

The Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 117 • Issue 16

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Porras family ties up yellow ribbon, shares letter from son



Proud parents Maria and Joe Porras tied a yellow ribbon to the Old Oak Tree in honor of their son, Rene B. Porras. Porras is an '83 graduate of S.H.S. and has been in the Army ever since. He is now stationed in Mosul, Iraq. He hopes to return home soon, to retire in approximately a year and a half. Porras recently sent the following letter to his friends and family, show chose to share it with us...

Dear Family and friends,
I hope this letter finds everyone in good spirits and good health. I hope you don't mind, but I keep telling myself to write and thank everyone for the great support you have given my family and me, be it letters, boxes, prayers, making sure Jamie (wife) and the kids are doing fine, or your kind thoughts. As I tell Jamie, I appreciate all of you and know that I am a fortunate and blessed man. As Jamie and the kids and my parents, and well,

just about anyone will tell you, I'm not the best at writing letters. To my defense, we tend to stay pretty busy in this sprouting democracy called Iraq. Oh yea, and I have terrible penmanship (o.k., bad excuse).

I'm located in Mosul, which is located in Northern Iraq. We work in what used to be one of Saddam's many palaces - other than going to the bathroom in what could have been the same place as the former dictator used, this place is, well, now Americanized, or should I say, the Army has made it into a high tech command and control center. You guys (and gals) would be amazed and proud of how your military makes things happen. I mean, American ingenuity and hard work at its finest. All the gold is gone, the swimming pools are empty and we have tall walls all around the place.

This part of the country, as

See Porras page 7

Texas Resolution read at Weingart's welcome home



Sgt. Javier Weingart gets assistance removing his yellow and purple ribbons from the Old Oak Tree.

Family and friends took time out of their lunch hour on Wednesday, April 11, 2005, to honor U.S. Army Sgt. Javier Weingart as he removed his yellow ribbon from the Old Oak Tree.

In addition to receiving gifts of appreciation from the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program, the City of Sonora, and the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, Judge Carla Garner read a special Resolution from State Representative Harvey Hilderbran.

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Javier Weingart

of Sonora deservedly received the Purple Heart in November 2004 for heroic actions and injuries sustained during a hostile enemy attack in Iraq; and

Whereas, a member of the 1st Infantry Division, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, Sergeant Weingart demonstrated courage and leadership during his service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, responding swiftly and effectively during difficult and challenging circumstances and staunchly defending the lives of his fellow soldiers; and

See Weingart page 7

Lady Broncos Make Playoffs

by Tryon Fields

After last week's victories over Eldorado and Grape Creek, the Lady Broncos come one week closer to a showdown with the Lady Hawks from Wall. With Wall leading the district, Sonora needs to defeat the Lady Hawks on Tuesday to gain a share of the district crown.

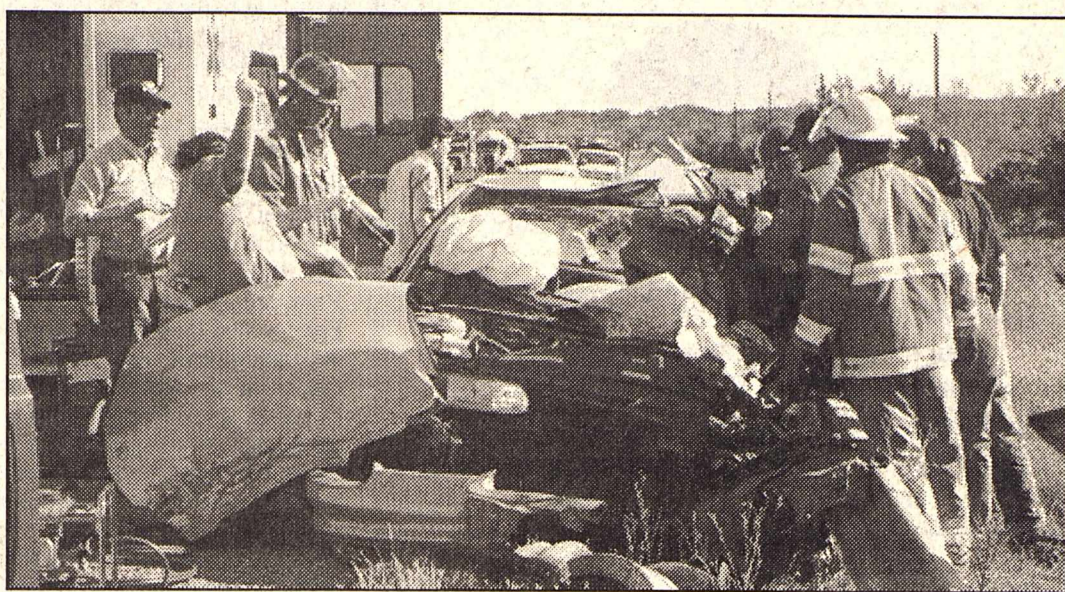
Sonora's bats along with excellent pitching and solid defensive play allowed the Lady Broncos to out score Eldorado and Grape Creek by a margin of 23 runs to 1. Sonora pitcher, Heather Hughes, took the mound on Tuesday against Eldorado. Hughes faced 16 batters in 5 innings allowing 1 run off of 1 hit while striking out 10 Lady Eagles. Sonora would score 11 runs in the top of the first inning and bat around twice. Kayla Fields and Brandy Neff would both reach base 3 out of the 4 times they came to the plate.

Both would have a single and walk twice. Fields would drive in 2 RBI's.

Jennifer Burton would add a single and a double. Adriana Castillo, Heather Hughes, and Kimble Luna would round out the hitting with each having a single. Jaimee Duran would

See Lady Broncos page 5

Two-car collision claims multiple fatalities



Emergency crews work to extract a victim from a vehicle involved in a two-car collision on Highway 277 South.

by Storie Sharp

A two-car collision on the morning of Thursday, April 14, 2005 resulted in one of the worst accident scenes in this area in a very long time.

Texas State Trooper Noe Fernandez of Del Rio, Texas reported that a 1996 Oldsmobile Aurora, driven by Manuel Davila of Sonora, was traveling north on Hwy. 277 S. Approximately 25 miles south of Sonora, the Oldsmobile crossed the center line, striking a 2000 Ford Explorer, occupied by four females. The vehicles collided left headlight to left headlight, causing Davila's vehicle to spin around, coming to rest approximately 60 feet from the point of impact, wedged against a guard rail.

The Explorer went into a side-ways slide, rolling two and half times, ejecting both rear seat passengers. The Explorer continued to travel south, coming to rest on the driver side, facing west on the left side of the road. Sutton County Rescue Team and EMS worked diligently to extract the passenger from the Explorer, while Sutton County and Rocksprings Rescue and EMS teams worked to remove Davila from the other vehicle.

Both victims were transferred to Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital, where they were life-flighted to Shannon Hospital in San Angelo.

Three victims, Graciela Castellanos Rojas, 33, of Merkel, Texas; Margarita Morales Leyva, 54, of Trent,

Texas; and Bertha Aguirre Guerra, 65, residence unknown; were pronounced dead at the scene by Rocksprings Justice of the Peace Merritt.

Davila was later pronounced dead at Shannon Hospital by Tom Green County Justice of the Peace Eddie Howard.

The status of the remaining passenger was unknown at press time.

Troopers assisting Fernandez at the scene were Trooper Jose Duenez of Del Rio, Trooper Norbert Ortiz of Sonora, Sgt. Carl Mayfield and Senior Trooper Ben English of Ozona and Senior Trooper Steve Torres.

School Board hears more requests for volleyball

The Board of Trustees of the Sonora Independent School District met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2005. Board members present included Tryon Fields, President; Jesse Bustamante; Dean Dermody; Tammy Favila; Scott Jacoby; Barbara Jennings; Tom Payton and Brant Myers, Superintendent.

In the absence of the Chief Appraiser, the Superintendent stated that the collection rate stood at 98.15%.

Superintendent Myers reviewed expenditures, revenues, cash position by bank account, and current bills in the amount of \$550,050.90.

Chief Appraiser Rex Ann Friess arrived and stated that the current collection rate was above the rate of 97% for the previous year at the same time.

Architect John Williams reported that the major part of the Primary Building would be completed in approximately 2 weeks with the remainder (library, teacher workroom, and computer, Spanish, and music rooms) to be finished by August. Dr. Myers gave a brief review of the moving schedule to clear out the Intermediate Building for upcoming renovation. Additionally, the Superintendent informed the Board regarding an issue with the Elementary Cafeteria air conditioning.

President Fields stated that the volleyball agenda item was strictly for the purpose of discussion and he began by reading two letters from students who requested the addition of a volleyball program. He then informed parent Chap Traylor that he was welcome to begin his presentation.

Mr. Traylor stated that he was not aware that this item was for discussion only and was informed by the board president that it was a board decision whether or not to pursue action regarding the addition of volleyball.

Mr. Traylor reviewed information he had presented at a previous meeting in May, 2004. He along with the board, superintendent, athletic director, and

See School Board page 7

Sonora Broncos & Lady Broncos District Champions



2005 District Golfers: Steven Barthelemy, Swade Draper, Embre Smith, Cullen Parker, Mason Martinez, Stetson Perez, Trent Reiner, Morgan Martinez. Front: Erin Newton, Morgan Coffman, Candice Martin, Kayla McBride, Sara Baggett, Jessica Chavarria, Kaci Chavarria and Kaija Valkonen. For more on District Golf see page 5. Photo by Memories by McBride

Sonora students place at State Science Fair

SAN ANTONIO, Texas - Two Sonora students were awarded top honors at the 2005 ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair. The annual statewide competition, presented by the Texas Science Careers Consortium and hosted by The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), attracted more than 1,200 students from across Texas. Winners from the Sonora include Steely Ingham, fifth place in the junior division of space science and Yolanda Sanchez, third place in the junior division of botany.

Students competed in two divisions -- junior division (grades 6-8) and senior division (grades 9-12). The 19th annual competition recognized all students placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd place or receiving an honorable mention in the fair's sixteen competitive categories. Students qualified for the state competition by placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an ISEF-sanctioned regional science fair.

ExxonMobil Foundation, which has been the Fair's title

See Science Fair page 10

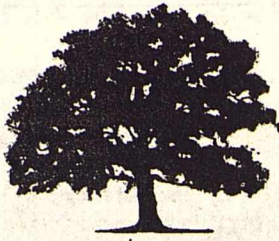


S.H.S. cheerleaders relax in the sand under the palm trees at the Chamber of Commerce Beach Party.

Chamber awards banquet makes a splash with a West Texas Beach Party

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce 2005 "Beach Party" Awards Banquet found local residents visiting some ocean front property in Sonora, Texas. The Chamber of Commerce staff, board of directors, and volunteers transformed the Sutton County Civic Center into a tropical paradise for the evening's event, complete with palm trees, a Tiki Lounge, souvenir shop, limbo contests, live birds and a roasted pig. After vacationers enjoyed frozen "mock-tails" and chocolate dipped treats, a lavish luau meal was provided by the Sutton County Steakhouse. Then it was time for the best on the beach to be presented with their own special "survivor" torches to symbolize the light they shine all year round. If you missed the tropical treat you missed out on a sea of fun, but you can catch a glimpse of the beach bash on pages 8-10. Bon-voyage!

**Lighthouse
Community Church**
A place for returning Prodigals
and recovering Pharisees
Sunday Services
Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Worship • 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.
1705 N. Crockett



SUTTON COUNTY
HEALTH FOUNDATION

Your memorial gift helps preserve access
to quality healthcare for generations to come.
Please consider the Sutton County Health
Foundation, P.O. Box 18, Sonora, TX 76950.
All contributions 100% tax deductible.



Sonora Church Directory

PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA

Antonio F. Gonzales, Sr.
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Jerry Jackson
304 N. Water
387-3190

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

T. Wayne Price
Pastor
111 E Oak
387-2951

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Milton Black
404 E. Poplar
387-2955

FIRST UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Beverley Parsons, Pastor
201 N. Water
387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS

Enoc Elias Nunez
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713
387-3092

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tom Baden
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

LA IGLESIA HISPANA UNIDA

DEL NOMBRE
DE JESUS, INC.
Pastor Felipe Martinez
807 Orient

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN

Lewis Allen, Pastor
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Don Longoria, Pastor
1705 N. Crockett

PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED

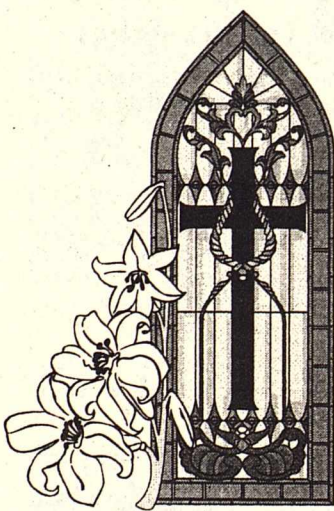
509 Amistad

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father William DuBuisson,
O.M.I.
229 W. Plum
387-2278

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

310 St. Ann's Street
387-5658 or 387-5518



Brought to you by:

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

Notes of Appreciation

I would like to say a big thank-you to Stanley James and Joe Schaffer for building me a new ramp.
God Bless You!
Jimmie Sue Griffith

We would like to thank the EMS team for their help on March 12, 2005. Special thanks to Keith Butler, Dr. Pajestka, all nurses and Arcellia and Ed Carrasco.

