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LETTERS TO
Santa Claus

...see Page 7

Reagan Bownds
named to
All-Big 12 Team

...see Page 4



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THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 97, ISSUE 51

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

DECEMBER 17, 1998

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F.Y.I.

For Your Information

Holiday Deadlines

The Eldorado Success asks its advertisers to please note that deadlines for the Dec. 24th and Dec. 30th editions will be at 5:00 p.m. on the preceding Monday. Advertisers and individuals wishing to publish their Christmas greetings in next week's issue are urged to contact the Success office as soon as possible. Call 853-3125.

—★ ★ ★ ★—

On this Date

On this date in 1811, New York City established the first One Way street. In 1903 Wilbur and Orville Wright made the first powered flight at Kill Devil Hills near Kitty Hawk, NC. In 1955 Carl Perkins wrote "Blue Suede Shoes". In 1976 Ted Turner changed the name of his TV station from WTCG to WTBS, and became the first commercial TV station to cover the entire U.S. on cable.

Birthdays of note include: 1807 abolitionist John Greenleaf Whittier; 1894 conductor Arthur Fiedler; 1915 actress Joan Woodbury; 1953 actor Barry Livingston (My Three Sons).

—★ ★ ★ ★—

News from Yesteryear

The Nov. 10, 1922 edition of the Success advertised the following items:

Suits tailored by Chicago Kahn Brothers and Strauss Brothers. Priced from \$18.50 to \$50.00. Workmanship and fit guaranteed...Wrights Cash Store.

Ford Touring Car \$379. Never before a value like this...Bush-Smith Motor Co.

Groceries. Plenty of School Supplies and Cotton Sacks in Stock, get your supplies here. I meet competition for cash. Get my prices on groceries...W.H. Parker

—★ ★ ★ ★—

Odds & Ends

Had it not been for Thomas Edison, people today would probably be answering the telephone by saying "Ahoy" instead of "Hello." The telephone's inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, thought "Ahoy" was the correct way to answer the phone. Edison invented the word "Hello" in the 1870s while doing research on clarity of sounds. When the first telephone exchanges opened around the country, Edison campaigned for using "Hello" — and a new word, and custom, were born.

Resource Center gets reprieve as State funding keeps doors open

The Schleicher County Community Resource Center will remain open another year with the help of additional funding from the Texas Department of Health, the Department of Human Services and other state agencies. That news was made public Monday morning during the Schleicher County Commissioners meeting.

County Judge Johnny Griffin told Commissioners Johnny Mayo, Steve Minor and Ross Whitten that the state agencies had come through with the money after Schleicher County had decided that additional money from the Concho Valley Council of Governments (CVCOG) would be forthcoming, as well. CVCOG operates the Rural Transportation Van in Schleicher County and pays the County for dispatching the van from the Resource Center.

Schleicher County ISD appears to have been instrumental in keeping the Resource Center open. A letter from SCISD board president Hal Porter to Texas Governor

George Bush outlined the school district's need for low/no cost health, food and counseling services which have for years been available through the Resource Center.

Shortly after the letter was received in Austin, an official from the Texas Dept. of Health visited Eldorado. When another, suitable location for TDH services wasn't readily found, additional funding for the Resource Center was made available.

Judge Griffin advised commissioners Monday that even with the increased money from the State, the Resource Center would probably be required to scale back its hours. "We still don't have enough money to keep it open full time," Griffin said. However, he told the men that other sources of funding were being sought.

Currently the City of Eldorado budgets \$800 per year for the Resource Center. SCISD has been giving \$2,000 annually while the Schleicher County Hospital District has contributed \$1,000 per year. It is unclear if those jurisdic-

tions will be asked to contribute additional funds to the project.

In other business, the Commissioners approved year-end salary adjustments for county employees. The adjustments are given each year in lieu of Christmas bonuses since governmental entities are forbidden by law from giving Christmas bonuses. As in past years a one-time adjustment of \$50 per year of service, up to a maximum of \$500, was awarded to employees with at least 6-months service.

The commissioners then called for bids for a new car for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff David Doran was on hand to visit with the commissioners and pointed out that he the funds to pay for the car were in for the car in his

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



photo by Kathy Mankin

Open for business — Anna Buitron, director of the Community Resource Center learned this week that additional funding had been promised by the State of Texas and the Center will not be closing on Jan. 1 as previously believed.

Rehab '99 telethon slated

Mabel Freitag of Eldorado will be among dozens of dedicated volunteers coordinating 16 Concho Valley area community phone banks January 9, for Rehab '99--West Texas Rehabilitation Center's annual fund-raising telethon.

To be set up at Southwest Texas Electric Co-op, Schleicher County's Rehab '99 phone bank

will be manned by local volunteers from 6 p.m. to midnight. Donors can call 853-2544 to make a pledge or go by the co-op to visit with volunteers and make a donation in person.

Also, advance donations may be made prior to the January 9 telethon. "We're encouraging everyone

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Third suspect arrested in School burglary case



photo by Randy Mankin

More loot recovered — An assortment of audio equipment, CD's, a cellular phone and video tapes, missing from Eldorado Middle School were recovered this week by Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. officers.

Antonio Sandate, Jr., 17, of Eldorado was arrested Thursday, December 10, 1998 by Schleicher County Chief Deputy George Arispe and charged with three counts of burglary of a building. He was released on \$5,000 surety bond. An assortment of stereo equipment, CDs, and other property missing from Eldorado Middle School was recovered.

The arrest came as local officers worked to close out a case which began last week with the arrest of two juveniles who were charged with possession of a firearm on school property.

Arispe noted that some of the recovered property bore markings which matched some of the graffiti which has been found recently on local buildings.

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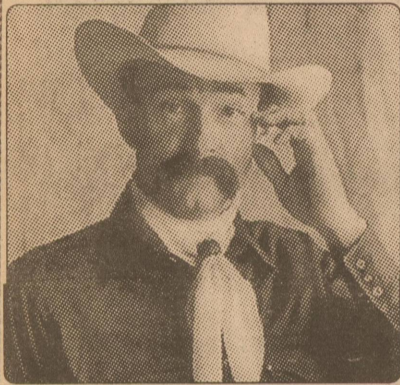
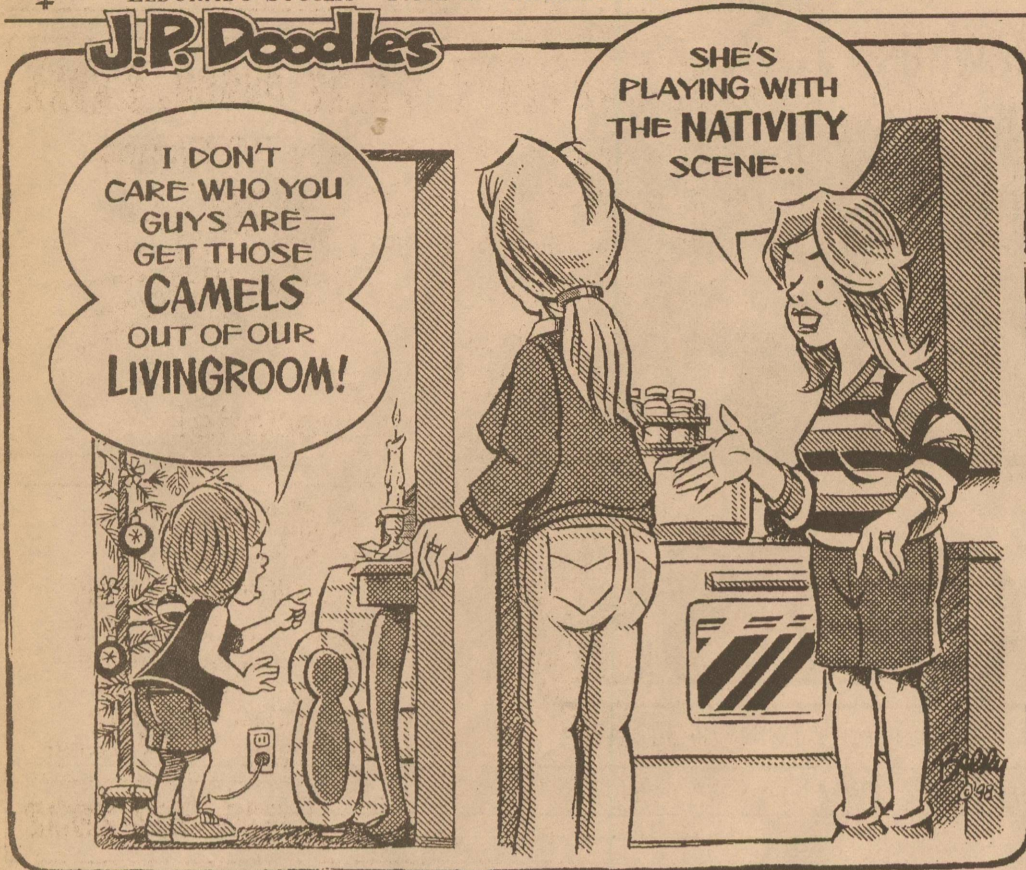
The Success prints expiration dates on the top line of all mailing labels. Our readers can help us hold the cost of subscriptions down by mailing in renewals in the appropriate month. Thank you!



photo by Randy Mankin

Musically inclined — EHS Band members who qualified last week for the Region Band were announced Sunday afternoon during the band's annual Christmas Concert. They are (Front L-R) Vanessa Gonzalez, Andrea Robles, Cristie Jo Belman (Middle L-R) Tana Williams, BreeAnne Davis, Sarah Mankin (Back L-R) Kate Kosub, Kasey Griffin and Juan Montalvo.

J.P. Doodles



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

The Cat Liked Popcorn

It could have been a Christmas story but it wasn't. It was young Ty's eighth birthday. He had his heart set on a baby hamster. Kim was a Boon & Crockett mother and set out to fill her young cub's needs.

