in America. Surveys are saying that Christianity is on the decline (slowly dying). Over half of our Churches never led a single person to Christ last year and over 70 churches close their doors weekly. Materialism, recreation (fun) and pleasures are some of the reasons. The other is an apathetic attitude, disobedience or unfaithfulness toward God (Proverbs 19:16 and Amos 8:11,12).

See you in Church next Sunday. Brother J

Thank You!

I would like to Thank everyone who supported me in the recent Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District election.

Regardless of your current position concerning our local water district, I encourage all of you to keep your eyes, ears, and minds open.

The truth can only be found by those willing to seek it. That means talking to all sides, doing your own homework and forming your own opinion.

You're short changing yourself and our community if you do anything less.

Pol. Ad paid for by Wes Robinson, P.O. Box 1040, Brackettville, TX 78832

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EMPLOYMENT

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- Unit 1 Lot 145 Ft. Clark Springs 2 bd / 2ba
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS of proposed Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Contracts. Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date (s) shown below, and then publicly read. Construction/Maintenance/Building Facilities contract (s). Dist/Div: Laredo, Contract 6123-73-001 for Crack seal of highways in Maverick County, etc will be opened on November 30, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District office for an estimate of \$96,885.00. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract (s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO:14610. State Office: Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas, 78704. Phone: 512-416-2540. Dist/Div Office (s), Laredo District, District Engineer, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, Texas, 78043. Phone: 956-712-7400. Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

City slapped with \$12,000 TCEQ fine

Continued from Page 1
been imposed on the city because of violations in the brush area on the far east side of the city.

The fine stems from violation of solid waste at the location, according to Rigby. She said there is household trash on the property, meaning shingles, some furniture, building materials and such.

She went on to say the TCEQ provided her with violations from the last three years. "It's been an unauthorized location," she said. "There has been no mayor, no city manager, no city secretary or city council member wanting to take care of it."

She also said the city does not have the funds to cover the \$12,000 fine. "There's no money," she said. The TCEQ has not officially notified the city as to when the fine needs to be paid. "I don't have anything in writing right now," Rigby said.

She also said. TCEQ inspectors will arrive this week to further inspect the now-closed brush area.

Also discussed at Tuesday's city council meeting was the discussion and possible action of

installing water meters at each individual residence, not two houses on one water meter.

According to Rigby, there are various locations throughout the city where a landowner has a large lot, large enough to place two homes on it. Both homes would be tapped into the same meter.

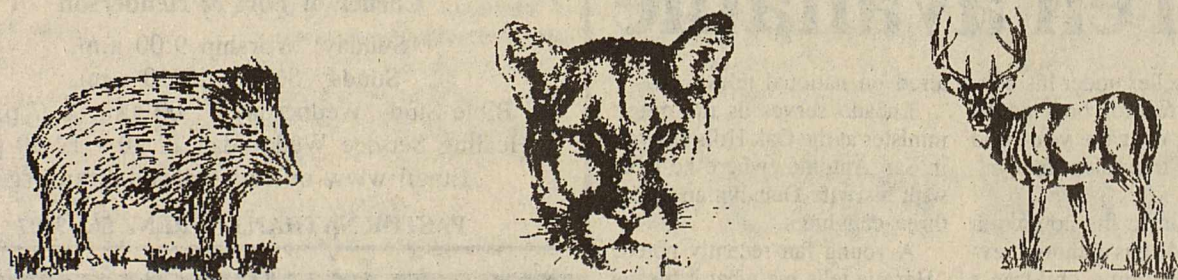
To alleviate the situation, "A city council member and I will be walking the streets checking," Rigby said. She noted that two homes on one water or gas meter is a violation.

Rigby said a fine should be given to the owner "I think we should give (the owners) a fine. But that's up to the City Council. They have not expressed what they want yet," she said.

If homes are found to be sharing a meter, it will be changed immediately, she said. "The best thing to do is for anyone to come forward and have us fix it for them," she said.

Rigby will also be working on revising the city's personnel policy. "There are just a few loose ends we need to tie up," she said.

"It's something we are working on and looking to council for advice," she said.

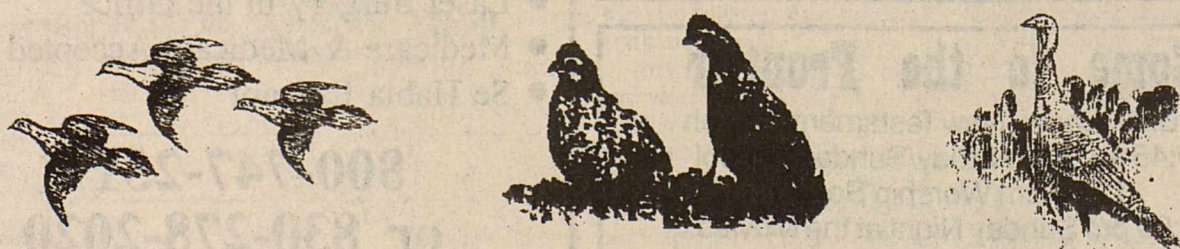


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The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.



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