We are so thankful for all the prayers and show of support during Dan's recovery after his stroke. We are grateful to live in a community full of such wonderful people.

Thank you,
Dan Cauthorn Family

We would like to give our thanks to everyone who donated money and also to the people who contributed to the bake sale. We are very thankful for the way the community of Sonora came together to help our family. Thank you.
Pizza Hut & The Davila Family

There are so many people to thank for all their hard work on the "Beach Party in Sonora" Annual Sonora Chamber of Commerce Banquet. First of all I want to say thank-you to the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Board of directors: Jo Ann Jones, John Jones, Marla Percifull, Jody Luttrell, Storie Sharp, Becky Allison, Greta Ramsdell, Doug Huddleston, Susan Hall, Lance Castro, Jim Phillips, and Jaunita Estrada. The talents of Marla Percifull and her decorating committee gave us a wonderful setting for our celebration of the citizens of Sonora. It is absolutely amazing what Marla can come up with and there is no way that I can thank her enough. Becky Allison arranged for the incredible Luau feast that the Sutton County Steakhouse catered. Linda Love and her crew really outdid themselves this year - It was fabulous! Jo Ann Jones had to be out of town this week, but counted and tabulated all the award nominations and ordered plaques for the awards before she left town. Storie Sharp served as the emcee for the banquet and did an outstanding job, as she always does at everything she does. There are several other volunteers who helped with the banquet, and you will notice that many of them are spouses or children of board members. They are: Victoria Robles, Jason Bounds, Scott Garrett, Dod James, Will Allison, Suzanne Huddleston, Mariah Castro, Rick Bounds, Mike Percifull, Mickey Sharp, Janalyn Jones, Kelly Thorp, Armando Martinez, Cindy Feagan, Terry Surridge, Linda Love, Michael Luttrell, Mary Ann Kinney, Danielle Castro, and Spencer Hall. We would not have had the banquet without my right hand, Donna Garrett. Thank you to the citizens of Sonora for being the most giving people in the world. I cannot even begin to express my appreciation, for there are not words, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. Thank you Sonora!!! Ruthie Bounds, COC Executive Director

Javier Weingart and family expresses a big "Thank You" to the Friends of Historic Sonora, Ann Kay and staff, Sonora Chamber of Commerce - Ruthie Bounds and staff, for organizing his homecoming and yellow ribbon/purple heart ceremony. Thank you Judge Garner and Mayor Lopez and all who took time from work/lunch to attend. Thanks to La Mexicana - Tabby, Rene and Brenda, and Sutton County Steakhouse - Mr. & Mrs. Preston Love, for the gift certificates.

Thanks to Storie Sharp at the Devil's River News for keeping our community posted as to what is happening with our soldiers as they leave to serve our country and their return.

We appreciate all who stayed up till midnight to welcome Javier home, you too, J.C. and Oscar Chavez, Sheriff Dept., and City Police Officer Dick Dudley for the escort through town.

To all our friends and family, a heartfelt thanks, especially Sandi Espinosa, Irene Friess, Charles Graves and Faye Deel. Thanks to all the community for caring and your prayers.

I would like to give thanks to all those who have helped me raise money while running for Cinco de Mayo Queen.

Everyone's efforts have not gone unnoticed. For those who helped with the hamburger fund raiser. Ruben and Maria Mesa, Carlos Sanchez, George Hernandez, Manuel Duran, Joe San Miguel, Blaze and Amy Sykes, Mom and Dad and Team R.A.Z.P.A. for the Cakewalk and everyone who bought hamburgers.

Thank you, Christine Sanchez

School Lunch Menu • April 25 - 29, 2005

Breakfast

Mon. - French toast, syrup, asst. juice.
Tues. - Cheese toast, pineapple orange juice.
Wed. - Breakfast pizza, asst. juice.
Thurs. - Cinnamon roll, asst. juice.
Fri. - Blueberry muffin, asst. juice.

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

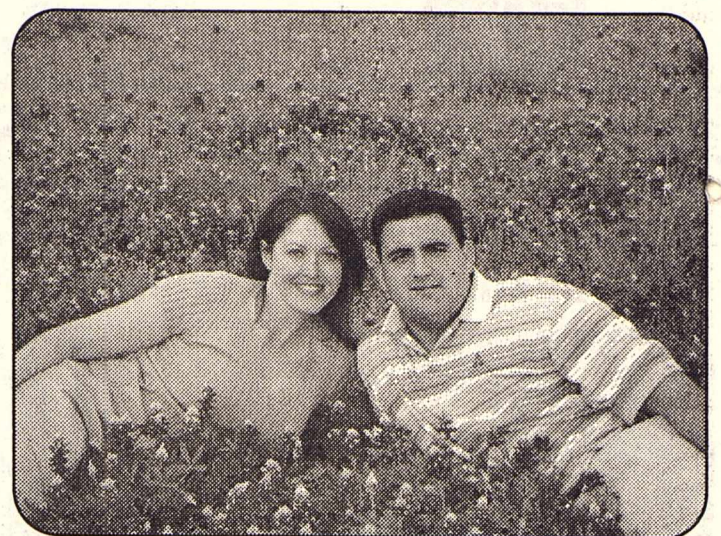
Lunch

Mon. - Beef & cheese nachos, pinto beans, tossed salad, peaches.
Tues. - Chicken nuggets, tator tots, ketchup, Jell-O w/ fruit, chocolate chip cookie.
Wed. - Beef burrito, flour tortilla, Spanish rice, salad, grapes.
Thurs. - Corn dog, mustard, baked beans, carrot sticks, dressing, Jell-O w/ topping.
Fri. - Hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fries, ice cream cup.



Engagement

Zachry, Harrell announce July wedding plans



Mitzi Ann Zachry and Roderick William Harrell

Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Zachry are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Mitzi Ann to Roderick William Harrell, son of Mrs. Billie Anne Harrell and Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Taylor Harrell. He is the Grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stewart of Sonora. The bride-elect is a graduate of Rocksprings High School and Tarleton State University. She is currently employed as an operating room nurse at NE Baptist Hospital in San Antonio. The prospective groom graduated from Rocksprings High School and Hardin Simmons University, where he was a member of the Cowboy football team. He is employed with Covert Chevrolet in Bastrop, Texas. The wedding is planned for July 2005 at Texas Old Town in Austin, Texas.

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street planning Sutton County Memorial Day Celebration

The Friends of Historic Sonora will host the Sutton County Memorial Day Celebration 2005 on May 30, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., on the lawn of the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn. We will add to the celebration this year by having food booths and cold drinks opening at 12:00 noon for your family to enjoy a picnic on the lawn. We hope you will join us for lunch!

The Goodfellow Air Force Honor Guard will present the colors, and a twenty-one gun salute, while playing "Taps" and the presentation of the wreaths, assisted by local Boy Scouts. If you haven't come to the Sutton County Memorial Celebration you have missed the peace of "Taps" ringing out through the oak trees on Sutton County Courthouse lawn on Memorial Day and taking a minute to say thank-you to the veterans who have given us freedom. The Memorial Day celebration was honored as the Texas Downtown Best Promotions in 2001. The Veterans from All Wars Museum will be open for you to view the photos and read the personal stories of our community veterans.

This event is sponsored by: Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program, KHOS Radio, City of Sonora, Boy Scouts, Goodfellow Air Force Honor Guard, Sutton County, Johnny Solis, Carlos Gallegos, and the supporters of the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program, and community veterans.

**Are you ready for
"Fiesta, No Siesta"
2005 ACS Relay for Life
May 20-21
Call Kim at 387-5382 FMI**

Senior Center News

April 25 - Bingo
April 26 - Exercise w/video
April 27 - Kooking w/ Kelly, nutrition ed
April 28 - Crafts
April 29 - Blood Pressure chks w/ Interpid Home Health Service

Senior Center Menu

April 25 - Swiss steak w/ gravy, peas/carrots, tossed salad, bread, orange sections, milk
April 26 - Chicken nuggets w/ gravy, zucchini squash w/ tomatoes, roll, potato wedges, peaches, milk
April 27 - Chopped steak w/ gravy & onion, parslied potatoes, cooked carrots, wheat bread, cucumber/tomato salad, pudding, milk
April 28 - BBQ chicken, pinto beans, California mixed veggies, macaroni salad, cornbread, Jell-O w/ fruit, milk
April 29 - Polish sausage, potato salad, steamed cabbage, cornbread, pears, milk

Mon. - Fri 7:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon.
\$1.50 donation is suggested for those 60+ and \$4.00 for others.
Menu is subject to change.

Community Calendar

April 23
Relay for Life Benefit Team Roping
at Consuelo Ranch • 8:00 a.m.

April 25
County Commissioner's Meeting
9:00 a.m. • Annex Bldg.

April 26
City Council Meeting • 2:00 p.m. • City Hall

April 27
Chili Cook-Off Meeting
6:30 p.m. • Stagecoach

April 30 - May 1

Cinco de Mayo/Car Show
Civic Center/Park
AJRA Rodeo • 10:00 A.M.
County Arena

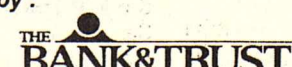
May 2

Relay for Life Team Captain Meeting
5:30 p.m. • First National Bank

The Community Calendar is made possible by:



Member FDIC



Member FDIC
229 Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

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The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of the staff.



Member 2005

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Letters To The Editor Policy
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Ask the Historical Society

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer,
Secretary
Sutton County Historical
Society

Q. When did Sonora first have a football team and what did they wear for uniforms?

A. The first year we had a team was 1919 and they wore whatever they had or could get to make a uniform. None of them matched and they weren't always sure they were throwing a pass to one of their own team members. It seems most of the other schools just starting out with teams had the same problem, no uniforms.

John Eaton wrote the following article: 1920, what a year that was and what a team. At least this was an improvement over 1919's team. 1919 was the first year of football for Sonora High and we managed to learn the rules and beat Junction 6 to 0 when Justice Adams ran 30 yards for the lone score. This game was played on the school campus, a gravel and grass/burr field 110 yards long. The discrepancy of 10 yards was not discovered until we laid off a track in the spring for the 100-yard dash.

The 1920 team wore the first jerseys furnished by the school. This made a better picture and certainly was a great help to the players in telling who was on their side. In 1919 the team even got confused with the spectators who stood on the un-roped sidelines and out on the field. Most of the boys wore part work clothes and uniform.

Two boys, Nelson Merck and Bud Smith are not in the picture with this article. This was another improvement, a team with two substitutes. The two men were absent the day the photo was taken.

The following year, half the 1921 team quit at Christmas. This was before the Interscholastic League bunch took over and messed things up with a lot of rules and requirements.

The 1920 team had the advantage of a reporter to give them a little more publicity. Millard Cope was working for the Devil and at least got in one good, long write up. Junction beat us there, October 9, by 20 to 13. Two weeks later they came here and beat us 12 to 6 and the Devil stated that the reporter was so disgusted he would not report the game. It

did state that business houses closed for the game, first time on record, and gave a list of the visitors with players. This game was played on the field over by the swimming pool.

Millard gave a full report of the game with Ozona October 16. We beat them 24 to 15. Unusual features were passes thrown by Ozona and their 30 yard drop kick.

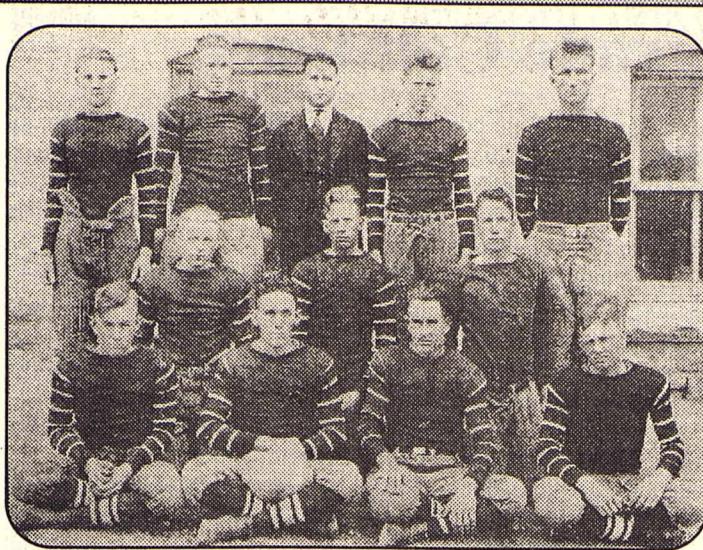
The 1920 team will be noted, if for nothing else, for its victory over Ozona, and electing the coach, Bob Hamilton, to the exalted post of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court 3 years later.

I looked through some of his other notes and found that this team didn't wear helmets like the ones our players have now. They were leather helmets, like the old aviator helmets worn in WWI by the flyers, with a slight padding added to them. Most of the players wore very little in the way of padding or protection when they played.

The earliest games played on the school playground area with gravel and lots of burdocks in the grass caused some horrible injuries to the players. They were scraped up worse than an infant trying to learn how to walk through the same surface. Football was a rough and tumble game in its earliest days, the players had almost no protection and received many injuries. It wasn't uncommon for one of them to get a tooth knocked out or a dislocated shoulder as a routine injury.