The night of Birthday Eve she camouflaged a trip to the pet store as a movie with Ty's big brother. At the pet store she excitedly told the salesman of the great hamster surprise. The pet store person warned her against leaving the baby hamster, no bigger than an avocado pit, in the cardboard box in the car. "It'll eat right through that cardboard like white hot magma through a styrofoam cup. Then it will shred the front seat of your car and make an upholstery bed big as a condor's nest. Best keep it close!"

Kim went into the theater with baby hamster in her jacket pocket. By the end of the previews the wiley rodent had gnawed through the pocket and was thrashing his way through the lining. The movie began with an ear shattering clap of thunder and built from there. With every blood curdling scream, structure dropping explosion and metal tearing collision, the baby hamster fought and clawed his confining cloth bonds!

He spent the last half of the movie rolled up in mama lion's

shirt front drawing blood on a regular basis.

She made it home, woke Ty up and unceremoniously presented him with his birthday hamster. Popcorn, so named because of his introduction to the movies, spent the night in the bathtub.

The light of day diminished the anguish of the night before for mom. She helped Ty construct the elaborate hamster cage complete with tubes, automatic waterer, ferris wheels, bumper cars and the non-chewable, inescapable, indestructible maximum security hamster haven. It cost \$30.

The family went to town that evening for Ty's birthday dinner. Giddy and satisfied with cake and candles they returned home to find the cat polishing off it's own birthday dinner. A little twig of a tail stuck out of his mouth was still showing between cheeks full of hamster hams.

There was not much anyone could do except note the unlatched cage door, so they left the cat to finish his meal.

Ty was distraught and developed pinkeye, Strep throat, an ear infection, sinus and began walking with a limp. However he did achieve a complete recovery before the last of the rodent bites healed on mama's finger.

What follows is a poem I received recently. The author is unknown to me. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

A Politically Correct Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck... How to live in a world that's politically correct? His workers no longer would answer to "Elves..." "Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves.

And labor conditions up at the north pole... Were alleged by the union to stifle the soul. Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety... Released to the wilds by the Humane Society.

And equal employment had made it quite clear... That Santa had better not use only reindeer. So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid... Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from his sleigh... The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A. And people had started to call for the cops... When they heard sled noises up on their rooftops.

Secondhand smoke from his pipe had his workers quite frightened... His fur trimmed suit was so "Unenlightened." And to show you the strangeness of

OVER THE BACK FENCE
by Randy Mankin

life's ebbs and flows... Rudolf was suing over the use of his nose

And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation... Demanding millions in overdue compensation. So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife... Who suddenly said she had enough of this life,

Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz... Demanding from now on her title was Ms. And as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er had a notion... That making a choice could cause so much commotion.

Nothing of leather, nothing of fur... Which meant nothing for him and nothing for her. Nothing that might be construed to pollute... Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot.

Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise... Nothing for just the girls or just for the boys. Nothing that claimed to be gender specific... Nothing that's warlike or non-pacific.

No candy or sweets, they were bad for the tooth... Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth. And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden... Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden.

For they raised the hackles of those psychological... Who claimed the only good gift was one ecological. No baseball, no football, someone could get hurt... Besides, playing sports exposed kids to dirt.

Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passe... And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away. So Santa just stood there, disheveled, perplexed... He just could not figure out what to do next.

He tried to be merry, tried to be gay... But you've got to be careful with that word today. His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground... Nothing fully acceptable was to be found.

Something special was needed, a gift that he might... Give to all without angering the left or the right. A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision... Each group of people, every religion;

Every ethnicity, every hue... Everyone, everywhere... even you. So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth... "May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on earth!"

Those !@#%& Basketball Players

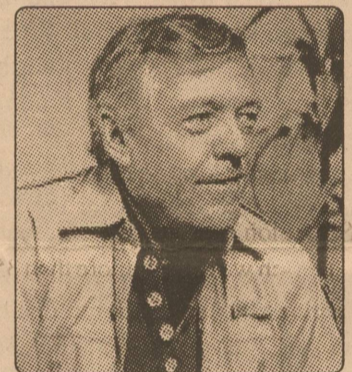
There are a few thousand people who have been directly affected by the professional basketball players' strike. My son, for one.

He is into sports broadcasting. He is technical director and/or on-line editor for the television broadcasts of the Texas Rangers baseball team, the Stars hockey team, and the Mavericks basketball team.

These days, he's not working the Mavericks broadcasts because there is a strike by National Basketball League players, so there are no professional basketball games being played right now.

My son is only one of many whose income has been diminished because of the strike. The peanut vendors. The beer salesmen. The people who sell hot dogs and cold drinks and jackets, caps, t-shirts and other NBA merchandise.

Rolling Along With



Tumbleweed Smith

dise. The arena people, who are scrounging around trying to find events to fill their empty arena. The broadcasters, whose fall schedule has been totally put in disarray and whose revenues have dropped drastically. The advertisers, who had planned to unleash new campaigns

during the playoff games. The people who take tickets, the security people, the people who print the programs. And on and on.

The fans are not really affected. Fans are crazy, anyway. They will pay a hundred dollars to go see a bunch of rich guys in shorts bounce a ball around. They really don't care or even consider that the players' main motivation is greed.

Athletes are gifted people who play. They don't work. They can't seem to make it on 5 million dollars a year. They need 10 million.

There is an appeal being circulated by email asking people to adopt a pro basketball player for two thousand dollars a day. It says the amount could mean the player could trade in his year-old Lexus for a new Ferrari or enjoy a weekend in Rio. Donors will get a complete financial report on the player containing detailed information

about his stocks, bonds and how he plans to use the five million dollars he receives upon retirement. Those wishing to adopt a player can dial 1-800-TOO MUCH.

Although the player won't know the name of the donor, he will be able to make collect calls to the donor's home via a special operator, just in case additional funds are needed for unexpected expenses.

The appeal is facetious, but it puts the situation in perspective. Sports are bigger and more popular than ever. The players are taking advantage of the situation in a big way. The meteoric rise of salaries of people who play on professional sports teams will continue until the fans get fed up and stop buying tickets.

Meanwhile, my son is looking into real estate.

Insurance Commissioner orders rate cut

AUSTIN — Texas Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer last week ordered cuts averaging 5.5 percent to the private-passenger auto insurance benchmark rate. The cuts are to take effect Feb. 15.

Drivers carrying only liability insurance also will see cuts averaging 7.8 percent, Bomer said.

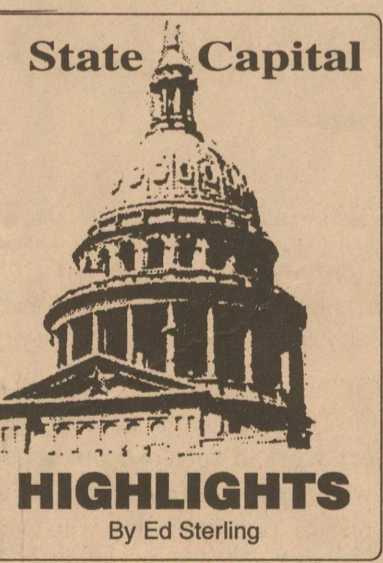
Bomer's action follows a 5 percent benchmark rate cut he ordered last January. At the time, he urged companies to file lower rates. Major companies in the personal auto insurance market responded by reducing rates 7 percent on average.

Insurance company claim payouts continue to lag behind premium collections because of tort reform, safer cars, less drunken driving and other factors, Bomer said.

"We need to close this gap so that consumers don't pay too much for their car insurance. All the evidence justifies a substantial rate reduction that still should leave the companies a fair profit on their Texas business," he said.

The rate changes apply only to drivers insured by rate-regulated insurance companies that cover about 75 percent of the drivers in Texas.

Bomer did not order changes to rates for commercial auto insurance, following a recommendation by administrative law judges.



State Capital
By Ed Sterling

In 1997, rate-regulated premiums in Texas averaged \$800 a year, while non-regulated premiums averaged \$1,300 a year, the study said.

Teacher Reward Plan Proposed
Education Commissioner Mike Moses, in response to a legislative directive, last week announced a teacher pay-for-performance program that will reward teachers for gains in student performance.

Every year, cash awards of \$750 per person would go to 25 percent of the state's educators, under the commissioner's proposal.

Rewards would go to all teachers at campuses that have shown significant improvement in student performance, as measured by the state education agency's Academic Excellence Indicator System.

Welfare Rolls Have Shrunk

A study released last week by the Texas Department of Human Services gives a first look at the impact of the 1995 welfare reform law.

More than two-thirds of adults pushed off welfare rolls found work; those workers were paid an average of \$6.28 an hour; and most of them found jobs in the food service, clerical, retail sales or health-care fields, the study shows.

The average annual salary of

the respondents was slightly more than \$11,000. The figure the federal government uses to mark the poverty level for a family of three is \$13,650.

Since 1994, state welfare rolls have dropped by nearly 400,000 recipients, and over the same period, food stamp rolls have dropped by 1.3 million recipients, the study said.

Work requirements and time limits on Texas welfare benefits took effect in 1996. Work or job training is mandated for most people between ages 18 and 59.

Scholarship Hike Proposed

State Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, last week filed legislation that would give Texas high school students access to \$250 million more in financial aid for college.

Student loan and grant programs presently total about \$15 million. Under Cuellar's proposal, an applicant's family's annual income would have to total less than \$75,000, among other criteria.

Other Highlights

• Officers from 25 law enforcement agencies are fanning out in Austin's Sixth Street club district to catch and arrest minors using fake identification. Offenders face a stay in jail, a fine and interrogation by federal agents.

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

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MEMBER 1998
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



OBITUARIES

Lorena Draper Hughes

SAN ANGELO — Lorena Draper Hughes of San Angelo died Sunday, Dec. 6, 1998. Graveside service were held Dec. 9, in Fairmount Cemetery with the Rev. Ben G. Hubert of First Christian Church officiating. Arrangements were by Robert Massie Funeral Home.

Lorena was preceded in death by an infant son, Michael Thomas Hughes; by her husband of 62 years, Allie T. Hughes; and by three brothers, M.L. Draper, Leslie Draper and Lawrence Draper. Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Don and Cathy Hughes of San Angelo; two grandchildren, Kristin Pfluger and Gabe Hughes of San Angelo; four sisters, Sadie Gratzel of Lubbock, Helen Terry of San Saba, Ardelia Rutherford of Abilene and Nola Spivey of San Angelo; one brother, George Draper of Eldorado; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lorena took great pleasure in serving others as a teacher, wife, mother and grandmother. She was truly a devoted "caretaker" to all those around her. The family is very grateful to the staff of Meadow Creek Nursing Home for its many years of professional care and personal kindness to Lorena. Memorials may be made to Sonrisas Therapeutic Riding, P.O. Box 1093, San Angelo, TX 76902, or to a favorite charity.

Lorena was born Dec. 24, 1904, to Michael Lee and Lena Draper in Field Creek, Texas. She was the eldest daughter of nine children. Lorena received her early schooling in Pontotoc and subsequently attended Southwest Texas State University. As a teacher in a one-room schoolhouse in Pontotoc, she influenced the lives of many children in Central Texas.

Lorena was married to Allie T. Hughes on May 29, 1925, in Llano. She pursued her teaching career in Big Spring, Las Vegas and Provo, Utah, moving with her husband to San Angelo in 1944.

She was active in Delta Kappa Gamma teacher's society, numerous civic and charitable organizations, and was a dedicated member of the First Christian Church.



photo by Kathy Mankin
Band Sweetheart — EHS senior Hannah Wolfe was named EHS Band Sweetheart at the annual Christmas Concert held in the high school auditorium Sunday afternoon.



Luis Mata

While most Americans are celebrating the holiday season at home or with family, Navy Airman Luis A. Mata a 1997 graduate of Eldorado High School and the son of Juan and Josefa Mata is scheduled to spend the holidays deployed to Okinawa, Japan, with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines.

Mata is one of more than 65,000 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guards-

men who are serving our country separated from their families and loved ones this holiday period. Mata is working abroad to preserve peace as part of our nation's forward defense forces. Third Battalion, 5th Marines is deployed to Okinawa under the Unit Deployment Program.

Mata joined the Navy in September 1997.

Michael S. Kotsch

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael S. Kotsch a 1990 graduate of Eldorado High School and the son of John and Jo Helen Kotsch, recently completed a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian oceans and Arabian Gulf aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Shiloh.

Kotsch was one of more than 350 Sailors aboard the ship which returned to its home port of San Diego, after serving as part of the USS Abraham Lincoln Battle Group. The battle group was comprised of 10 tactical air squadrons, five surface combatants and two submarines.

While deployed in the Arabian Gulf, Kotsch's ship aided multinational interception operations in prohibiting contraband transports to and from Iraq. During the deployment, Kotsch and crew members had the opportunity to visit Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates.

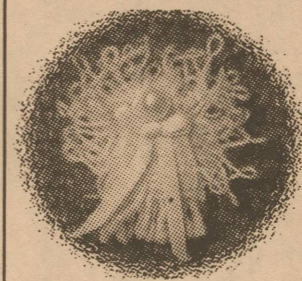
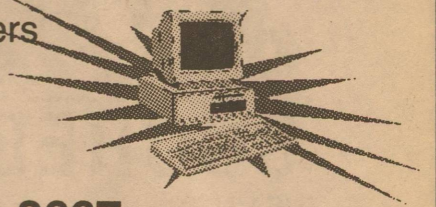
Kotsch's ship is one of the most powerful warships ever put to sea. The computer-based AEGIS weapons system is the heart of the ship's war-fighting capability. It centers around a powerful radar that enables the crew to detect, track and fire on more than 100 targets at a time.

Kotsch joined the Navy in January 1996.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Eldorado Success.

Dear Editor:

My daughter-in-law, Janis (Mikeska) Wilkerson recently gave me a gift subscription to the Eldorado Success. I have thoroughly enjoyed it. I especially enjoy the "Over The Back Fence," and "On The Edge of Common Sense" columns. It's also nice to see our grandsons, Mitch and Cole Wilkerson names in print occasionally, as long as they don't make an appearance in "The Blotter," I am an avid paper reader. I read our local paper The Odessa American, from front to back, most days, and The Eldorado Success, when I receive it, as well.

We resided in Eldorado during the mid-seventies, some of our children went to school there, and our son Shannon by the Grace of God, Coach Mitchell, and Mr. Jay even managed to graduate in 1978. Shortly thereafter, he married our pride and joy Janis Mikeska, and linked us forever with Schleicher County.

My wife Jannette wrote a column, "Something To Think About" for the Eldorado Success, and enjoyed the experience immensely. Doing research for some of her columns gave her the opportunity to meet many Schleicher County residents and was very rewarding for her. We formed some good friendships while living in

Eldorado, she more than me. Amoco had me traipsing all over drilling wells, and I missed out on a lot of socializing. We still keep in contact with some of our Eldorado friends, especially Ernie and Joyce Higdon. Ernie and I e-mail very frequently.

Your paper is a "breath of fresh air." It is so refreshing to read a paper devoted mostly to local events, and what's important to the inhabitants of Schleicher County. Keep up the good work.

Robert & Jannette Wilkerson

"A Candlelight Christmas"

A Christmas Cantata

presented by

The First United Methodist Choir

Two Performances:

Thursday Evening...Dec. 17th — 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning...Dec. 20th — 11:00 a.m.

First UMC Sanctuary

The entire community is invited to come and celebrate Christmas through the blessing of music

Community Baptist Church Living Nativity Scene

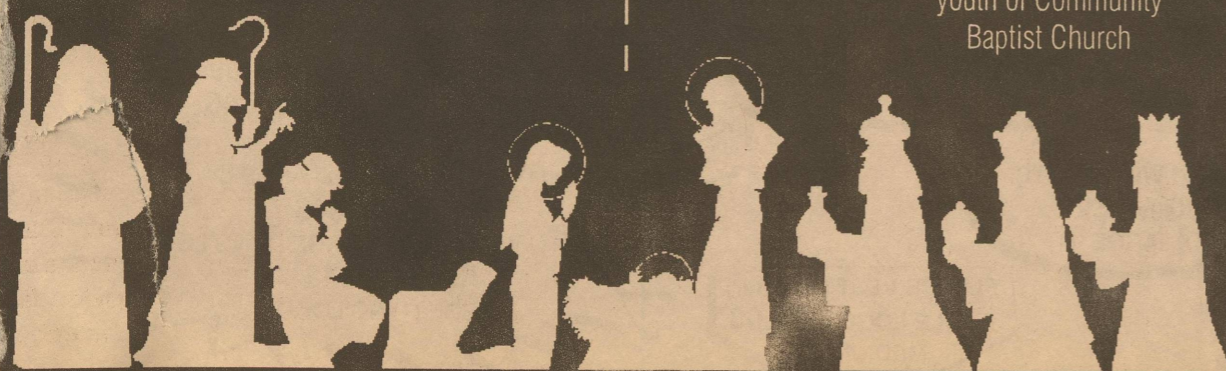
7:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday,
December
18, 19 & 20
12 E. Warner

(just north of the Schleicher
County Courthouse)

Join us in
celebrating the birth
of our Lord

Presented by the
youth of Community
Baptist Church

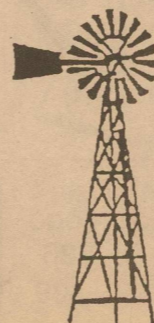


Customer Appreciation Day

Friday, December 18

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The First National Bank
of Eldorado



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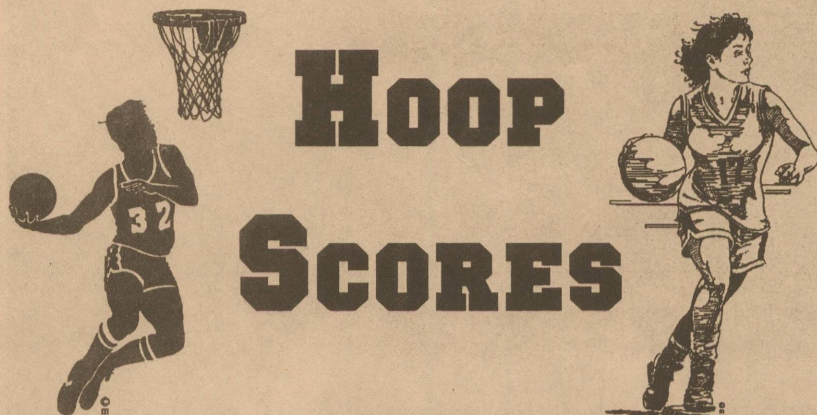
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7th Grade Girls

November 16, 1998

Eldorado	28
Rocksprings	15

SCORE BY QUARTER

EMS	12	02	02	12	28
Christoval	12				
Clara Herrera 10, Mikinzie Holley 2, Jennifer Bybee 2, Teresa Barajas 4, Heather Homer 4, Sonia Mills 6.					

November 23, 1998

Eldorado	17
Reagan Co.	29

SCORE BY QUARTER

EMS	01	04	00	12	17
Reagan Co.	29				
Courtney Whitten 4, Jessica Cook 2, April Nixon 4, Clara Herrera 4, Teresa Barajas 3.					

November 30, 1998

Eldorado	23
Ozona	21

SCORE BY QUARTER

EMS	06	08	00	09	23
Ozona	21				
Courtney Whitten 2, Jeanette Villanencio 2, Jessica Cook 2, Heather Homer 2, Clara Herrera 10, Teresa Barajas 2, Sonia Mills 3.					

8th Grade Girls

November 30, 1998

Eldorado	27
Ozona	41

SCORE BY QUARTER

EMS	04	11	04	08	27
Ozona	11	11	11	08	41
Amanda Wanoreck 2, Blake Snelson 11, Christina Redish 5, Courtney Sauer 4, Martha Lively 1, Jennifer Rodriguez 4.					