Also we wanted you to note that we were called the Bobcats in the earliest years of football. Once the Interscholastic League stepped in and found we were in a group that already had the name we had to change ours. Times have changed a lot for football. No matter how much padding and protection we have players still get hurt. But now the fans stay off the field so the quarterback doesn't get confused and try to throw a pass to one of them. We have strict rules and regulations now and perfectly laid out fields and goal posts. Lighted stadiums have made it possible to play games after dark without getting the spectators to line up their vehicles along the field and put on their lights so you could see to play.

We have stadiums for the fans to sit in, no hauling chairs from home and putting them on the lawn or backing up old



Members of the second football team and the first uniformed team included (left to right), top row, Woodson Herbert, Horace Rees, Coach Bob Hamilton, Albert Reynolds, Marvin Logan; middle row, John Eaton, Jack Grimland, Lum Trainer; bottom row, Curtis Edens, Greyden Rees, Clyde Martin and John A. Martin, Jr.

wooden sided pickup trucks with the seats in them. Of course everyone brought a crock of iced tea to drink and made up picnic baskets full of goodies for themselves and anyone sitting around them that cared to join them. There was lots of visiting at the early games and lots of school spirit. That is one thing we still have today, plenty of parents who get out there and support our teams when they compete.

The NOLA quarterly had a write up by Chuck Parsons that said "Ernst in 'Harvey Logan, Wildest of the Wild Bunch,' presents a brief biography of this noted outlaw....It is an excellent work for a modest price...we look forward to the next in her Fort Worth Five Series. He also gave a good write up on her 'Women of the Wild Bunch.' The books are \$9.95 each plus \$2.50 each for postage and handling.

Some of you remember Donna Ernst wrote our book "Will Carver Outlaw." If you have any questions about the book e-mail her at dnpemst@cs.com or write to her at P.O. Box 118, Lederach, PA 19450. We suggest you write her for quantitative prices or wholesale order prices.

It has been a very, very busy week for us at the society. We have been receiving lots of donated items and trying to get everything identified and logged in. At times the front room looked like it got hit by a tornado. We are trying to cata-

logue all the photographs we have on file and all the new ones we have received and could use your help in identifying many that were of the Labensky family and Cauthorn family from the 1930's to about the 1950's. Stop in and take a look and see if you know any of the people in these old photographs. One we have is an old tintype of a man holding an 1864 hand gun across his lap, but no name anywhere on the old photo or on the back of it. It is very hard to preserve history when people don't put names on the margins of photographs. Don't write them across the center backs of the photo, the ink bleeds through with time and destroys the photo, just put them along the very edges with an archival safe pen but please, before your family inherits your photographs, mark your photos so they know who is in them.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton County history send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885, or e-mail us at schs@sonoratrax.net. You can call us at the office on Monday, Friday and Saturday mornings from 8-11:45 at 387-5084 regarding questions and building rentals. Please don't call at home, Rick is having a myelogram and CT this Wednesday and he needs rest, not ringing phones. Thank you!

Texas surf group makes waves over special beach bills

State Capital Highlights Texas Press Association

by Mike Cox

AUSTIN - A non-profit group dedicated to preserving Texas' beaches is making waves about House Bill 1603 and its companion Senate Bill 740, hoping the Legislature and all Texans interested in the state's long coastline will take a closer look at the measures.

Introduced by Rep. Dennis Bonnen (R-Angleton), the House bill relates "to the authority of certain political subdivisions to erect or maintain shore protection structures and the location of the line of vegetation in relation to those structures."

The measure would amend the Natural Resources Code to exempt the municipal utility district for the Treasure Island subdivision at San Luis Pass in Brazoria County from the Texas Open Beaches Act.

The Texas chapter of the Surfrider Foundation says the measure, which reads like a local bill aimed at a local problem dealing with beach erosion caused by the fast-moving waters of San Luis Pass, would privatize the public beach and create a legal precedent that could lead to further loss of public beaches.

The House Land Management Committee voted 8-0 on April 7 to send the measure to the floor. Only two people testified on the bill - Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson and former Sen. A.R. "Babe" Schwartz of Galveston.

To read Surfrider's position paper on the bill, check the foundation's

Web site at www.surfrider.org/texas.

The Legislature's analysis of the bill is available at www.capitol.state.tx.us/.

Young marriage targeted...

True or false? A child in Texas can legally marry at 14 as long as he or she has parental permission. If you answered

false, you'll probably be in favor of Rep. Harvey Hilderbran's (R-Kerrville) House Bill 3006. Hilderbran's bill would raise the minimum marrying-with-parental-permission age to 16 from the present 14. The bill also would make it illegal for stepparents to marry stepchildren.

Patterned after similar legislation passed in Utah, the bill is aimed at preventing problems at the newly constructed Yearning for Zion ranch in Schleicher County.

The ranch is occupied by members of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints who moved to the West Texas county from Utah and Arizona, reportedly seeking an easier environment to practice polygamy.

Large cheeseburger and fries, please...

A measure pending in the House Civil Practices Committee is aimed at fat folks who figure they can win a hefty settlement by filing suits against fast food firms for selling them foods high in calories.

House Bill 107, filed by Rep. Corbin Van Arsdale (R-Houston) would put Texas litigants on a lawsuit diet by protecting fast food companies, agricultural interests and grocery stores from liability in "you made me fat by selling me cheeseburgers" suits.

Bump in the road for Willie...

The effort to name State Highway 130 in honor of Willie Nelson has hit a rough spot in the road with Republican Sens. Steve Ogden (R-College Station) and Jeff Wentworth (R-San Antonio) saying they don't want the stretch of highway that will pass through their districts named after Texas' internationally-known country western star.

While Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos' (D-Austin) measure is still alive, one anonymous joker has suggested that the Republicans might be happier naming the new Central Texas toll road the Delay Way.

Happy Birthday

April 21

Jack Johnson, Lisa Lipham, Natascha Whitehurst, Christy Blackman, Jerry Wood, Mikey Chavez

April 22

Ashley Perez, Crystal Hidalgo, Charlotte Alewine

April 23

Randy Gillit, Isabella Mejia, Janea Crowder, Amy Ramirez, Jenna Baldwin, Don Deel, Dois Badgett, Brad Johnson, Chris McAngus, Wayne Sawyer, Alyssa Mejia, Biddy Ramirez

April 24

Chantel Arispe, David Alaman, Cullen Parker, Nicole Lipham, Tori Neal, Kaleena Samaniego, Charlotte Castro, Estella Sanchez

April 25

Breg Hughes, Anthony Longoria, Savannah Leonard, Adriana Castillo, Eddie Martinez, Anastacio Munoz, Stayce Fisher, Shelby Onofre, Alica Lira, Travis Valliant

April 26

Cindy Fields, Desiree Alvarado, Dakota Love, Stephanie Hard, Danni Price, Carly Hill

April 27

Lou Chavez, Melinda Patlan, Tanner Esparza, Melissa Acosta, Roxanne Talamantez, Michelle Weingart, Theresa Duran, Mona Prieto

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Becca Fields bride-elect of Jesse Worley

Lauren Whiteside bride-elect of Anthony

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Carla Weaver bride-elect of Bonner Walsh
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Becca Fields bride-elect of Jesse Worley

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Isn't it Nifty "Bidi" is turning Fifty!



Happy Birthday "Bidi"

Beatrice Ramirez
Saturday, April 23, 2005

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Catching up with 7th grade Colt track

The 7th Grade boys competed in the Ozona Middle School Relays on March 24, 2005. Crane, Kermit, Stanton, Reagan County, Ozona, Grape Creek and Sonora were the schools entered in the meet. The 7th grade Colts finished 3rd with 87 points. The results are as follows:

Shotput: 2nd - Cash Jennings 32'9", 4th - Chris Aguero 31'4.5", 6th - Tyler Creek 30'3.5"

Discus: 3rd - Tyler Creek 81'10 1/4"

High Jump: 1st - Chris Aguero 4'10"

Pole Vault: 2nd - Manny Paredes 7'0"

2400 Meter Run: 3rd - Mario Oliden 9:50.10

1600 Meter Run: 6th - Manny Paredes 6:25.55

4 x 100 Meter Relay: 3rd - Caleb Gonzales, Chacho Mesa, Will Anderson and Chris Aguero - 54:67

100 Meter Dash: 3rd - Chris Aguero 12:99

200 Meter Dash: 4th - Caleb Gonzales 29:18

4 x 200 Meter Relay: 6th - Will Anderson, Cash Jennings, Dustin Neff and Paul Faz - 2:07.29

400 Meter Dash: 2nd - Cody Pena 64:68

4 x 400 Meter Relay: 3rd - Mario Oliden, Paul Faz, Caleb Gonzales and Chris Aguero - 4:40.23

The boys competed in the Sonora Colt Relays on March 31, 2005. Mason, Ozona, Eldorado, Reagan County and Sonora were the schools entered in the meet. The 7th grade Colts finished 1st with 147 points. The results are as follows:

Shotput: 2nd - Cash Jennings 32'; 3rd - Tyler Creek 31'10"; 4th - Chris Aguero 30'8.5"

Discus: 3rd - Tyler Creek 81'10.5"

Pole Vault: 1st - Manny Paredes 7'

Long Jump: 3rd - Cody Pena 15'4.5"; 6th - Paul Faz 13'6.5"

Triple Jump: 5th - Paul Faz 29.9; 6th - Cody Pena 29'7"

High Jump: 1st - Chris Aguero 5'0"

2400 Meter Run: 2nd - Mario Oliden 9:49.23

4 x 100 Meter Relay: 3rd - Harvey Santana, Irving Fuentes, Angel Aguayo and Chris Aguero - 53:89

100 Meter Dash: 1st - Chris Aguero 13:18, 4th - Harvey Santana 14:23

4 x 200 Meter Relay: 4th - Will Anderson, Cash Jennings, Dustin Neff and Paul Faz - 2:01.47

400 Meter Dash: 4th - Cody Pena 1:03.55

200 Meter Dash: 2nd - Irving Fuentes 28:84

1600 Meter Run: 2nd - Mario Oliden 6:20.39, 3rd - Manny Paredes 6:21.04, 5th - Cody Pena 6:23.43

4 x 400 Meter Relay: 1st - Irving Fuentes, Angel Aguayo, Paul Faz and Chris Aguero - 4:23.78

On April 7, 2005 the 7th Grade Colts competed in the district track meet in Grape Creek. Mason, Ozona, Eldorado, Reagan County, Wall, Junction, Grape Creek and Sonora were the schools entered in the meet. The 7th grade Colts finished 3rd in the district meet. The results are as follows:

Shotput: 1st - Tyler Creek 34'11", 3rd - Cash Jennings 32' 3", 5th - Chris Aguero 32'3"

Discus: 4th - Tyler Creek 87'3"

Pole Vault: 2nd - Manny Paredes 7'

High Jump: 2nd - Chris Aguero 5'0"

2400 Meter Run: 5th - Mario Oliden 9:42

4 x 100 Meter Relay: 2nd - Caleb Gonzales, Irving Fuentes, Harvey Santana and Chris Aguero 52:85

100 Meter Dash: 1st - Chris Aguero 12:42, 5th - Harvey Santana 13:32

4 x 200 Meter Relay: 4th - Will Anderson, Cash Jennings, Dustin Neff and Paul Faz - 2:01.81

200 Meter Dash: 5th - Irving Fuentes 28:53

1600 Meter Run: 5th - Mario Oliden 6:02

4 x 400 Meter Relay: 2nd - Irving Fuentes, Angel Aguayo, Paul Faz and Chris Aguero - 4:18.31



Local 4-H's give Method Demonstration to 6th graders

Two 4-Hers Laura Martin and McKenzie Watkins, joined county extension agent Kelly Thorp at the Annual Edwin Sawyer 6th Grade Field tour on April 12, 2005. Laura, McKenzie, and their friend "Mo" the Angora goat presented a Method Demonstration to the 6th grade class on mohair production. Students were treated to an inside look into the fascinating world of this lustrous, diamond fiber.

A method demonstration is a great way to introduce 4-Hers to public speaking which is a valuable life skill. A demonstration, also known as a visual presentation, is somewhat like show and tell. Members choose something they've learned in their 4-H project work and share it with others. A good demonstration has three parts: introduction, body and summary. Posters and or power points may be used to help explain something not easily seen.

If you would like to learn more about 4-H please call your local county extension office at 387-3101 or 387-3604.

Scholarship Notification

The Gamma Phi chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is offering a scholarship to aid a college junior or senior girl who is pursuing a career in the field of education.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education and provides services to the educational community. Delta Kappa Gamma was founded in Austin, Texas, May 1929 by women educators. The Gamma Phi chapter consisting of members from Sonora and Rocksprings was organized Dec. 6, 1941. It continues to honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

The deadline for applications is May 17, 2005.

Please contact June Williams for an application at 387-2108 or e-mail her at june.williams@sonoraisd.net or Glenda Barton at glenda.barton@sonoraisd.net or 387-5284.

Up on Eaton Hill

Plum Tickled



A new crop of wildflowers cover Eaton Hill.

by Delyse Jaeger

Great day in the morning! The bluebonnets on Eaton Hill have been eclipsed by the wiles of diversity! Wildflowers and blossoming shrubs in every shape, color and texture are blanketing the trail sides in

springtime splendor. A feast for the eyes to behold, pink pompoms of acacia, wagon wheel Indian blankets, yellow primrose, sulfur paintbrush, pink and red guara, Blackfoot daisy, larkspur, blue curls, spiderwort and many more await the hiker. The wildflowers make the perfect subject for a photo safari with the kids, so grab a camera and see how many wildflowers you can identify.