December 7, 1998

Eldorado	28
Iraan	30

SCORE BY QUARTER

EMS	08	09	06	05	28
Iraan	09	04	03	05	30
Amanda Wanoreck 2, Blake Snelson 1, Christina Redish 16, Courtney Sauer 2, Jennifer Rodriguez 1, Martha Lively 4.					



courtesy photo

All-Big 12 — Texas Tech's Reagan Bownds was named to the Dallas Morning News' All-Big 12 2nd Team Defensive squad after the Red Raiders ended the season 7-4 with an invitation to play Ole Miss in the Independence Bowl in Shreveport, LA. Bownds is a 1995 graduate of Eldorado High School.

Reagan Bownds named to DMN's All-Big 12 Team

Reagan Bownds of Eldorado was named to the Dallas Morning News All-Big 12 Team last week after his team, the Texas Tech Red Raiders, ended the regular season 7-4. Bownds, a 5-10 190 lb. junior, played safety on the Raiders defense and saw action on special teams.

He is joined on the All-Big 12 Team by six teammates: 1st Team Defense - Montae Reagor, 6-2 245 lb Sr. defensive lineman; 2nd Team Offense - Ricky Williams, 5-7, 182

lb. Soph. running back; Donnie Hart, 6-1, 194 lb. Sr. wide receiver; Curtis Lowery, 6-4 320 lb. Jr. guard; Jonathan Gray, 6-5, 363 lb. Soph. tackle; Chris Bikholtz, 6-0, 170 lb. Soph. kicker

Bownds was also selected to the Big 12 Conference All-Academic Team. In all, Texas Tech placed 17 student athletes on the all-academic squad, more than any other team in the conference.

Bownds is the son of Johnny and Angie Bownds of Eldorado. He graduated from Eldorado High School in 1995.



photo by Kathy Mankin

Playin' roundball — John Fay brought the ball down court recently in 7th grade basketball action in Eagle Gym.

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Must be redeemed on or before Dec. 24, 1998

BIRTHDAYS

- December**
17th Dylan Ramos, Micaela Gonzalez, Anita Robles
18th Felipe Montalvo, Brenda Greer
19th Jay Ray Holley, Mario Avila, LaTasha Newton, Jill Preston, Mary Lozano
20th Lanese Stewart, Stormi Sessom, David Overstreet, Meredith Peaslee, Domingo Pina
21st Cody Bill Whitten, Edward Robinson, Ashley Mittel, Jesse Lynn Barajas, Angela Ballew, Jesse Barajas, Norman Smith,
22nd Marvin Clark, Todd Overstreet, Holly Rae Romero, Julian Martinez
23rd Marci Minor, Manuel Pina, Jacey Sellers, Josh Jones
24th Joyce Whitten, Anna Loomis, Sammy Prater, Doug Garvin, Travis Lloyd, Jennifer Cheatham
25th April Robinson, Sonny Dean, D'Ann Kuhlmann, Heliodoro Sanchez, Makenzie McCravey, Justina Saunders
26th Ashley N. Ramos, Victor Pina, Irene Reynolds

ANNIVERSARIES

- December**
21st Mr. & Mrs. Cary Baker
22nd W.R. & Edwina Taylor, Weldon & Mary Jenkins
24th Robert & Pansie Jay
25th Claude & Jessie Jenkins
26th John & Rita Meador, Bob & Stacy Page

Hey, Eagle fan's...need a last minute gift? The Booster Club has these items in stock!
Contact Joella Parker or Randy Mitchell or come by the Elementary Music Room by Friday, Dec. 18 or call Randy at 853-2657

KHAKI SHIRTS with Eagle Logo...\$32.00 SMALL-(6) LARGE (1) X-LARGE (5) XX-LARGE (2)	MOCK TURTLENECKS: (White)"Eagles" monogrammed on neck....\$20.00 SMALL-(3) MEDIUM-(2) LARGE-(6)	ADULT FULL-ZIP (Kelly)...\$49 EAGLE LOGO XX-LARGE - (1)	YOUTH FULL-ZIP (Forest)...\$40.00 EAGLE LOGO SIZE 14-16 - (1)	FLEECE JACKETS: MED, LARGE, X-LARGE...\$43...XX-LARGE\$46 (Heather)...\$43 Medium (1) X-LARGE (1) XXLARGE (2)...\$46 (Forest)...\$43 LARGE (1) WITH LOGO LARGE (1) NO LOGO (Black)...\$43 LARGE (1) NO LOGO
POLO SHIRTS (White) "Eagle" Logo...\$25.00 X-LARGE - (1) XX-LARGE-(1)	ADULT HALF-ZIP (Kelly)..EAGLE LOGO X-LARGE (1)...\$36 XX-LARGE-(1)...\$39	LINED WIND PANTS (Kelly)...\$27 XX LARGE -(1)	FLEECE VEST (Heather) EAGLE LOGO \$39.00 MEDIUM (1)	



courtesy photo

Eldorado Middle School Council who hosted the TASC Junior High/Middle School State Convention in Austin on November 20-21, 1998. Front (L-R) Will Griffin, Janet Gardiner, Clara Herrera, Travis Joiner, Mikinzie Holley, Daniella Guadarrama; Middle (L-R) Selina Rojas, Brandi Davis, Christina Redish, Emily Newman; Back (L-R) Courtney Sauer, Koda Lozano, Courtney Brown, Betsy Green, Layna Murr.

EMS Student Council hosts TASC State Convention

Eldorado Middle School Student Council hosted the TASC Junior High/Middle School State Convention on November 20 and 21, 1998.

The EMS Student Council received a letter this week from Julian Shaddix, Executive Director of Student Councils, commending them for their efforts. To quote Ms. Shaddix "What a fine job your council did in hosting the conference! The Eldorado Middle School Student Council has much to be proud of...as do you, the faculty and administration. It was obvious from the artwork, contents of the bags, buttons, and the "wave" that a great

deal of planning went into hosting this year's conference. Your efforts did not go unnoticed...schools have approached us concerning hosting future conferences. Thanks for setting an excellent example."

Those attending the conference were: Courtney Brown, Courtney Sauer, Layna Murr, Brandi Davis, Christina Redish, Koda Lozano, Mikinzie Holley, Clara Herrera, Janet Gardiner, Travis Joiner, Betsy Green, Will Griffin, Selina Rojas, Daniella Guadarrama, Emily Newman. Sponsors Susan Parker and Kara Sue Garlitz and parents Melissa and Marcus Murr, Christy Brown and Julie Holley.

Showmanship Clinic slated for livestock exhibitors

by Scott Edmonson, CEA-Ag

There will be a showmanship clinic on December 28, 1998 at the showbarn from 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. This clinic will be open to anyone wanting to learn more about the livestock projects and how to prepare them for showing. The Schleicher County Livestock, Food and Project show will be held on January 8-9, so we need to be

getting the projects ready.

Our speaker for the clinic will be Sutton County Extension Agent, Mr. Preston Faris. Mr. Faris is widely known for his judging of major shows and has a very successful feeding program in Sutton County. He will be covering Lambs, Goats, Swine and Steers. The main focus will be on getting the animal ready in the time that remains before the show.

For additional information, please do not hesitate to call the Extension office at 853-2132.

Beta Sigma Phi Report

by Barbara Jackson

Kappa Delta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority celebrated the holiday season with dinner out at Casa Arispe on Monday, December 14, 1998.

After dinner members met in the home of Mary Leigh Dunagan where they enjoyed dessert and wassel prepared by the hostess. They were met at the door by a lighted reindeer and angel. Inside they exchanged Secret Sister gifts from a beautiful lighted Christmas tree. After opening of the gifts each member guessed who their Secret Sister had been. The Secret was then revealed and new Secret Sisters drawn.

The door prize was a beautiful pink poinsettia and was won by Ms. Dunagan.

A Sign of Christmas

by Glen R. MacDonald

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. This will be a sign to you..." Luke 2:11-12

It's Christmas time again. And while stockings hang empty on the mantle, trees stand alone in homes, along with Christmas cards, tinsel, and a multitude of other memories which remind us that the day is fast approaching...the question remains: "what is the sign that reminds us year-round of the season of the Savior?"

It's Christmas time, everywhere. A day comprised of spice tea, Santa Claus, cranberry sauce, and phrases like: "Thank you so much," and "Oh!, you shouldn't have." A season where knee-deep wrapping paper replaces the straw that accompanied the original manger scene. And just as the glory of the Lord shone around those wearied eyed shepherds, today cameras flash constantly in an attempt to capture gift-memories of the present for future generations.

What has happened? Is it possible that we have missed the true meaning of the season? I believe the second part of verse twelve holds the answer. It is always a danger to overlook the simplicity of God due to the complexity of our attempts to celebrate and observe. The remainder of that verse reads:

"You will find a baby wrapped in clothes and lying in a manger." Did you catch that? What could possibly be more simple than a baby in a manger? It's a sign of the season. And yet, amid our attempts to celebrate and remember the real reason for the season, we would do well to stop, and listen all over again to the original story behind the celebration, the birth of a Savior. What a gift. The one perfect gift that fits all and never goes out of fashion.

My prayer this Christmas season is that we all take a moment amid our hectic observances to contemplate the simplicity of God's greatest gift. Pause in the very midst of chaos and confusion and permit the hallowed dust of Christmas which glitters on the cheeks of humanity, ever so briefly, to remind you and I of what is worth having and what we were intended to be. Allow yourself the true luxury of forgetting about compul-

sions, winning, wooing, and warring. Intentionally step off those racetracks and roller coasters that hinder us from seeing clearly and look outward toward the star of Bethlehem. But most importantly, may we all utter a prayer of thanksgiving for this yearly reminder of faith, hope, and love. It is my hope and prayer that those who behold Him today will look for Him next

month, and the month after that. And still, at this very special time of year, I can't help but linger on one fanciful thought. If He can do so much with such timid prayers offered in December, how much more could He do if we thought of Him every day?

Merry Christmas to all, from the family of Glen and Nancy MacDonald.



photo by Kathy Mankin

Silent Night — The EHS Varsity Chorus performed Thursday, December 10th as the school hosted local Sr. Citizens for lunch.

First National Bank member FDIC

Will be closing at 2:00 PM on Thursday, December 24

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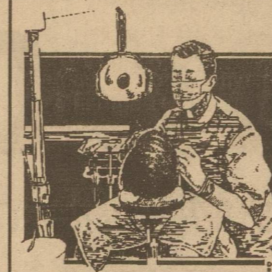
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<p>88¢ • 7-Stem Poinsettia Or Holly. Reg. 99¢ • 7-Stem Gold Poinsettia. 2/3 • 14-Stem Poinsettia. 1.99</p>	<p>3.99 Reg. 5.99 36" w, 150 Sq. Ft. 5-Roll Gift Wrap</p>	<p>2/7 Reg. 4.88 Selected Heavy Bath Towels. Slightly imperfect.</p>	<p>9.99 Reg. 14.99 Laser Pointer Key Chain. Battery inc.</p>

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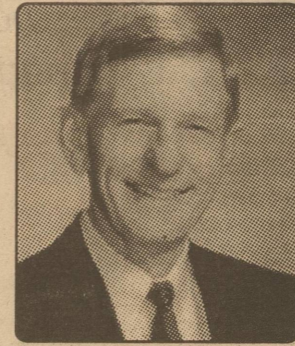
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Christmas on Main Street

Main Street Eldorado • Meador Park
Friday, December 18, 1998

Booths, Music, Food & Santa

Booths set up at 4:00 p.m.

- 3rd & 4th grade choir 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.
- Santa will arrive 5:30 p.m.
- High School Choir 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
- Other choirs and/or musicians (individuals or groups) can perform 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (open to anyone)
- Event will conclude with Christmas Carols by all present

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Jim Kosub.....office 853-2711
Princess Gruben...home 853-2204

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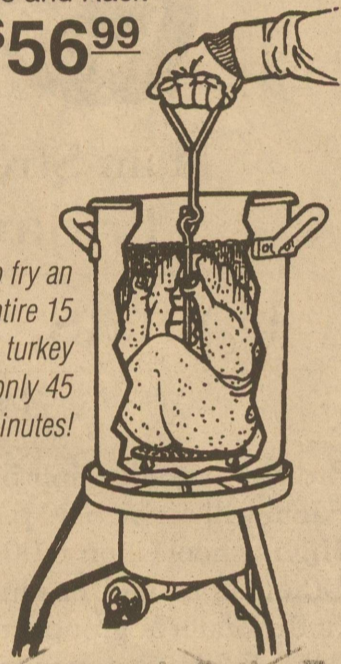
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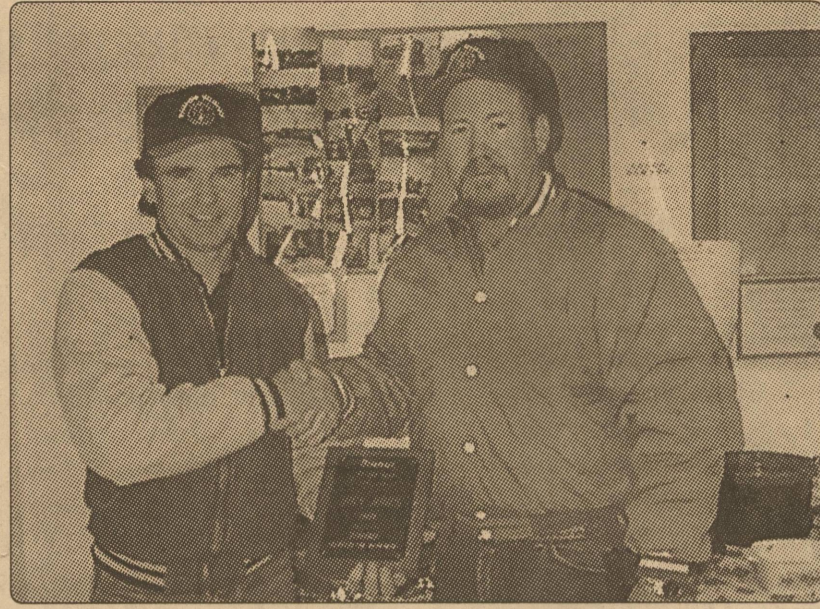


photo by Randy Mankin

Fireman of the Year — Robert Parker (R) President of the Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department congratulated Joey Jones (L) and presents him with a plaque Tuesday evening in honor of his selection as the department's Fireman of the Year. Parker noted that Jones has completed numerous fire fighting schools and is currently studying to become an Emergency Medical Technician. He will represent the local department in the State Firefighter of the Year Contest.



Alfonso Covarrubiaz

Marine Lance Cpl. Alfonso Covarrubiaz a 1997 Eldorado High School Graduate and is the son of Enedina and Joaquin Covarrubiaz, Sr., recently graduated from Air Traffic Controller School.

During the course at Naval Aviation Schools Command, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, students receive basic control tower and radar control training. Studies

include aviation weather, flight data, ground and local control, basic radar, radio communication, navigation aids, flight planning, aeronautical charts and publication. Student also receive the technical training necessary to receive Federal Aviation Administration certification.

Covarrubiaz joined the Marine Corps in July 1997.

Growth Resources

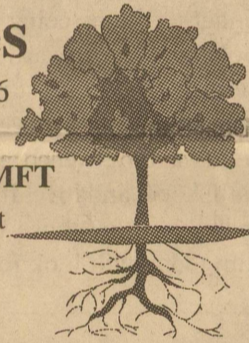
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Duckwall-ALCO Stores, Inc. reports record 3rd quarter

Duckwall-ALCO Stores, Inc. (NASDAQ-DUCK) last week announced record results for the 1998 fiscal third quarter and nine month period ended November 1, 1998. In addition, the Company reported its adoption during the third quarter of Accounting Standard SOP 98-5, Reporting on the Cost of Start-up Activities.

Third quarter highlights:

- Diluted earnings per share of \$0.22 (after adoption of new accounting standard) represents 23rd consecutive quarter of earnings growth

- Net sales increase 12%
- Operating income up 16%
- Four ALCO stores opened in new non-competitive markets

Net sales for the 1998 fiscal third quarter ended November 1, 1998 were \$85.3 million, a 12% increase from \$76.2 million recorded during the third quarter of fiscal 1998. Net earnings, after the effect of adopting the SOP, grew 2% to \$1,119,000 or \$0.22 diluted earnings per share, from \$1,098,000, or \$0.21 per share, a year earlier, reported on a comparable basis as the new accounting method has been utilized in the prior year.

Net sales for the nine month period ended November 1, 1998 increased 14% to \$256.7 million from \$225.5 million from \$225.9 million last year. After the effect of adopting SOP 98-5, net earnings for the period rose 22% to \$3.9 million, or \$0.76 diluted earnings per share from \$3.2 million, or \$0.62 per share, in the prior year.

Glen L. Shank, President and Chief Executive Officer, said "We are looking forward to beginning our seasonally strong fourth quarter, having completed our store opening schedule for the fiscal year. After opening 4 ALCO stores in new non-competitive markets in the third quarter, we started the fourth quarter with the opening of three ALCO stores and three Duckwall stores, which bring total openings to 36 in the current fiscal year (16 ALCO and 20 Duckwall stores) and a total of 76 in the two year period."

Shank added, "Sales have been our biggest challenge all year. We have had some merchandise categories that have performed well, and while we are not satisfied with sales results, our challenge is to improve same store sales, which has been difficult due to the weak farm economy. Continued unseasonable warm weather during the fall season has also, at least temporarily, postponed consumer purchases of cold weather merchandise."

Duckwall-ALCO Stores, Inc. is a leading regional retailer which operates 258 full-line discount and hometown variety stores in the midwestern United States under the names "ALCO" and "Duckwall," respectively.

Commissioner's Court meeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
budget. He also asked permission to purchase an in-car video camera system which was also in his budget. The commissioners agreed to the request.

Next, the commissioners approved the purchase of a new radar unit for DPS Trooper Robert Bybee. It was noted that the radar unit he is currently using belongs to Schleicher County. It will be given to the Sheriff's Dept. when the new unit arrives.

Before adjourning, the men voted with James Kosub about the possibility of offering tax abatements in order to attract new businesses to Schleicher County. They also reviewed and denied two diligent care requests.

Christmas is just around the corner...