Another jewel has emerged up on the hill and birders will be delighted. There is a new watering hole located in the quarry at the Indian village and our feathered friends have taken right to it. Water trickles down the side of the rock bluff and gathers in a pool at the base, creating perfect natural bird baths in the rock crevices. This morning, an unidentified lovely olive green and yellow vireo/warbler type bird was spotted at the bath, along with several other local species.

And finally, we are in the process of confirming the existence of a small mot of wild plum trees on Eaton Hill. Wild plum in Sutton County is rare, so I hope to report back a positive identification.

Hit the trails and take in the wonders of spring unfolding on Eaton Hill.



Plum - possible?

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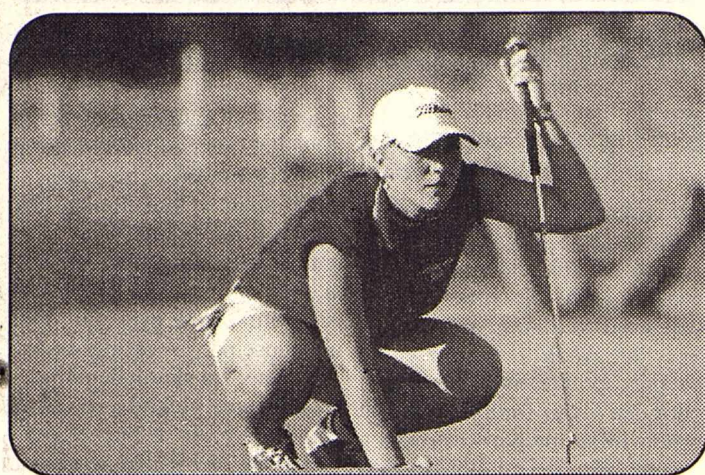
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Bronco Golf going to Regionals



Kayla McBride studies a putt. Photo by Memories by McBride

submitted

The Sonora Broncos and Lady Broncos have had a great season and are now headed off to play in the Regional Golf tournament in Baird on April 25 and 26.

The boys have had a good year, with a first place in both Sonora and Iraan and second place in Big Lake and San Angelo. They finished first in district, taking all three medals. Cullen Parker finished first, Stetson Perez was second and Trent Reiner third. Mason Martinez and Embre Smith also finished in the top 10 in district.

The Lady Broncos have also had a wonderful season, winning first place in Sonora, Big Lake and Iraan. They finished tied for third in San Saba, and lost the scorecard playoff.

In district they finished in first place. Kayla McBride was the second medalist in district, and the Ladies had Jessica Chavarria, Candise Martin and Sara Baggett all placing in the top 10.

Great job Broncos and Lady Broncos, good luck in Regionals.

Sonora 16, Eldorado 1										
Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Sonora	0	11	0	0	5	-	-	16	7	1
Eldorado	0	0	0	1	0			1	1	6

	AB	R	H	RBI
Sonora				
#6 Fields, K., SS	2	2	1	2
#4 Duran, J., 2B	4	1	0	0
#10 Krieg, M., 1B	1	1	0	2
#1 Luna, K., C	4	2	1	1
#7 Hughes, H., P	4	2	1	1
#11 Neff, B., 3B	2	2	1	1
#9 Burton, J., CF	4	2	3	2
#25 Castillo, A., DH	2	2	0	0
#18 Word, A., LF	2	2	0	1
Totals	25	16	7	10

Sonora 7, Grape Creek 0										
Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Sonora	1	0	0	0	4	2	-	7	7	3
Grape Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1

	AB	R	H	RBI
Sonora				
#6 Fields, K., CF	4	1	0	0
#4 Duran, J., 2B	2	3	2	0
#10 Krieg, M., P	4	1	2	2
#1 Luna, K., C	3	1	1	1
#7 Hughes, H., SS	3	1	1	1
#11 Neff, B., 3B	4	0	0	2
#9 Burton, J., CF	2	0	0	0
#25 Castillo, A., DH	4	0	1	0
#18 Word, A., CF	2	0	0	0
#13 Higdon, M., LF	1	0	0	0
#8 Martin, L., LF	0	0	0	0
Totals	29	7	7	6

Broncos defeat Grape Creek in nail-biter re-match

by Maray Cearley

If you weren't at Sonora's baseball field Friday night, you missed a very exciting game. The Broncos were pitted against the Grape Creek Eagles. In District 2-2A Sonora is leading with a record of 9-0 and Grape Creek close behind with a record of 8-1. Their only loss was against the Broncos when they faced each other on March 18th. The Broncos won that contest 14-13.

Unlike their previous meeting this was a pitcher's duel. Clint Cearley was on the mound having 10 strikeouts, 4 walks and he gave up 4 hits. Grape Creek's pitcher had similar stats with 12 strikeouts, 2 walks and 4 hits.

Sonora escaped a scare in the 2nd inning when Grape Creek loaded the bases. After a fly out and 2 strikeouts the side was retired.

In the 4th Sonora turned a double play. Embre Smith caught a line drive at first and stepped on base catching the runner off.

In the bottom of the 7th with the score knotted 0-0 Martin Gonzalez reached on a single. Steven Duhon then hit the shortstop but the ball was bobbled allowing both to reach base safely. On a wild pitch both runners advanced. With runners on 2nd and 3rd and 2 outs Lito Trevino hit one up the middle scoring the winning run. Broncos win 1-0.

From the plate Gonzalez had 2 singles, Cearley 1 and Trevino with the RBI single. Both teams are to be commended on a very well-played game, not to mention very nerve-rack-

ing. I heard several comments about this being one of the best high school games they have seen played.

Playing a rare Saturday game the Broncos faced the Wall Hawks. Anthony Longoria pitched a complete game finishing with 3 strikeouts, 3 walks and he gave up 10 hits.

In the 1st inning the Broncos crossed the plate 6 times. Longoria led off with a single and it was followed by a Diego Cardona double. Cearley, Smith and Roland Solis all reached on errors while Gonzalez and Duhon walked. Longoria walked in the 2nd, later scoring on 2 throwing errors. This left the score 7-0.

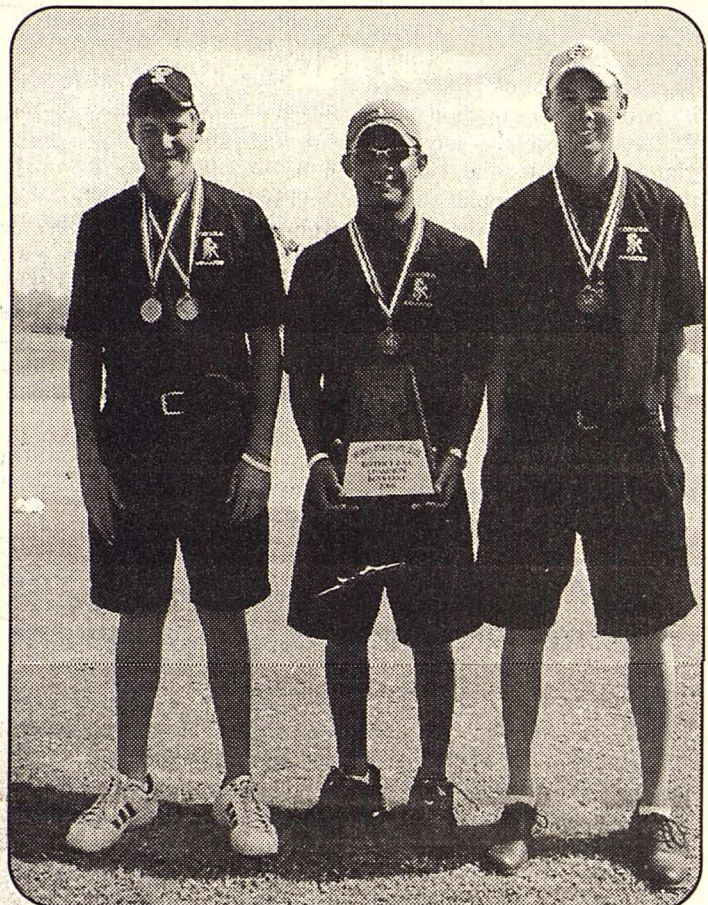
In the 3rd Sonora added 4 to the score. Duhon had a single while Trevino, Longoria and Cardona all hit doubles.

In the 6th Sonora would get their final run after a Trevino single and several wild pitches.

Defensively the Broncos did well turning a double play in the 2nd. Right fielder Brian Payton caught a fly and he then threw to 2nd catching the runner off base.

The final score was Sonora 12 Wall 6. This win clinched a playoff berth. With 3 games remaining the Broncos need 1 more win and they will have the 1st District Championship in Sonora's history. This week they will play Junction and Mason. Both games are in Sonora.

Congratulations Broncos!!



Trent Reiner, Stetson Perez and Cullen Parker finished 3-2-1 at district, and move on to Regionals. Photo by Memories by McBride

Bronco baseball hits another win against Reagan Co.

by Maray Cearley

Bronco baseball put another mark in the win column after they defeated the Reagan County Owls 12-10 on Tuesday, April 11, 2005.

The win didn't come easy for the Broncos. They committed costly errors and left several stranded on base. They trailed the owls for 4 1/2 innings before tying the score at 8.

In the 6th inning the Broncos rallied for 4 runs. Clint Cearley and Embre Smith both reached on singles followed with a Lito Trevino RBI double. With 2 on base, Steven Duhon blasted one over left-center field scoring 3.

The owls tried to come back in the 6th but fell short.

They scored 2 before Cearley threw one out stealing 2nd, ending the inning.

In the 7th neither team scored giving the Broncos their 14th win of the year.

On the mound for Sonora was Miguel Vaquera. Trevino and Cullen Parker. Parker got the win finishing with 5 strikeouts and 3 hits.

From the plate Duhon had a triple, a homerun and 3 RBIs. Cearley hit a double and 3 singles also finishing with 3 RBIs. Chris Perez had a triple and a single while Anthony Longoria had a double and 2 singles. Trevino had a double and Diego Cardona had 2 singles. Brian Payton, Dustin Creek and Smith all had one single. Way to go Broncos!!

Student of the Week

Tanner James



Tanner James is a freshman at Sonora High School for the 2004-2005 school year. His parents are Nick and Teresa James. Tanner moved to Sonora when he was in kindergarten. His hobbies include playing football, baseball and golf. His favorite subject is math. After graduation Tanner plans on attending college but does not have a school picked out yet.

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Lady Broncos from page 1

have two assists and a put out to lead the defense. Kimble Luna from her catching position would have an excellent game not only catching Hughes, but also would throw out a runner trying to steal second. Sonora 16 - Eldorado 1.

Friday, Sonora would travel to Grape Creek to take on the Lady Eagles.

A first inning triple by Jaimee Duran would get things going early for the Lady Broncos. Meghan Krieg would drive in Duran to give the Lady Broncos what would ultimately be the winning run. A defensive struggle would ensue for the first 4 innings of the ball game. Grape Creek being a good hitting team would put the ball into play 13 times. Solid defensive plays by Heather Hughes, Brandy Neff, Jaimee Duran, Adriana Castillo, Kimble Luna, and Meghan Krieg would limit the Lady Eagles scoring chances. Grape Creek would strand runners at second and at third twice. In the top of the fifth inning the bats of the Lady Broncos would begin to find

holes in the Grape Creek defense. Sonora would add 4 runs in the top of the fifth and one run in the sixth and seventh to get their 7 to 0 victory. Meghan Krieg would go the distance and record the shut out for Sonora. Krieg faced 25 batters, giving up 2 hits and striking out 8. Offensively, Sonora was led by Jaimee Duran with a single and a double while walking twice. Krieg would have a 2 for 4 day (single and a double) with 2 RBIs. Heather Hughes and Kimble Luna would each add a single.

This week the Lady Broncos will have faced Wall on Tuesday and will finish out district play in Ozona against the Lady Lions on Friday. With victories over Eldorado and Grape Creek; Sonora advances to the Class 2A State play-offs. This week's play will determine the position they will get on the bracket.

Congratulations - Lady Broncos! Now the second season begins and remember you play each game - One at a Time! GOOD LUCK LADY BRONCOS!!!!

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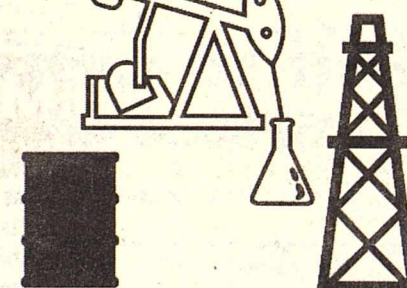
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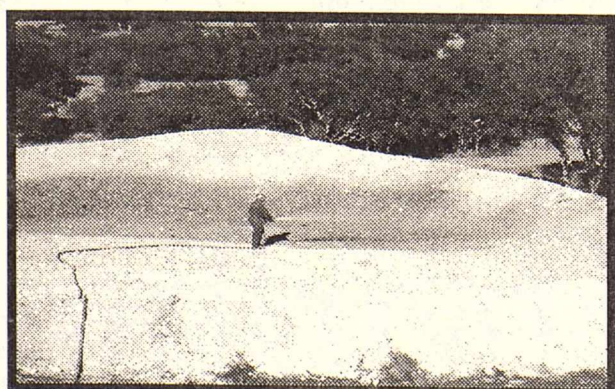
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Rig Locations as of April 15, 2005

Sutton



Great Western; 11500' Maxwell - 14 - #1, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 9400' Duke Wilson - 173 - #17, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 9250' Duke Wilson #1834, Patterson Drilling.

Dominion; 8900' Valliant #10, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8650' Mayfield - 40 - #9, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8550' Randee Fawcett Trust - B - #10, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8500' Shurley RR - 1C - #2, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 7400' Mack Cauthorn - 129 - #12, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 6000' Davis - F - #12, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 9350' Duke Wilson #4017, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8950' Mayfield - 32 - #19, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8900' Randee Hill-Fawcett Trust - F - #4, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8750' Mayfield - 45 - #21, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8750' Duke Wilson #1764, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8700' Mayfield - 34 - #21, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8700' Tom Mitchell - 2 - #6, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8500' Shurley RR - 1B - #1, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 6300' Davis - D - #12, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 6300' Davis - D - #11, Patterson Drilling.
New Silver Oil & Gas; 6200' Hull #9605, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett

Momentum Energy; 8900' Weatherly-Pryor #2, Patterson UTI/TMBR.
Bluegrass Energy Inc.; 6700' Simpson Canyon #3045, Adobe Drilling Mustang.
New Pioneer Natural; 9300' Glasscock #1, Patterson Drilling.
New Approach Operating; 9000' Bailey #317, Nabors Drilling.
New Approach Operating; 9000' Addie Clayton #1004, Nabors Drilling.
New Approach Operating; 9000' Bailey #221, Patterson Drilling.
New Anadarko E&P; 8950' McMullan - B - #11, Patterson Drilling.
New Encana O&G; 8900' Sinclair Clayton - 11 - #3, Nabors Drilling.
New FIML Natural Res; 5550' JM Baggett Jr #2-3C, Patterson Drilling.

Terrell

New Newfield; 15000' Pakenham Ranch #2601, Patterson Drilling.
ConocoPhillips; 11500' ACU - 48 - #5, Patterson UTI/LV.
Fasken Oil & Ranch; 7500' Geaslin 198 - #54, Patterson Drilling.

Schleicher

Discovery Operating; 7250' Lin - E - #2, Heart Land Drilling.
Swartz Oil Company; 5600' O'Harrow #1, Heart Land Drilling.

Edwards

Newfield; 10000' Five - C - Ranch #6302, Patterson Drilling.

For more rig locations call 1-800-627-9785 or go online to www.rigdata.com



Texas Cooperative Extension's Veterinary Youth Workshop sign-up is underway

by Steve Byrns, (325) 653-4576, s-byrns@tamu.edu

SONORA — Texas Cooperative Extension's second annual "West Texas Youth Veterinary Science Workshop" is currently taking applications for this summer's session set June 26-30 at the Sutton County 4-H Center here.

Pascual Hernandez, Extension agent for Sutton County and the workshop's coordinator, said the objective is to introduce high school students to careers in veterinary science. Instructors will include Extension and Texas Animal Health Commission personnel, and veterinary practitioners.

Course topics include: the Beef Quality Assurance Program, toxicology, parasitology, anaesthesiology, anatomy, nutrition, first aid, beef feedlot health management, large and small animal practice, wildlife health management, necropsy, and horse medicine. The workshop includes classroom study, lab work, and field excursions.

"The workshop, or 'camp' as we call it, is limited to 30 students," said Hernandez. "We're looking for high school students from across the state who are

interested in animals and veterinary medicine. They must also be willing to work with others as a team member during the camp.

"We also need four adult leaders to serve as cabin directors and assistants. The camp is an excellent opportunity for Extension agents, teachers and volunteer youth leaders to learn more about veterinary medicine."

The camp is a cooperative effort of Extension offices in Sutton, Tom Green, Schleicher and Crockett counties.

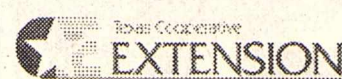
Applications must be submitted to the Extension office in Sutton County by June 3. Participants will be informed of their acceptance by June 11.

Individual registration is \$165, due on June 17. In the event of cancellations, refunds will be offered in full until June 20. The fee is non-refundable after June 20.

For more information, call the Extension office in Sutton County at (325) 387-3101 or contact any of the other Extension offices involved with the program. Also visit the Sutton County Extension website at: <http://sutton-co.tamu.edu>.

Oil & Agribusiness

Skunk Deodorizer



submitted by Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County

Of the local native wildlife, the one little critter you want to give a wide berth to is the skunk. If you or your pet gets sprayed by a skunk, the odor can linger for a long, long time without proper treatment.

Skunks are mild-tempered animals that will avoid a confrontation unless they are cornered or harmed. When cornered or pursued closely, they usually face the intruder, arch their backs, raise their tails, and stamp the ground with their front feet. If a skunk's warning is ignored, it turns around with its tail raised and facing the threat so that it is in a good position for discharging its musk. Skunks have perfected the art of musk gland marksmanship, with which they can hit a moving target at up to 20 feet!

Skunks discharge an obnoxious scent when provoked. Without treatment, the scent has remarkable staying power, lingering for weeks. This scent or musk is secreted by two internal glands located at the base of the tail. The glands open to the outside through small nipples which are hidden when the tail is down and exposed when it's raised. A skunk has voluntary control over the glands and can control the direction in which the musk is discharged. The glands contain about one tablespoon of thick, volatile, yellowish, oily liquid. This musk (the chemical name is butylmercaptan) has been

detected at distances of up to 20 miles away from where it was discharged. The spray, a mild poison that looks like milk in its liquid form, can temporarily blind and incapacitate its victims. The compound is painful to the eyes, but does not cause permanent blindness.

Here is a skunk deodorizer recipe we picked up from somewhere: In a bucket, mix one quart of FRESH hydrogen peroxide (available at your local drugstore or grocery store in the health care aisle), one quarter cup baking soda and one teaspoon liquid soap. The mixture will bubble. Thoroughly wet the victim in this mixture, taking care to keep it out of the eyes. Wash the dog with the mixture as if it were shampoo while it is bubbling. Rinse the dog and repeat. Be careful not to contaminate the rinse water. The soap breaks down the oil in which the odor is suspended, and the hydrogen peroxide and baking soda neutralize the scent. Do not pre-mix the solution or store this potion in a bottle (the bubbling would cause it to explode).

Skunks are primarily nocturnal and occasionally during the daylight hours of early morning or late evening. Skunks can carry rabies, a disease that can be transmitted to humans. Leave alone any skunk seen out during daylight hours. Their overall value is very positive, however, since the biggest part of their diet consists of insects and small rodents.

USDA announces sign-up for crop disaster assistance program

Eldorado, Texas — Schleicher, Sutton, and Val Verde County producers can expect to receive financial assistance for crop losses through the Crop Disaster Program (CDP), launched by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on Monday, March 14, 2005. According to Jan Wanoreck, County Executive Director for the Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde County Farm Service Agency (FSA), CDP is available to producers with qualifying crop losses resulting from damaging weather in crop years 2003 and 2004 as well as certain losses suffered in 2005.

"We are motivated to provide crop loss assistance benefits to producers as quickly as possible," said, Wanoreck. "Drought, floods and hurricanes are unpredictable weather events that put farmers and ranchers at risk - impeding their ability to produce a dependable, affordable national food supply."

Eligibility for CDP is similar to that of the 2001-2002 Crop Disaster Program. Producers suffering a production loss greater than 35-percent and/or more than a 20-percent quality loss are eligible for CDP. The payment rate for CDP has been increased to 65 percent of the established commodity price for insured crops and non-insurable crops, and 60 percent of the price for uninsured commodities. Previous disaster assistance provided payments

of 50 percent of the established commodity price for insured and non-insurable crops and 45 percent for uninsured crops.

Producers may apply for CDP for any crops that are eligible for coverage under the Federal Crop Insurance or the Noninsured Assistance Program. This program results from Congressional passage last October of the Military Construction Appropriations and Emergency Hurricane Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2005 (the Act).

"CDP payments will be limited to \$80,000 per producer and/or entity, but funding for the program is unlimited," said Wanoreck. "Although no sign-up deadline has been announced, we are striving to implement this program in a timely fashion in order to effectively benefit the producer."

Wanoreck encourages producers to begin organizing relevant crop loss documentation and contact the Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde County FSA Office to schedule an appointment to discuss program eligibility and the application process.

For more information regarding CDP and other disaster assistance, contact the Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde County FSA office at 325/853-3535 or visit the USDA Web sites at <http://www.usda.gov> and <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

It's time to kill the Death Tax



by Congressman Henry Bonilla

In America we get a certificate when we're born, a license when we marry, and a bill when we die. As unfair as it is, the federal government actually taxes us when we die - and it's not a cheap bill. In fact, it's so expensive to die in this country that the loved ones we leave behind pay a huge price.

Not only do our loved ones have to deal with funeral arrangements, memorial services and comforting each other through a tough time, they have to deal with the IRS, which is hovering in the wings ready to take a bite out of what many hard working Americans leave

behind.

This is not a tax that only wealthy Americans have to deal with. The death tax hits farmers, ranchers and small business owners especially hard. When it comes to farms and ranches, assets are often tied up in land that has been passed down through the family for generations.

Not a lot of people have thousands of dollars in their bank accounts to pay off the death taxes. Often times families have to sell off part or all of their land just to pay the taxes. This is causing the demise of the American farm and ranch. The death tax is simply un-American.

The fact that we are so heavily taxed when we die is unjust, cruel and extremely

insulting. After all, part of the American dream is to make life better for our children and grandchildren. But because of the way the current tax laws are written, leaving our children a farm, ranch or family business is very difficult, if not impossible.

According to the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), one-third of small business owners today will have to sell a part or all of their firms to pay estate taxes, more commonly referred to as the "death tax." Half of those who must liquidate to settle with the IRS will have to eliminate 30 or more jobs.

Last week the House of Representatives voted again to end the death tax. It's now in the hands of the Senate - and

they must act! Texas is lucky to have two Senators who are working hard to kill this burdensome tax, but it takes more than two. Repealing this tax will make it easier for people to pass their businesses and farms down to their children and grandchildren - a cherished part of the American dream.

No one should have to meet the undertaker and the IRS on the same day. It's time to bury the federal death tax. The winners will be consumers, small businesses, family farms and loving families all over the country who have enough to think about when there is a death in their household. Paying Uncle Sam should not be part of the grieving process.

School Board from page 1

administrators addressed a number of aspects regarding the addition of volleyball, including costs, affect on other existing sports, scheduling, personnel, and alternate methods of providing the program.

Following a lengthy discussion and question and answer session, the Board President stated that either he or the Superintendent would contact all board members and conduct a straw poll to determine if it was the pleasure of the Board to place action regarding a volleyball program on a future agenda.

In other business, Dr. Myers stated that one quote had been received for a sprinkler system for the Elementary Playground and that the system could be funded by maintenance tax notes. By a show of hands, the Board unanimously approved the quote of \$22,281.00 from Avila Sprinkler System.

A Motion was made to approve The Bank and Trust as the district's depository for 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. Voting aye were Jesse Bustamante, Dean Dermody, Tammy Favila, Tryon Fields, Scott Jacoby, and Barbara Jennings. Abstaining was Tom Payton. The motion carried.

Technology Director Erik Craig gave information regarding bids for the Middle School Computer Lease. The Board unanimously approved the bid from Dell Computers in the amount of \$83,520.83 annually for a total of \$250,562.49 for the 3 year cycle.

Dr. Myers reviewed a rough estimate of needed items and costs for an upgrade to the Elementary Kitchen. The list had been developed by Food Service Supervisor Dora Gonzales and Maintenance Director Danny Hardin.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the matter, including moving the newer High School equipment to Elementary, since Elementary serves so many more meals than the High School does. It was the consensus of the Board to consider other options/alternatives for a kitchen upgrade, due to the uncertainties with school finance.

Board member Dermody had requested that student drug testing be on the agenda. Dermody stated a number of community members had visited with him about student drug use/drug testing and that he felt it was important to re-visit the issue. Following a lengthy discussion over all aspects of the issue, the Board directed the Superintendent to visit with other districts who conduct student drug testing and to offer a presentation to them at a meeting in the near future.

Dr. Myers stated that at the March meeting, the Board had requested more time to review revisions to GKD(LOCAL) and GKDA(LOCAL). The Board requested that GKD(LOCAL) be revised to state that all functions not associated with the school must be held after school hours and that any school function after hours would take precedence over the non-school function. Dr. Myers stated that he would advise the TASB policy representative and would present amended policies for the Board's approval at a future meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the revised Board Agenda Calendar with the following change: the information on proposed summer school should be moved from the March meeting to the May meeting. An additional transfer student for 2004-2005 was approved, as was the 1st list of transfer students for 2005-2006.

The Superintendent stated that he was a member of the Commissioner's Cabinet and, as such, had talked with a number of people regarding the issue of school finance. He stated that until the legislature votes on HB2, school finance will be uncertain at best. Dr. Myers also stated he was emphatically against the proposal of a state property tax and that nothing that was going on in Austin had anything to do with public education and had everything to do with power and status.

The Superintendent also informed the Board that he was traveling to Austin the following day to meet with other Chapter 41 superintendents.

Dr. Myers stated that the Board had been given the salary schedules for auxiliary and professional personnel. Additionally, he said that member Jennings had requested a schedule which showed

employees by name with their respective salaries and he distributed those schedules.