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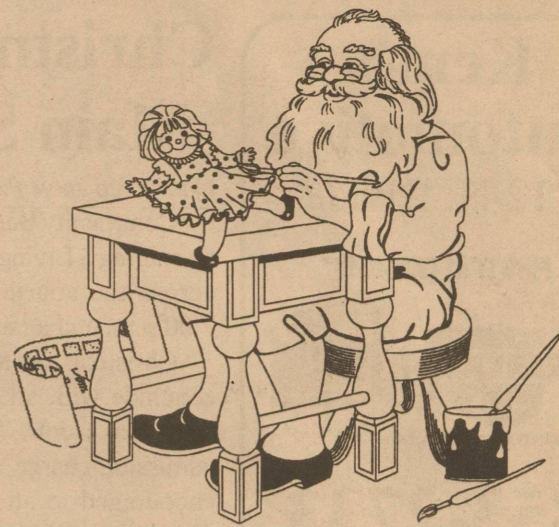
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LETTERS TO SANTA



**Mrs. Mikeska's
2nd Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
I want 2 things for Christmas this year. The first thing I want is a begoal dog. Because I want to hunt with my dad. The second thing I want is a Tirbo fan doll. Love, Rolando Gonzalez

Dear Santa,
I want 2 thing for Christmas this year. The first thing I want is a Dalmation puppy. My other dog died. The second thing I want is a NSYNC movie because they are my favorite grope. Love Veronica Belman

Dear Santa,
I want 1 thing for Christmas this year. A Computer and A disk A Jump start disk. love Paul Martinez

Dear Santa,
I want 2 things four Christmas this year. The first thing is a new Rodeo hat. The second thing I want is a Furbee that talks. Love Kirsten Stubbs

Dear Santa,
I want 4 things for Christmas this year. The first thing I want is a puppy Golden Rechever. I'll name it furbey. The second thing I want is a furbee. The third thing I want is the Dixie chicks. The fourth thing I want is a little T.V. love, Meg Griffin

Dear Santa,
I want two things for Christmas this year. The first thing I want is a NBA basketball. The second thing I want is a Make an Chole Monster truck. love Rance Cathey

Dear Santa,
I want 2 things for Christmas this year. The first thing is a choo choo train. The second thing I want is a Christmas tre. lov Ivany Sanchez

Dear Santa,
I want three things for Christmas this year. The first thing I want is a iguana. The second thing I want is a four wheeler. The third thing I want is \$100. Love Corey Roberts

Dear Santa,
I want 1 thing for christmas this year. I want a toy any toy is fine. from Dustin Ramirez

Dear Santa,
I want 1 thing for Christmas this year. The thing I want is a Play stashin beacas they are fun. Love David Tirado

Dear Santa,
I want 2 thing for Christmas this year. The first thing I want is I want a

play station. The 2 thing is a got car because I am board. Love. Jonathan Mejia

Dear Santa,
I want 2 things for Christmas this yea. the first thing I want is a t.v. becuse my bruther has a t.v. sow I want one. the senont thing I want is a bed becuse I don't have a bed. Love Brittany Olivarez

**Mrs. Beach's
2nd Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new dog. Aonther gift I want is some new shoes. Love Jose Vasquez

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new barbie. Another gift I want is some new clothes. I hope Rudolph is okay. How are the elves? How is Mrs. Clause? I hope its snowing. Love Brittani Romero

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new jacket. Another gift I want is a new toy car. Tell Mrs. Claus hi. Love, Marc Rodriguez

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a BB gun. Love Landy Alfaro

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a Nintendo 64. Another gift I want is a play station. Yo elves whats up? This is your pal, Uriel Barrientos

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a Nintendo 64. Another gift I want is Bango Cusooe. P.S. I've been reely good. Love Daniel Lumpkin

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a Spice Girl bike. Another gift I want is all of the Spice Girl girl Barbie dolls. I hope that Dasher is doing good. Love, Lauren Holt

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts for Christmas. One gift I want is a new bike. Another gift I want is a Play Station. How are the Elves? Love, Darci Vick

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new bike. Another gift I want is some new clothes. Merry Christmas. Love Nichole Smith

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a Spice Girl bike. Another gift I want is new clothes. How are the elves doing? Love, Victoria Fuentes

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new BB gun. Another gift I want is some new Rudolph clothes. How are you Santa Claus? Love, Kevin Dykstra

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a toy. Another gift I want is some new clothes. Merry Christmas Santa. Love, Victor Cardenas

**Mrs. Sessom's
2nd Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
I want tow gift is a Nintendo 64. I want a Another gift it is a computer. How is Rudolph? Love Jorge Sanchez

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me tow gift for Christmas One gift is a new bike. Another gift I want is a new CD. P.S. Tell Rudolph I said hi and the other reindeers. Love, Cassandra Buitron

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts for Christmas. One gift is Amazing Amy. Another gift I wnat is magic stroller baby. Santa how is Rudolph. Love Bridgett Mitchell

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gift for Christmas. One gift is a big Stereo. Another gift I want is a tint like a house. How is Rudolph and I am going to leave you some cookies. Love, Corie Williams Merry Christmas

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gift for Christmas. One gift is a BIG Tweety doll And anther gift I want a new born crying baby Love Dayanira Cruz

Dear Santa,
I want you two gift for Christmas. One gift is a playstation with CD Another thing I want is a ty. I Love you Santa Jonathon Belman

Dear Santa,

I want two gifts for Christmas. A braslit. and a c.d. I o u. happy Christmas. I want be bad bring my mom her gift Mary Christmas Jesus, Mary Alice Aguirre

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts for Christmas. One is a Doomsday race car set. Another gift I want is a silver moutain bike. I've been very good and also be careful with with my dog. Santa can you say hi to Rhudolph. Timothy Maskill

Dear Santa,
I want two gifts for Christmas. One gift is a WWf game for my playstation. Another gift I want is a blue hiler dog. How is Rudolph. Lov, Emilio Vallejo

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts for Christmas. One gift is a sdolayer Another gift I want is the cloths that I wanted from the mall in Lubick. how is Rudolph and I ame going to leev you some cookies and milk and I Love you. Love Joshua Taylor

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me tow gifts for Christmas one gift is a Back hoe. and a Jambox. and a staryo and a playstahun and a remocintrol jracster. Love Clinton Payne, Hi santa Hi miss Class

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts for Christmas. One gift is new nikes. Another gift is a Eagle hat from Dukwalls. I am a good boy. Juan Carlos Escobar

**Mrs. O'Harrow's
2nd Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a Spicegirl Microphone. Another gift I want is spice girl note pads. I Love you. Love, April Porras

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a football helmet and football pads. Another gift I want is new pencils. Merry Christmas. Love Kaleb Murr

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gift this Christmas. one gift I want is a t.v. Anothe gift I want is some new clothes. Merry Christmas. Love, Chris Minor

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me tow gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new bike. Another gift I want is a new game for my nintindo 64. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Love, Mark Garcia

Dear Santa,
I want you to bing me two gifts this Christmas. I want is a dooms day car. Anothe gift I want is a Nfi play station game. Merry Christmas Love Haley Higgins

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a computer. Another gift I want is a trampoline. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Feliz Navidad Love, Jesus Vasquez

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is Scooby Doo toys. Another gift I want is Scooby Doo clothes. Merry Christmas Love, Brent Martinez

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a cool bike. Another gift I want is a new computer. Feliz Navdad love, Steve Gonzales

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift is a new bike. Another gift I want is a computer. Happy New Year. Love Isidro Granados

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gift this Christmas. One gift I want is a motorcycle. Another gift I want is a play station. Merry Christmas. Love, Gabriel Gomez

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a doll. Another gift I want is a bike. Marry Christmas and Happy New Year! Feliz Navidad Love Marcela Huerta

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me two gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new bike. Another gift I want is a football suit and a helmet. Merry Christmas, Love, Chris Whiddon

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me tow gifts this Christmas. One gift I want is a new barbie doll. Another gift I want is a computer. Merry Christmas. Love, Alicia Hernandez

~~Fruit Cake~~ ~~Socks~~ ~~Slippers~~ ~~Tie~~ ~~Pajamas~~

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Please feel free to call or come by. We'll be happy to visit with you about the long term care options at Schleicher County Nursing Home. We'll take as much time as necessary to answer all your questions. After all, we're more than a nursing home...we're your neighbor and we want you to feel comfortable and understand all your alternatives.

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Christmas on Main Street

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Community Baptist Church will be staging a Living Nativity Scene across the courthouse square at 7:00 p.m. and again at 8:00 p.m.
Christmas on Main Street will conclude with all present singing Christmas carols. There will be no admission charge and everyone is encouraged to attend this unique Christmas celebration on the historic 100 block of South Main Street.



photo by Kathy Mankin

House guests — Ester Bunton (L) showed her home to Joy Foster and Kay Davis last Sunday during the Eldorado Woman's Club Christmas Home Tour. Other homes on the tour included those of Andy and Liz Anderson, Alan and Shannon Gillespie and Gene and Rachel Nixon.

Hospital board meeting held

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Cook said, she hoped that much of that amount might be reimbursed to Schleicher County Medical Center retroactively. She informed the board that she would continue to work toward that end.

The trustees declined to purchase a computerized training system from M3 Healthcare Learning even though much of the purchase price would be paid by a grant from the Texas Dept. of Economic Development. Fagan-Cook explained to the board that the grant placed strict requirements on the district concerning employee pay raises

and test performances.
The board then voted to clarify their policy on employee clinic visits. It was emphasized that hospital district employees clinic visits would be funded by the district only at the Schleicher County Family Clinic, which the hospital is currently contracting to Shannon. The board also voted to end the practice of subsidizing employee meals in the nursing home dining room.
Before adjourning, the trustees authorized the lease of an automated postage meter and reviewed and approved the district's bills and investments.

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West Texas Pecan Show winners named in Abilene

Pests, diseases, and drought devastated this year's Texas pecan crop. The adverse conditions didn't do much for county pecan show entries either. Despite the problems, 178 entries representing 15 counties made it to the annual West Texas Regional Pecan Show in Abilene December 7 and 8. The show was held in the Taylor County Extension Office complex.

A Pawnee pecan entry submitted by Pecos County's Belding Farms was named Champion entry in the show's Commercial Division. The Classic Division Champion was a Shoshoni entered by Henry Clingman of Midland County.

Belding Farms Pawnee entry needed 28.18 nuts to make a pound and yielded 58.84 percent kernel. Clingman's Shoshoni entry required 40.25 nuts to the pound and had a kernel yield percentage of 54.21.

Champion Seedling Division honors were won with the entry of Doyle and Virgie Clifton of Tom Green County. The Clifton's seedling yielded 59.16 percent kernel and needed 38.84 nuts to make a pound.

The show's Reserve Champion honors in the Commercial and Classic divisions went to Charles

Green of Midland County and Frank Heslin of Ward County respectively. Green's Cheyenne entry needed 41.77 nuts to make a pound, but yielded 57.37 percent. Heslin's Reserve Champion Classic win was made with a Comanche entry that weighed in at 39.41 nuts to the pound with a yield of 56.47 percent.