The Superintendent stated that he had no recommendation regarding salaries because of the uncertainty of school finance and projected revenues. In addition, Dr. Myers said that there were a number of facility issues that would have to be addressed but not until projected revenues were determined. He complimented the Board for the tremendous job they had done up to this point with repair/refurbishment of facilities along with the morale booster of employee stipends in December.

Jennings stated that the staff members who had 6-23 years experience were the backbone of the district and that when funds were available, she would like to see that these employees receive \$3500 above base. She stated that it would be a morale booster for the said employees.

President Fields stated that the Board was in agreement that teachers needed a raise and that when revenues were determined and if possible, the Board would revisit the matter.

Dr. Myers reported the following: - enrollment stands at 984 and that the downturn in attendance was leveling off and stabilizing at 96.5, although this amount was still .4 below the previous year.

- March Maintenance

1. Campus - still pursuing the air control issue at High School; work will begin on outside lighting at Middle School and skylights in Gym; and plumbing repairs in the dressing room have been completed.

2. Extra-Curricular - the water well and tennis court lights have been repaired and needed items such as bleacher repair and sprinkler system at the Softball Field are on hold until more is known about revenues.

3. Housing - various plumbing repairs have been completed and, once again, the roof at the Band Director's house is a large item that will have to be addressed in the near future.

Dr. Myers complimented Maintenance Director Danny Hardin for the great job he does, and stated that Mr. Hardin was a one man crew who did an outstanding job in taking repair projects by priority and getting them done.

Dr. Myers gave a very detailed legislative update and encouraged board members to get involved, stating that he would be happy to provide them with names/numbers of representatives, their aides, and the issues facing school districts.

The Superintendent commented that it was very discouraging to see what was happening in the Capitol, especially since the number one issue is school finance, and that he believed most legislators were not voting for students but were voting to see who can obtain the most status. Dr. Myers concluded his remarks by stating that Chapter 41 school districts would soon be "taking it on the chin" and he once again encouraged board members to get involved in legislative issues.

President Tryon Fields commended Director Renee Casey and the One Act Play Cast and Crew for the super job they did this year and also complimented all UIL Literary participants and sponsors for their outstanding efforts.

Member Tom Payton invited all board members to attend the annual Field Day scheduled at Sawyer Ranch at 9 AM the following day.

The Superintendent applauded the One Act Play and also commended the Bronco Band for the huge improvement they had made and for their outstanding effort.

Member Tammy Favila stated that she would be going on record at each board meeting to remind parents and community members that East 2nd Street was a school zone and that all drivers should observe traffic rules and watch for students in the crosswalks.

Mrs. Favila also congratulated the Junior High Track and Tennis Teams for their outstanding seasons.

The Board President stated that there was no need to enter closed session and that the Board was authorizing the Superintendent to re-hire auxiliary staff members as presented. There being no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Porras from page 1

is a lot of Iraq, is very historical - world history and biblical history.

Alexander the Great has been through here and Ninevah (that is the province we are in) is mentioned in the Bible. The great city of Babylon is 40 miles south of Baghdad and of course, the Euphrates and Tigris River supposedly lead to the Garden of Eden. You can see the Tigris River from most of the palace balconies.

The days here actually go by fast. I'm at work by 7:00 in the morning and usually don't go back to my hooch (little trailer thing) around 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. I do get to sleep in late on Sundays though. We are fed pretty well, in fact, we have steak and shrimp at least once a week. There is a salad bar, fruit bar, fast food bar and all the gatorade, cokes, and juices we can drink. Before you go off and want to join the Army to get free food, this place does have its bad things.

The bad guys are always out there and we have to always be alert for different versions of how they lob a mortar or fire a rocket and see if it hit anything in the compound events. When we go out of the compound we

go loaded down and in full battle gear just in case.

The unique thing is that when I get to see CNN or FOX and they report of this blowing up, or that happening in Iraq, I get to see the other side of the picture. The one that is not sexy enough for prime time. (I see) how many of the bad guys we actually do capture...the construction projects going on, being present for the elections and seeing the Iraqis proudly show their blue stained finger (once they voted and to ensure they didn't go somewhere else to vote, they had to dab their finger in a blue ink), watching their military forces get stronger and more capable, and watching kids be kids as they play in the streets.

Well folks, it's almost 9:30 p.m. and I'd better say good-bye for now. Please know that I am doing fine... day 51 and counting. Thank God that time does not stand still.

With much love,

Rene

Porras looks forward to joining his wife, Jaime, and children, April, Megan, Hagen and Mason, at home soon and his parents are anxious to have him home again.



Porras is currently working in this old palace of Sadaam's in Mosul.

Weingart from page 1

WHEREAS, this 1995 graduate of Sonora High School enjoys the loving support of his close-knit family, including his parents, Joe and Maura Weingart, his siblings, Chris and Michelle Weingart, and his grandparents, Santos and Oralia Hernandez; one year ago, his mother and sister tied a yellow ribbon around an oak tree on the grounds of the sutton County Courthouse as a tangible reflection of their hope for Javier's safe return; today, purple and yellow ribbons are located on numerous trees to honor this local hero, who will remove the yellow ribbon tied by his family to the delight of all those assembled; and

WHEREAS, through his unfaltering devotion to duty and

honor, Sergeant Weingart embodies the highest ideals of this nation's armed forces, and he is most worthy of the lasting respect and appreciation of the citizens of this state and nation; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that U.S. Army Sergeant Javier Weingart be honored for his brave and steadfast service in Iraq and that he be extended sincere best wishes for all the happiness he so richly deserves.

Harvey Hilderbran, State Representative, District 53

Sonora is proud of Sgt. Weingart and all of our military personnel serving overseas.

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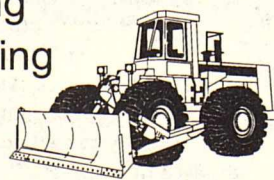
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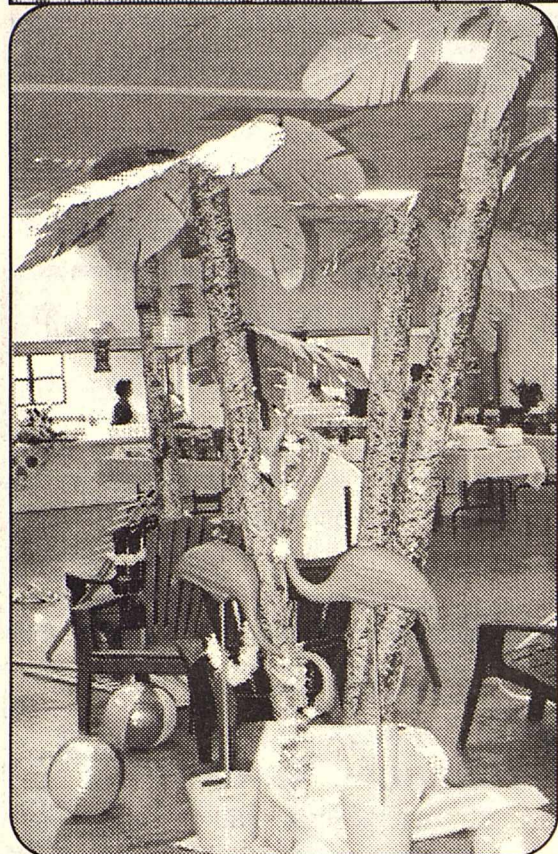
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2005 SONORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "BEACH PARTY" AWARDS BANQUET



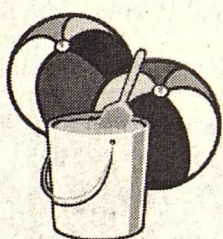
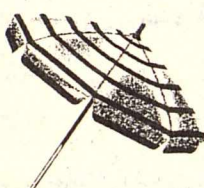
Organization of the Year



Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Board and
The Sutton County Health Foundation



**Congratulations
to all the
2005 Chamber
Honorees!**



131 Hwy. 277 N.
387-5292

Have you ever been swimming along and all of a sudden realize you have drifted deeper than you planned, and you aren't sure how you are going to get back to shore? Well, with this award, we found ourselves drifting into that deep area. You see the Organization of the Year award got a little confusing this year—everyone was talking about the same ship, but they used different travel agents to book the cruise.

We have told more lies trying to keep this a secret, that if we were put them all in a boat, we might be sunk. But luckily for us, we figured out how to tie together pieces that floated our way and were able to build the ship that we think will offer smooth sailing.

The fact that this is a recognition award has prevented us in the past from saying anything about numbers on nomination ballots, but this year is a little bit different since virtually every ballot mentioned something about either the new hospital and wellness center or the health foundation or both. Either way, our healthcare and the future of our healthcare in Sonora are being well looked after and the tribe has noticed.

We not only have a wonderful state of the art new hospital and wellness center that should be completed in a little over a month, but we also have a foundation that is securing the future of that hospital and the healthcare of future generations. One of the first things that the chamber has found that many people check into before relocating their family or their business to a new community is the healthcare availability. The questions that are answered most at the chamber office are about healthcare.

"How far do we have to drive to receive healthcare?" — Just across town! "Is there a wide range of healthcare services provided in a small town?" — There is in THIS small town. "Do we have access to quality emergency care facilities?" — State of the art and top of the line right here in Sonora. "Is your hospital in financial trouble like so many small town hospitals?" — No, our hospital is operating in the black and our community has the leadership to insure that we always have a hospital.

The two organizations, the Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Board and the Sutton County Health Foundation, are both receiving this recognition. Keith Butler, hospital administrator, members of the Sutton County Health Foundation with President Ben Pool, and the Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Board with their president Lewis Allen accepted this very well deserved recognition. Our community is so very lucky to have Keith Butler and these other leaders to help us secure the fact that there will be high quality health care in Sonora now and for generations to come.

We are proud to congratulate

**Sutton County Health Foundation
&
Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Board**

**for their outstanding
accomplishments!**



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and the
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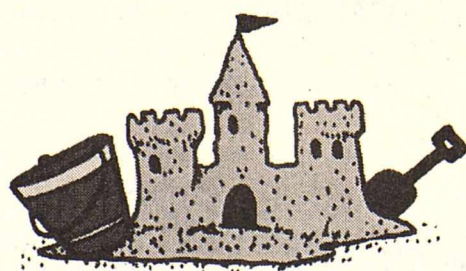
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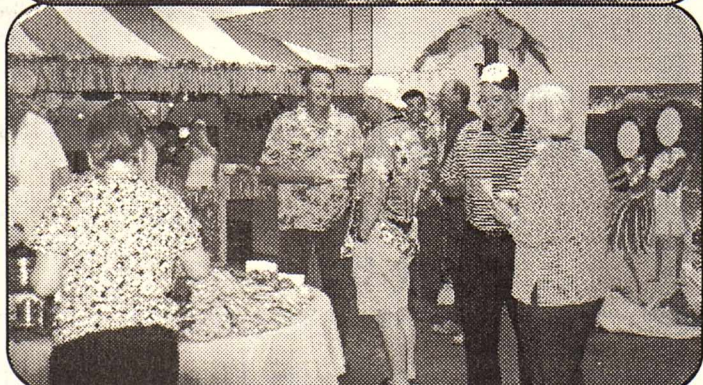


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Educator of the Year



Linda Wallace

Do you remember swimming lessons? You know, scared to death, freezing cold, teacher telling you to put your head in and blow bubbles? Most people do, because most of learned to swim because that teacher was dedicated. Great teachers are something you never forget. Each year we are given the distinct privilege to recognize one of these unsung heroes of education. Teachers are a special group of people, most of them very dedicated to their vocation, even if it is swimming!

The teacher honored this year as Educator of the Year is the perfect example of this dedication. It is very obvious that she teaches because of her love for children and her value of education. It has always been more than a job for this teacher; it is a calling answered by a lady that gives it her all. Her dedication to children was recognized by the Sutton County 4-H Club when she was awarded the Silver Spur, the outstanding adult leader award in the 1980's.

This teacher has always been someone that could be labeled as an "Over Achiever". She graduated from college in just three years by carrying a very heavy class load. She attended and graduated from Sul Ross University, she did her practice teaching in McCamey Texas and after marrying moved to Rocksprings where she immediately began her teaching career. She and her husband and first daughter moved to Sonora in 1974 where again she immediately began teaching. She took a short break from teaching when her second child was born, but went back to teaching before that daughter was a year old. The only true hiatus from teaching that she has taken in her adult life was when her third child was born. She stayed at

home, helped with her husbands business and the family ranch until her son started kindergarten. During this time she still pursued her education by taking classes at the Texas Tech Campus in Junction knowing that she would go back to teaching. She has been teaching in the Sonora Elementary - Primary-Intermediate School for the better part of 30 years through all the name changes, changes of administrators, curriculums, and so forth and kept her focus on the children the whole time.

Fellow teachers and administrators shared nice comments: "She is wonderful to work with. She is always so professional and at the same time fun and positive. Her students truly love and respect her. She is the kind of teacher we all want to be," "She is probably one of the most patient teachers. She is always extremely calm when dealing with the kids, and they have a great deal of respect for her," and "She has a passion for teaching children. She takes a hand, opens a mind and touches the heart of every child in her classroom. She works diligently to meet the needs of all students. she is always professional, objective, and focused on what is best for children."

In short there has rarely been a more dedicated teacher or mother. She has raised three wonderful and loving children that when contacted about their mother receiving this recognition tonight decided that they didn't want to just send a message to their mother, but wanted to be present to share it with her. The tribe has spoken, and as a special immunity reward, some have joined us here on the island. Linda Wallace please come up to get your torch, accompanied by hugs and kisses from your children.

Conservation Rancher of the Year



Joe David Ross

The Directors of the Edwards Plateau Soil & Water Conservation District and the Sonora Downtown Lions Club have chosen a recipient for the Conservation Rancher of the Year Award whom they feel is very deserving and is long overdue for recognition. He operates approximately 10,500 acres in Sutton County, east of Sonora on land that has been in his family for many years. He also has farming and ranching interests in several other counties.

Joe David Ross was tutored in the importance of stewardship of the land by his father, and continues many of those same traditions today. In fact, his father, Joe Brown Ross, was one of the two men responsible for presenting the application to the State of Texas to form the Edwards Plateau Soil & Water conservation District in 1946.

Even though Joe David has continued using the knowledge he gained early in life, he continues to ask questions, always wanting to learn from or to teach others. In addition to working with local, state, federal and university personnel,

Joe David and his wife Frances have hosted numerous field days and tour groups often including visitors from foreign countries to further the causes of agriculture.

He actively applies conservation practices such as fencing, water development, brush control, prescribed burning, pasture deferment, grazing systems and reseeding with native and improved grasses. As a conservationist, Joe David is always trying to find ways to improve his rangeland resources. He is an innovator and was one of the first in our area to change from conventional planned grazing systems to a high intensity/short duration or Savory Cell System.

To list the contributions he has made to the many agricultural organizations he actively participates in would take more time than we have tonight, but we want to recognize him for his exemplary care of the land he has been entrusted with. His priority continues to be the land and his livestock and how each conservation practice affects these.

Special Recognition

West Texas Rehab honored volunteers from The Bank and Trust, Juanita Estrada, JoAnn Hernandez, Terry Duckworth, and (not pictured) Rosa Hernandez for their assistance during the annual Tele-thon

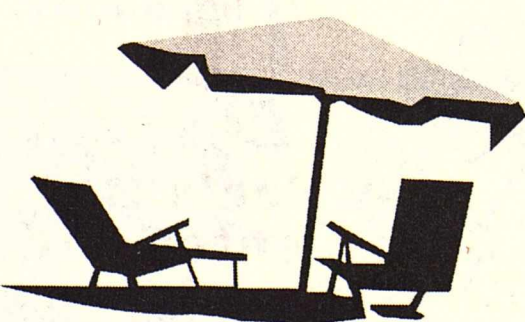


*We would like to congratulate
all of the
2005 Chamber Honorees*

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Employee of the Year



Patti Prather

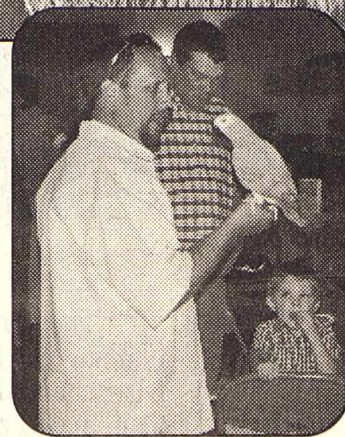
How many have seen "Finding Nemo" or "Shark Tales"? Well, if you have it is very obvious that life under the sea is a lot like living in a community like Sonora. Of course there are schools... and there are Sharks that swoop in, bare their teeth, and scare everyone, and there are jelly fish that sting you if you aren't careful. But there are so many colorful, beautiful fish that make a difference in the ocean, the kind that everyone wants to have in their aquarium. You know the kind, they work well with others, and they work hard to make the reef a better place to live. A co-worker of the person that received the "Employee of the Year" award said that she "is the most helpful person I have ever worked with." This winner has been with her current employer since March of 1985, so they recently celebrated twenty years of employment at the same location. That in itself says a lot.

In this day and age most people change jobs every 4 to 5 years, but not this person. The employee of the year's dedication is apparent in all that she does. Though her supervisors have changed many times throughout the last twenty years, this person has consistently been a steady and loyal employee adapting to the situations that always come with change. This hard worker's current supervisor said of her, "I'm not really qualified since I have been in this position for such a short period of time, but based on the last three weeks of my life I can certainly see why she was nominated to receive this recognition."

This beautiful lady and her husband have raised two wonderful sons who both now serve in the military. She just this last week became a grandmother and, as with most grandmothers, cannot wait to get her hands on that first grandchild. Unfortunately her first grandchild was born so far away from Sonora that there was no way for us to arrange for them to be present for this evening. You see, her grandson, Justin Blake, was born in Taegu, South Korea. I know that Seth and Heath both wish that they could have been here to share this with their mom.

Patti began her job with the City of Sonora as the Assistant City Secretary twenty years ago, and, upon the retirement of the City Secretary in 2003, was promoted to take over that job.

The 2005 Employee of the Year... Patti Prather.



Citizen of the Year



Lewis Allen

Every beach needs a lifeguard, not all of them have one, but if there are people swimming, there should be someone who watches over them. Not someone who is there to ruin their fun, but someone who is there to lend a hand if they get in too deep, point the way to the nearest first aid station, or lend advice on what type of shell they found. You know, someone who knows the area and is always willing to help. A lifeguard keeps a watchful eye over all the beachcombers and is never judgmental. They don't care if you are a tanned goddess or a ghostly white tourist wearing last year's bikini (that probably didn't fit then). No, a lifeguard will be there to help no matter what. They may not know the exact answer to "what was that that swam by me in the water?", but they are there to reassure you that there have been no sharks spotted in this area today.

That's kind of like our Citizen of the Year, always around to lend a hand, offer advice, listen to your concerns and pitch in whenever needed. This person is active with the Sonora Downtown Lions Club, the Sutton County Child Welfare Board, The Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burn Association, the Dee Ora Masonic Lodge and the Relay for Life. He has served on the SIDC Board, Chamber of Commerce Board, L.M. Hudspeth Hospital Board, served as Scout Master for many years, and is treasurer of the Ministerial Alliance. This Sonora citizen personally assists with maintaining Eaton Hill by weed-eating the trails all Spring, summer and fall and because of a recent "walk" will soon be assisting with the Walk to Emmaus program.

Our Citizen of the Year isn't a lifeguard, he's more like a shepherd that watches over his flock - and this isn't the first time he has been chosen by this tribe as the Citizen of the Year. I guess that says a lot about this year's winner. Yes, the votes were cast and the tribe had spoken. Lewis Allen - thank you for all you do for our West Texas island.

Business Person of the Year



Paul Ramsdell

Have you ever been to a beach when you were young that seemed great at the time... just the sand, surf and salt air? Then year's later returned to that same beach to find many changes taking place, a new surf shack, a huge new store with all the latest styles and souvenirs, para-sailing, jet ski rentals. You know, progress. It's still the same beach, but now it has more to offer visitors because someone came and saw more on the horizon and decided to make a difference.

The 2005 Business Person of the Year is like that.

He was raised in Wisconsin and acquired a BS in Hotel Administration from the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 1988. He worked in various management capacities at Holiday Inns at North Padre Island, Corpus Christi and Peoria, Illinois, Embassy Suites in Abilene and Dallas, and the Crockett Hotel in San Antonio. He was the general manager of the historic Emily Morgan Hotel in downtown San Antonio from 1992 until 1998 when he became a Director of Operations for Westmount Hospitality in Houston. He was responsible for financial and operational activities for portfolios of 8-16 hotels at a time and traveled internationally as a consultant on acquisitions for Westmount.

In 2003, Paul Ramsdell became a partner and manager of the Days Inn Devils' River in Sonora and hasn't slowed down since. His partnership with Joe David Ross and George Alexander and their families has been productive and exciting.

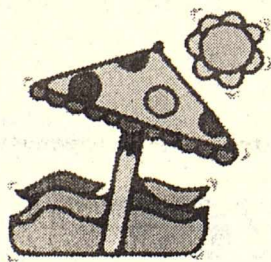
A working lunch meeting and a sketch on a napkin kicked off the development of the new Comfort Inn. The beautiful 52-room motel opened in March and will serve the city of Sonora in many capacities. Paul has been a new force in economic development for Sonora, as he has facilitated maintaining existing large employers and their employees and expanding the employment base. Paul worked with his partners to acquire and remodel the auto dealership building for Schlumberger and old Dominion/Meridian building on the top of the hill for EM Hobbs. Again with his partners, he developed the site above TxDOT and designed a building for Universal Compression.

A local business person recently commented, "Can you believe the things that this young man has gotten done for our community? If we just had a couple more hard working brilliant minds like his, we could really put this place on the map!"

Paul met Greta Schwiening in Corpus Christi and they married in 1995. They have two daughters, Darby, who is almost 7 and Delaney who is 5 years old. In his spare time, Paul coaches T-Ball and ranches in Fort McKavett. He loves (and lives) to hunt and fish along the North Llano River where they live.

**Keep shining
2005**

**Chamber of Commerce
Honorees!**



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year's Honorees!**



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**Congratulations
to all of the**

2005 Chamber Honorees



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Citizen of the Year**

**and guardian
of our
Community!**



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- Ozona
- Big Lake
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Public Notices

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 CONTRACTS(S)

Dist/Div: San Angelo
Contract 6129-95-001 for CLEAN AND SEAL VARIOUS BRIDGE JOINTS in TOM GREEN County, etc will be received on May 12, 2005 until 1:00 p.m. and opened on May 12, 2005 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$165,000.00. 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:16144

State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
San Angelo District
District Engineer
4502 Knickerbocker Rd
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Phone: 325-944-1501
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.

Sonora ISD is accepting the following bids for the cafeteria: Bread Tortillas (Flour and Corn) Milk Linen
The bids will be for the 2005-2006 school year. Bid forms are available at the school Administration Building, 807 S. Concho, Sonora, Texas 76950. Sealed bids are due at the above address by 3:00 P.M., on Tuesday, May 14, 2005. Please mark bid envelope "Food Service Products Bid." The district has the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Estate Sale

Large Estate Sale: furniture, appliances, beds and much, much more. New hours: 9-7, Thurs, Fri. & Sat., 602 SW Main, Eldorado Thrift Store

Pets

PET CARE SERVICE: Keep your pet at your home for \$7.00 a day for 1 pet & \$2.00 extra for each additional pet. Can water plants. Call 387-5649 for info. References available.

Minerals/Oil/Gas

Want to purchase minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: P.O. Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201.

Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

DOMINION OKLAHOMA TEXAS E&P, INC. is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is NOT productive of oil or gas. The Applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Sawyer (Strawn, N.) Van Shoubrouek, Well Number, SWD #1. The proposed injection well is located +/- 4 miles east of Sonora, TX in the Sawyer (Canyon) in Sutton County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 6496' to 6808' feet.

Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.
Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil and Gas Division, RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

Services

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John Williams, Ozona, TX,
325-226-4202
*Free estimates

Employment

Wanted: handyman looking to work 20 hrs.+ weekly. Must be dependable and have own transportation. Own tools preferred but not necessary. If interested call 325-387-2294.

Housekeeper Needed
Part-Time
Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital
Apply in person.
308 Hudspeth Street
Sonora, Texas 76950

Chartwell Community Services: Personal Care Attendants needed in the Sonora area. Flexible hours call 1-800-825-4499. Ask for Judy.

Excellent Opportunity: Independent Oil and Gas Operator looking for **experienced swabbing unit operator.** Please contact Nick at 325-206-0270 or 325-387-3386.

EXPERIENCED DRIVERS NEEDED!

Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operating pump trucks & winch truck. Monthly performance & safety bonuses. Health insurance, annual profit sharing, driver's days off schedule. Please apply in person at Niblett's Oilfield Service, Inc. Hwy. 277 South. Eldorado. No phone calls please.

Employment

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Aggressive Oilfield Buyer ALWAYS Seeking Used Equipment. WE COME TO YOU. Wanted: Norrisal and Fisher Controls & Valves, High-Low Pilots, Texteam & Western Chemical Pumps, Barton Recorders, Meter Runs, Separators, Glycol Pumps, Regulators, Wellheads, Pipeline Valves, Line Heaters, Dehy. Units, Mud Gauges, Weight Indicators, Rock Bits, Air Starters & Tuggers, Plant Valves & Instrumentation, Triplex Pumps, Handling Tools & much more... Call Sterling Oilfield @ 325-378-2514 or Fax 325-378-2516. Ask for Doyle.

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Part-Time RN or LVN
Benefits: 24-Hour Employee Daycare, Retirement, Competitive Salary, Current Texas License Required.
2p-10p Shift, Alternating Weekends Off.
Contact:
Anita Jones, RN, DON
325.853.2507 Ext 138 or fax resume to 325.853.3166 to the attention of Administrator or email to: sdietz@scn2.net

Nurses Unlimited, Inc. needs attendants to assist with personal care, meal prep. and light housekeeping. Part time basis. Please call. M-F 8 a- 5 p E.O.E. 1-888-859-0642

Hill Country Radio Network is seeking a full time sales representative for our Sonora office. Call 387-3553 for more information or go by the studio at 680 Hwy 277 South in Sonora.

Devil's River Auto Parts is hiring a front counter clerk. Auto parts experience a plus, good customer service skills, apply in person any time. 107 N. Crockett

Parker Lumber is now hiring cashiers. Good starting rate, 401K, Insurance, Paid Vacation, Bilingual helpful. Please apply in person at 112 E. 3rd St., Sonora, TX.