Marge and Art Shaw of Midland County exhibited the Reserve Champion seedling pecans that yielded 57.09 percent kernel and needed 41.24 nuts to make a pound.

John Begnaud, Tom Green County Extension Horticulturist and one of the show's judges, said entries from across the 76-county West Texas Region were down considerably from last year's 202 entries.

The other two judges for this year's show were Zan Matthies, Pecos County Extension Agent, and Lynn Rawe, Fort Stockton-based Extension Program Specialist-Horticulture.

Begnaud said the three Abilene Champions will be put on ice along with all regional winners until next summer when they will be judged against the state's other three region's champions during the State Pecan Conference here July 11-12.
Begnaud said the show is a good way for growers to show off their product. It also allows consumers to learn the different pecans' characteristics in terms of size, color and kernel yield.

Schleicher County winners included Leroy and Sally Olsak who exhibited the 2nd place Cheyenne, 3rd place Pawnee and the 1st place Schley while Ducks Pecan Patch exhibited the 2nd place Western.



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

ARRESTS

12/9/98 Tompkins, Clinton Wayne, male age 24, hold for Schleicher County Court to serve 30 days.

Arispe, Galindo Victor, male age 35, hold for Schleicher County Court, charged with Theft by Check. Released on time served.

Colbert, Melvin Earl, male age 34, hold for Irion County, charged with Driving While License Suspended. Released.

Cruzan, Christopher D., male age 25, arrested by SC Officer, charged with Possession of Marijuana.

Saucedo, Gary, male age 22, arrested by SC Officer, charged with Possession of Marijuana.

12/10/98 Sandate, Antonio, Jr., male age 17, arrested by SC Officer, charged with Burglary of Building. Released on \$5,000 bond.

Garcia, Elva, female age 51, arrested by SC Officer, charged with Class A Assault. Released on \$5,000 PR Bond.

12/13/98 Castilleja, Armando, Jr., male age 20, arrested by SC Officer, charged with Driving While Intoxicated. Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.

REPORTS

12/08/98 Phone Harrassment - Complainant stated that they were receiving phone harrassment. Subject was told that they could call GTE and have a trace put on their line.

Loose Livestock on County Road 1828. There were about 30 loose livestock out on county road. Owner was contacted. Officer responded.

12/10/98 Larceny Theft - Complainant reported a cellular phone taken from the Memorial Building.

12/11/98 911 Hangup possible weather related.

12/12/98 Complainant stated that they needed an ambulance for a transfer to San Angelo.

Complainant stated that a white 4 door Dynasty was speeding down the road in front of their residence.

Complainant stated that there was someone out at the Old San Angelo Road spotlighting and wanted someone to check up on the vehicle.

Complainant stated that he had square black CD case stolen from their pickup at school from vehicle about 2 weeks ago with about 15 CD's in it. Recovered 8 CD's.

Complainant stated that a two tone Ford pickup had thrown something out of their vehicle and hit the complainants windshield busting it out.

Complainant called and advised Sheriff's Office about some music that was too loud. Officer responded.

12/13/98 Officer reported to Sheriff's Office that the music was not loud upon arrival. This would be that second time officer had to be called out to this address.

Complainant called and advised Sheriff's Office that there is possible drunk driver going North bound on Highway 277. Called and advised Sheriff's Office the truck and it had just passed the picnic area. Arrest was made.

12/14/98 Complainant stated that their wallet had been stolen on Saturday 14, 1998. Does not know at what time but in wallet, they had a credit cards, pass port, Social Security and a check for \$100.


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Focus on the Family

by Dr. James Dobson

Sponsored by Community Baptist Church of Eldorado



Shared Experience Develops Bond Between Father and Son

QUESTION: As a father, what should I be trying to accomplish with my son in these teen years?

DR. DOBSON: Someone has said, "Link a boy to the right man and he seldom goes wrong." I believe that is true. If a dad and his son can develop hobbies together or other common interests, the rebellious years can pass in relative tranquillity. What they experience may be remembered for a lifetime.

I recall a song written by Dan Fogelberg that tells about a father who shared his love of music with his son. It is called "Leader of the Band," and its message touches something deep within me. The son talks of a father who "earned his love through discipline, a thundering, velvet hand." The father's "song is in my soul." The son himself has become a "living legacy to the leader of the band."

Can't you see this man going to visit his aged father today, with a lifetime of love passing between them? That must have been what God had in mind when he gave dads to boys.

Let me address your question directly: What common ground are you cultivating with your impressionable son? Some fathers build or repair cars with them;

some construct small models or make things in a woodshop. My dad and I hunted and fished together. There is no way to describe what those days meant to me as we entered the woods in the early hours of the morning. How could I get angry at this man who took time to be with me? We had wonderful talks while coming home from a day of laughter and fun in the country. I tried to maintain that kind of contact with my son.

Opportunities to communicate openly and build the father-son relationship have to be created. It's a goal that's worth whatever it takes to achieve.

QUESTION: Can you give me a simple definition of menopause?

DR. DOBSON: It is a time of transition in a woman's life when the reproductive capacity is phasing out. Menstruation gradually stops and hormonal changes occur. Specifically, the ovaries produce only about one-eighth the estrogen that they once did. This affects not only the reproductive system, but the emotions as well.

If you are having irregular periods, if you frequently cry for no apparent reason, if you are having "hot flashes" or night sweats, if your interest in sex has diminished,

if you have very low self-esteem and are depressed most of the time, and if you lack the energy to get through your day — you need immediate medical attention.

There is hope for women who are suffering from symptoms associated with menopause. Estrogen replacement therapy can help put you on your feet again. There are other disorders that produce symptoms similar to menopause. That's why it is important to have a complete physical exam to get a definitive diagnosis.

Dr. Dobson is president of the nonprofit organization Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903; or www.fof.org. Questions and answers are excerpted from "Solid Answers," published by Tyndale House.

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Community Baptist Church

R. Byron Orand, Th.D., Pastor



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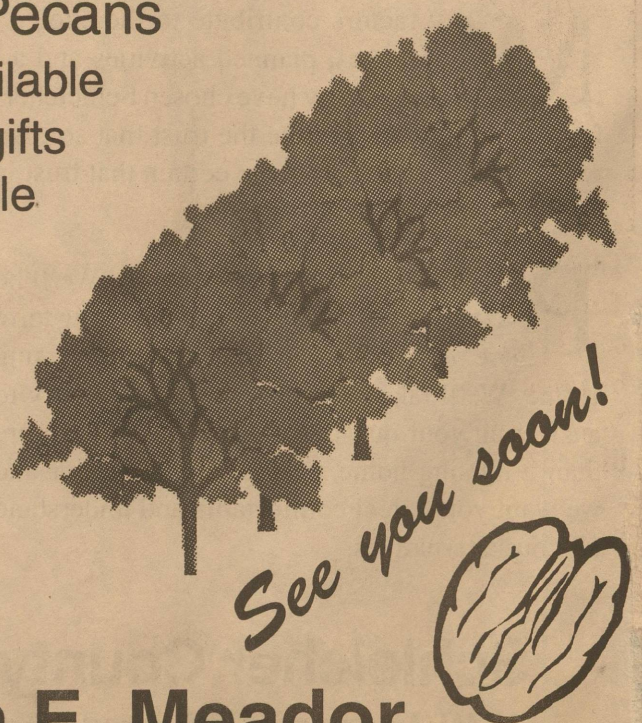
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Public Notice

CONTRACTOR'S NOTICE OF HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WORK

Sealed proposals for IN PLACE REPAIR on various roads in Crockett, etc. Counties covered by Contract No. RMC-6035-99-001 will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 East Riverside, Austin, Texas, 78704, until 1:00 PM, January 5, 1999, and then publicly opened and read.

Only prequalified contractors are eligible to bid.

THERE WILL NOT BE A PREBID MEETING FOR THIS PROJECT MEETING FOR THIS PROJECT.

Specifications and proposals for the above mentioned contracts are available at the office of Mr. Dennis W. Wilde, P.E., Director of Operations, 915/944-1501, Loop 306 & Knickerbocker Road, San Angelo, Texas. Mailing address is 45022 Knickerbocker Rd, San Angelo, Texas 76904.

Estimated cost for this Project is \$313,299.00.

Minority owned businesses are encouraged to bid.

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Public Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Eldorado is accepting sealed, written bids for a Landfill Scale to be installed at the City of Eldorado Landfill MSW Permit #2264. Full specifications may be obtained by contacting the City of Eldorado City Secretary at 915/853-2691 or Utility Supt. at 915/853-2458. Bid deadline is January 11, 1999, at 5:00 PM.

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For Rent

Eldorado - DUPLEX FOR RENT: 3/BR, 1/BA DUPLEX. 134 Del Rio; Apt. 101; Fenced yard Washer/Dryer Connection. \$325 Month. Call 915-387-2171 Wayne Munn Real Estate/Broker. 50b

Sonora - Mobile Home for Rent: 2/Bedroom, furnished & bills paid. 387-2190.

Sonora - For rent - Mobile Home. Out in country. Sonora Industrial Park. 387-3619.

Wanted

Will purchase for cash 400-600 acres tract of land in Sonora/Rocksprings area for \$200 per acre. Immediate closing. Must have good wildlife. Will pay more if minerals included. 713-624-9339.

Autos

For Sale - 1986 Dodge Ram 50 Pickup. \$600. Call 853-2484. 50b

1964 Ford 1/2 ton pickup. \$1,500 cash. See at 605 Coates, Ozona.

1998 Dodge Club SLT 4x4 short bed. Diesel, 5-speed loaded. 21,000 miles. \$29,000. 915-226-2628.p

1985 one ton Ford Crew Cab, automatic transmission. \$1,500. 392-2706.

Garage Sale

Ozona - Moving Sale-Wurlitzer Funmaker organ, several women's coats, lawnmower, 1 yr. old electric range, aquarium, couch, books, 209 D. Sat. & Sun. 8AM until dark.