Location Builders, Inc. is seeking an Administrative Assistant proficient with QuickBooks, Microsoft Office, Payroll, Sales Tax, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, and General Office Management Skills. Please apply in person at 203 W 3rd St., Sonora, TX (325) 387-3881.

Lariat Services, Inc. is seeking an experienced Air Driller. Wage ranges between \$20.00 to \$24.00 an hour depending on experience. Will pay \$30.00 per diem and mileage reimbursement. Benefits include 401K Plan and Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 325-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 325-336-7821.

POLICE OFFICER

The City of San Angelo is now accepting applications for the position of Police Recruit. Civil Service and Physical Agility tests are scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2005. Benefits include Health & Dental, Sick/Vacation, Educational Incentive Pay and TMRS retirement. Starting Monthly Salary \$2,200. Applications are due by April 22, 2005. G.I. Bill Applicable.

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For more information
Call 325-657-4331

The City of San Angelo
is an
Equal Opportunity Employer.

www.sanangelopolice.org



Employment

The Devil's River News is now hiring for the advertising/sales position. Must be self motivated, have good people and general office skills, computer experience (Mac and PC) a plus. Apply in person at 228 E. Main

Comfort Inn is accepting applications for housekeepers. Please apply in person at 311 N Hwy 277.

Operators needed: Maintainer, dozer, and loader operators. CDL required. Call **Mittel Dozing** 277-6883.

Devil's River Days Inn is now hiring Front Desk personnel for the evening position. Apply in person at 1312 N. Service Road.

Experienced Tanker Drivers needed for Sonora, Ozona and Sheffield areas. Call B & K Trucking at 432-836-4342.

Help Wanted: Full-time employees & Part-time for weekends and holidays. Apply in person at **The Caverns of Sonora** or call 387-3105 for more information.

Penson Brothers Drilling needs rig hands in the Sonora area. Must live within 30 miles, CDL, drug test required, weekly paychecks, 12 hr. shifts, 10 days on 5 days off. 325-206-1979 or 405-705-1032 LEAVE MESSAGE.

Key Energy Fishing & Rental has an opening for experienced CDL truck driver. For appointment stop by 1763 S. Service Road, or call 387-6300.

Schleicher County Medical Center Hospital has a Full-time **R.N.**

position available 32-40 hours a week. Flexible schedule. ACLS, PALS and/or TNCC Certifications Preferred. Benefits available: Paid Time Off, Paid Holidays, Health Options, Childcare, Retirement Options. Contact: Vicki Farmer, BS., DON. Resumes may be faxed to 325-853-3523 to the attention of Vicki. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Help Wanted: Must be 18 years old and have current driver's license, CDL not required. Call **Adkins Septic Services, LLC.** Call 387-3154.

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Help Wanted: Full time and part time. Apply at **Mr. D's**, 216 Hwy 277 N. from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. , Monday - Friday.

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Forlano Chiropractic Family Health Center
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Residential Properties

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726 St. Ann's • \$35,000 • Contract Pending
201 W. College • \$65,000 • Contract Pending
509 E. College • \$68,000 • Contract Pending
1310 S. Crockett • \$88,000 • New Listing
222 Sawyer Dr. • \$92,500
919 E. 2nd • \$130,000 • New Listing
107 Sawyer Ct. • \$160,000 • Price Reduced
1103 S. Concho • \$165,000 • New Listing
118 Deerwood Dr. • \$175,000 • New Listing

Commercial Properties

305 Crockett Ave. • \$65,000
712 S. Crockett • \$95,000
104 N. Crockett Ave. • \$375,000 • Price Reduced
Pecan Orchard/Sutton County • \$430,000 • Priced Reduced

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2 Lots on Deerwood Dr. (75' x 143') • \$5,000 ea.
1 Lot on Deerwood Dr. (85' x 143') • \$5,500

Acresage

15 Acres - Cahill Addition • \$37,500



Bobbie A. Smith Real Estate

218 Sawyer Dr. - \$87,500.00. 3 BR, 2 BA, brick home, CH-AC, kitchen appliances, incl. dbl. car garage, privacy fenced, near school and hospital. Sellers moving.
1403 Glasscock - \$35,000.00. near 277 & 1403. A mobile home with large dorm room, large tree-shaded yard with grass and shrubs. Carport and storage room.
2.07 Acres corner of Savell & Cornell Sts. Former church bldg, parking lot, basketball court and baseball field. Property includes 4 BR, 2 BA double-wide which can be sold separately.
1.208 acres, 612 Water Street near Hwy. 277. 2 BR, 1 BA. Ideal commercial location, adjoins historic nature trail. Property includes historic bldg. containing large den/living/dining room, kitchen, 2 BR/Office space with attached apt. Large workshop/garage and pool area.

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Sonora Middle School Science Fair winners (above) competed at District competition in San Angelo, vying for a chance at the ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair in San Antonio.

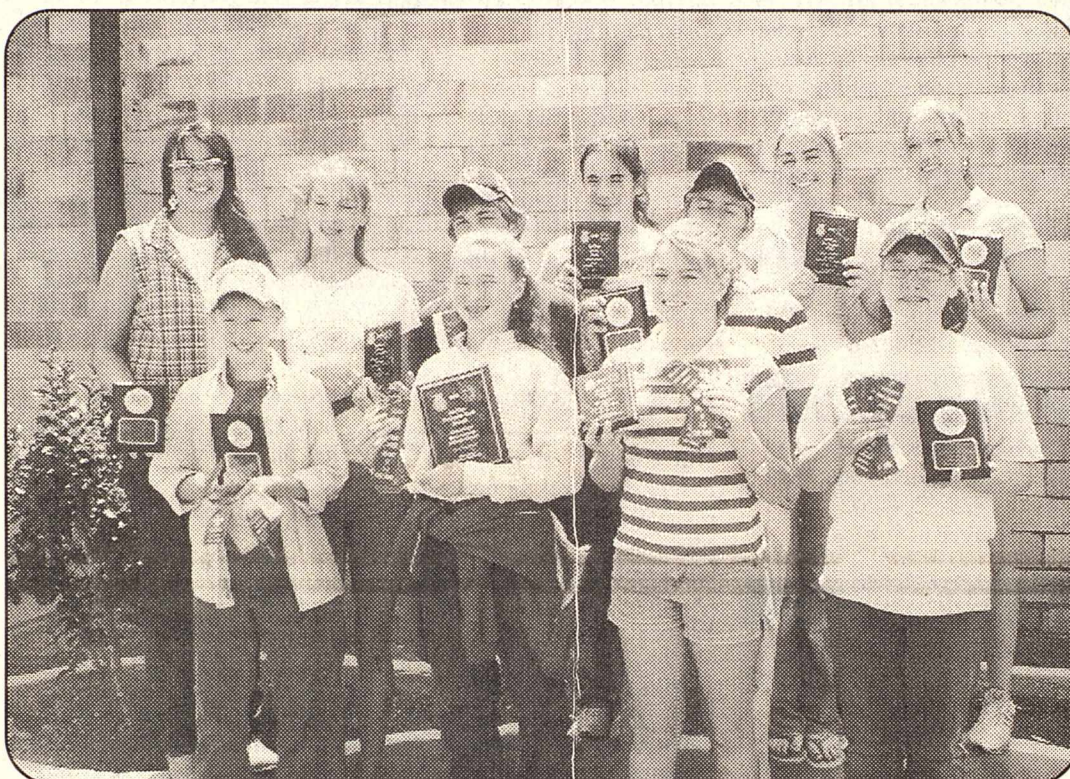
Science Fair from page 1

sponsor for five years, presented a \$60,000 gift to support student awards. "ExxonMobil congratulates each science fair participant for the hard work, dedication and creative approach to science and mathematics that led them to participate in this state-wide competition," said Gerald McElvy, President of ExxonMobil Foundation. "We are proud to continue our support and

encouragement of talented young minds through programs like the ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair."

Two grand prize winners in the senior division received all-expense paid trips to compete in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), which will be held May 8 through May 13, 2005 in Phoenix, Arizona. Two grand prize winners were also awarded

in the junior division. Junior winners who placed first or second in their respective categories are eligible to compete in the Discovery Channel Young Scientists Challenge, which will be held in Washington, D.C. this October.

Sutton County 4-H wins big at District Wool & Mohair Judging


Back row: Coach Shawna Faris, Savannah Leonard, Colton Moore, Meredith Earwood, Craig Leonard, Emily Earwood, Steely Ingham. Front row: Zachary Leonard, Madison Myers, Sterling Love, and Stella Ingham. Not pictured: Hunter Jennings and Laura Martin

Sutton County 4-H members competed at the district level in wool and mohair judging in Kerrville on Saturday, April 16, 2005. The novice team won first in mohair with a total score of 897, and their individual scores for contestant placing were Stella Ingham-first, Madison Myers- second, Hunter Jennings- third, and Zachary Leonard- fourth. The junior team won first place in wool with a total score of 950, and their individual scores were Savannah Leonard-first, Steely Ingham- third, Meredith Earwood- fourth, and Sterling Love- fifth. The senior team won first in mohair with a total score of 1059, and their individual scores were Craig Leonard- third, Emily Earwood- fourth, and Laura Martin- fifth. Colton Moore also judged on the senior team. With this win, the senior team advances to state competition that will be held in College Station in June.

In addition to district competition, an open contest was also held in Kerrville that day. Combining scores from both the mohair and wool contests, Sutton County's teams proved very competitive. The novice team won first place for overall score, the juniors won second place overall team, and the seniors were third overall team.

These teams will compete in the invitational contests during the 68th annual SonoraWool and Mohair Show which is scheduled for June 15th.

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Consuelo Ranch 2nd Annual Benefit Team Roping for Relay For Life, Saturday, April 23, 2005, 9 miles south of Sonora on Hwy 277. Books open 8:00 a.m., close 8:30 a.m. for 1st roping - Enter1, Draw 3 for \$50. OTRA #2 Roping with #1 Cap; Books open 1:00 p.m. close @ 1:30 p.m. for 2nd Roping, Enter 1, draw 3 for \$60. Open Draw Pot. Cash Only - BBQ by Stagecoach, FMI call 387-3244 or 387-2272

Sutton County 4-H Club members are asked to help with the clean up at the county arena on Sunday, April 24, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. If everyone shows up to work, it shouldn't take long to get the area shaped up for the junior rodeo which the club is hosting on April 30th and May 1st. Come to work and bring trash bags, buckets, and weed eaters. Receipts from the gate and concession stand will fund the club's scholarship program. For more information call the Extension Office at 387-3101.

Chateau Studio Art Exhibit, Thursday, April 28, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., 302 S. Water Ave.

Order Grass and Wildflower Seed Now!

The Edwards Plateau Soil and Water Conservation District is now placing orders for native grass seed and wildflower seed. This is the time to secure seed before supplies are limited, and the time to plant is before the weather gets too hot. Each order is customized to your needs regardless of size. We will be happy to give you an estimate. Normally, seed arrives within a week of the date ordered. For more information please come by our office at 301 Crockett in Sonora or call 387-2730.

All Band students 6-12 grade are selling "to go" only BBQ plates on Sunday April 24. Please purchase your tickets now and pick up your plates at the Bronco Stadium from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Tammy at 387-6504 FMI. All students please bring Mrs. Favila your ticket money. Thanks for your support.

9th Annual West Texas Ranch Rodeo & Trades Day, Saturday, April 23, 2005, Mertzon City Park, Trades Day - 9:00 a.m., sponsored by 48 Study Club. For more information call Mike Dolan 835-5301 or 835-2027 (ranch rodeo), Country Dance - 8:00 p.m. Mertzon Community Center, Band: Old Hat Band. All money raised by Lions Club and 48 Study Club goes to scholarship fund.

West Texas Ranch Horse Show (in conjunction with West Texas Ranch Rodeo), Friday, April 22, 2005, Irion County Arena, Mertzon, FMI call Frank Lindley 835-7010 or Mike Dolan 835-5301.

Project Graduation 2005 committee members are hard at work to make this year's graduation night party the best ever. If you have not yet been contacted and would like to help with this project, please send donations to Project Graduation c/o Beth Wallace, 105 SW Main, Sonora, Texas 76950. If you would like to volunteer your time on the night of Project Graduation, May 27, 2005, please call Beth Wallace at 387-5786 or Jane Rushing at 387-3625. At this time, orders for Project Graduation T-shirts are being taken. Shirts can be ordered until May 1, 2005 at a cost of \$12.00 (payment due at the time of order). If you would like to order a shirt, contact Kay Friess at the Sonora High School or order at Team Graphics.

The Dominion Relay for Life team, "Vanessa's Guys & Terry's Gals" will be holding a Fish Fry on May 5, at 6:00 p.m. at the Sutton County Park. The event is being held by National Oilwell, Cactus Flow, HEEP Equipment, Weatherford, Crume Sales, and RJ Sales. Come out for fish, fries and fun, with all proceeds going to the ACS Relay for Life. Tickets may be purchased, \$6 or \$10 for 2, from Dominion team members or for more information call 387-3588 or National Oilwell at 387-6567, or go by the office on Hwy 277 S.

The First National Bank Relay for Life Team will be selling water, pickles and popcorn at the Cinco de Mayo celebration on April 30, 2005 at the Sutton County Park to raise money for the 2005 Relay for Life.

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