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FOR SALE - TWO SUZUKI 4-WHEELERS, 1 (2 wheel drive), 1 (4 Wheel drive). Call Bill Frietag around noon at 853-2335. 51p

FOR SALE - TRAP SET -7 PIECE- (snare, bass, toms, floor tom, high hat and symbols). \$300. Call 853-2137. 51b

For Sale - Flat Bed Trailor \$150. Sized 17 X 17 1/2. Computer Sale Complete systems for 8086 (\$40), 286 (\$60), 386 (\$75). Color Monitors, Mouse, Printers and Games. Phone 853-2694, 203 Hermon, Eldorado.

For Sale: Cardio Glider & Ab Machine. Both like new. \$75 a piece. Call 387-2507 for more information. p

Employment

Schleicher County Medical Center is taking applications for (2) part time positions in housekeeping. Contact Lydia Barajas at 853-2507. 400 W Murchison, Eldorado. 51b

Real Estate

Eldorado - 16' x 80' Town and Country Mobile Home on approx. 3 acres in 3 J's Ranch Sub-Division located 4 miles North of Eldorado on Highway 915. Fence, barns, water well, State approved septic system. Price to sell at only \$45,000. Hurry! Call Wayne Munn Real Estate. 915-387-2171.51b

Mobile Home for sale: 1995 Silvercreek 16'x56', 2/BR, 2/BA, CA. Located in Stadium Park. 650-2089 or 387-3441.

Ozona-House for sale: 108 Ave. L. \$37,000 (806) 892-3485.

Ozona - House for sale: 105 Ave. M. 3/2 on 2 lots, 2 living areas, CH/A, 2 car carport, storage building and barn. \$49,000. 392-2671.

Ozona-Need to Sell house at 905 3rd Street to settle Estate. Appraisal value above the \$32,500 asking price. 3/BR, 1/BA home with large pecan trees and storage buildings. Call 915-392-3454 for information.

Ozona-House at 502 Circle Drive to settle Estate. Heirs asking \$65,000, but willing to negotiate. Will deduct price of new carpet from asking price so owner may replace as preferred. Call 915-392-3454.

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The Success does not charge for obituaries, birth, wedding or engagement announcements provided there is a Schleicher County connection.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Buddy Key would like to thank those who offered prayers and acts of kindness when Buddy was injured.

Buddy is home now and is recovering. He must continue to use the back and recover from his head injuries. Buddy will continue under the care of his physicians in San Angelo for therapy and monitoring. He was a way to go until full recovery. He will continue to need your prayers and support for a good while.

We want everyone to know how much we appreciate all that has been done for us during this time of need. Living in Eldorado is special.

Merry Christmas

Joe, Sonja, Staci, B.J. and Buddy Key and Family

Eldorado Middle School Student Council would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for donations and support in their opportunity to host the TASC Junior High/Middle School Student Council State Convention in Austin on November 20 and 21, 1998:

Eldorado - Schleicher County ISD - Mrs. Griffin, Mr. Porter, and School Board, Schleicher County Emergency Medical Service, Schleicher County Chamber of Commerce, First National Bank, BJ Services, C Bradley Graphics, Stan Meador-XBar Ranch, Niblett's Oilfield Service, Chance, Powell, and Leon-Attorneys at Law, Webb Insurance, Production Pumpers, Eldorado Success, Woolen Mill, Ronnie Mittel, Jim Kosub, Super S, and our Parents.

San Angelo - San Angelo Chamber of Commerce, Cortese Signs and Flags, Western Printing, Fort Concho, Jim Bass Ford, Randall Motors, of-flage Max, Target, Coca-Cola, Walmart; Sonora-Sutton County Chamber of Commerce and Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas.

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Mittel Insurance presents Eldorado Spotlight



This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on Brent Martinez, Tim Maskill and Darci Vick. When the Spotlight camera caught up with the trio they were showing off the prizes they had won in the 9-1-1 calendar contest sponsored by the Concho Valley Council of Governments. Tim's picture is included in the 1999 9-1-1 calendar and appears on the month of March.

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Cooler weather could slow, but not stop, screwworms

Cooler temperatures, particularly in the Hill Country, could slow the 21-day life-cycle of the screw-worm, giving livestock health officials and ranchers a breather from examining thousands of head of livestock for the flesh-eating pest that has re-entered Texas. In October, a rancher from Rocksprings, in Edwards County, submitted maggots he found in a wound on an Angora goat. One of the larvae was identified as the dreaded screw-worm, which has been eradicated from the U.S. and Mexico. Animal health officials are still uncertain how the screwworm entered the country.

"We've been on high alert since mid-November, when the screw-worm maggot was confirmed in Texas. Although we're on watch statewide, our primary surveillance area has involved Edwards and the surrounding counties, including Kimble, Sutton, Val Verde, Kinney, Uvalde, Real and Kerr Counties," said Dr. Gary Svetlik of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services in Texas.

He said USDA and Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) staff have been working with veterinarians, producers and livestock markets to get the word out about the screwworm case and have stepped up inspections to ensure that we catch and stop this pest. Dr. Svetlik explained that, on the premise where the screwworm maggots were found, livestock have been inspected, but no additional maggots have been detected. As well, livestock and dogs on ranches adjacent to this premise also have been checked.

Since mid-November, 13 submissions of maggots from across the state have been made to the USDA's Screwworm Laboratory in Mission, Texas, or to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa. None have been identified as screwworms. The maggots were collected from a half-dozen cows, two sheep, a camel, two dogs and a couple of cats. "We want submissions of maggots," said Dr. Svetlik. "Although we haven't detected another case, we must continue to col-

lect and examine maggots to eliminate the chance of the screwworm becoming re-established."

TAHC and USDA staff have intensified surveillance at the livestock markets in West Texas, around Edwards County. Teams have inspected nearly 7,600 cattle and more than 33,000 sheep and goats at markets without finding additional maggots. Screwworm submission kits have been distributed to the area's slaughter plants, feed stores, county extension agents and parks and wildlife staff.

"If we have additional screwworms in the area, cooler weather, and certainly a freeze, could kill adult screwworm flies and any maggots. However, South Texas is a prime area for the screwworm to over winter about a half inch to an inch underground. If we have undetected screwworms in the area, we could see a re-emergence in the spring when the pupae develop into screwworm flies and work their way to the soil surface. Although we'll have a break during the cold weather, we could see additional cases in the spring," said Dr. Svetlik.

Unlike other fly maggots which eat decayed flesh, the screwworm maggot feasts on fresh flesh, which can eventually debilitate its warm-blooded host. Screwworm flies lay eggs at the edge of wounds or scratches, and the larvae gouge deep holes into flesh. Until they were eradicated in the mid 1960s and again in the early 1980s, ranchers suffered huge financial losses to the screwworm and spent countless hours treating livestock that had been attacked by the pest.

To report suspicious maggots in livestock or pets, call your Texas Animal Health Commission Area 6 office in Lampasas at 1-800-658-6642, or your nearest TAHC or USDA animal health inspector or field veterinarian. The TAHC headquarters in Austin may be reached at 1-800-550-8242, while the USDA in Austin can be called at 1-512-916-5555.

State Sales Tax rebates reported

State Comptroller John Sharp delivered a total of \$176.4 million in monthly sales tax payments this week to 1,095 Texas cities and 118 counties this week, a 7 percent increase over the \$164.7 million allocated in December 1997.

In that allocation, the City of Eldorado received \$4,118.21, down 24.63 percent from December's payment last year. The city's year to date total is \$76,895.05, down 5.63 percent from the same period one year ago.

Schleicher County's sales tax rebate totalled \$5,669.21, up 9.42 percent over December of 1997. Schleicher County has received \$127,686.90 year to date.

The Schleicher County Health Service tax rebate was \$5,213.25, down 27.86 percent from last year's December 1997 totals.

This month's sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in October and reported by businesses filing monthly tax returns in November. The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation is scheduled to be delivered on Friday, Jan. 8, 1999 and will be reported the following week in the Eldorado Success.



From a grateful city — Eldorado Mayor John Nikolauk (R) presents a plaque to John Callison in recognition of his service on the Eldorado City Council and most recently as City Administrator.

TxDOT makes rollover safety program available to groups

The San Angelo District of the Texas Department of Transportation has introduced a new seat belt safety program named the "Rollover Convincer". Ron Taylor, traffic safety specialist, announced the convincer will be used in presentations throughout the 15-county district to demonstrate seat belt safety. The convincer which was built by TxDOT employees simulates a roll over at 30 miles per hour with life-size mannequins. During presentations at schools and

public events, the convincer will allow TxDOT officials to demonstrate the results of roll over situations involving seat belts and without seat belts.

TxDOT also announced a contest called "TxDOT Safety Contest," inviting participants to submit a name for the family of mannequins by Feb. 1. Suggestions for names can be sent to Rtaylo3@mailgw.dot.state.tx.us or Ron Taylor, TxDOT Safety Coordinator; 4502 Knickerbocker Rd., San Angelo, Texas 76904. The family includes both parents and two children, a boy and a girl. Prizes for the winner include a T-shirt from TxDOT and a jam box provided by the New Car Dealers Association. The winner will be announced during the Auto Show in mid-February.

To arrange a roll-over convincer demonstration educators and public-event organizers are invited to contact Taylor or Public Information Officer Patsy Maddux at the local office by calling 944-1501.



photo by Kathy Mankin

Three trumpeteers — Juan Montalvo, Mitzi Sessom & Maria Hernandez concentrated on their music last Sunday as the EHS band performed its annual Christmas Concert.

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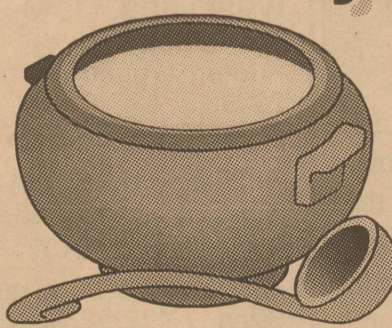
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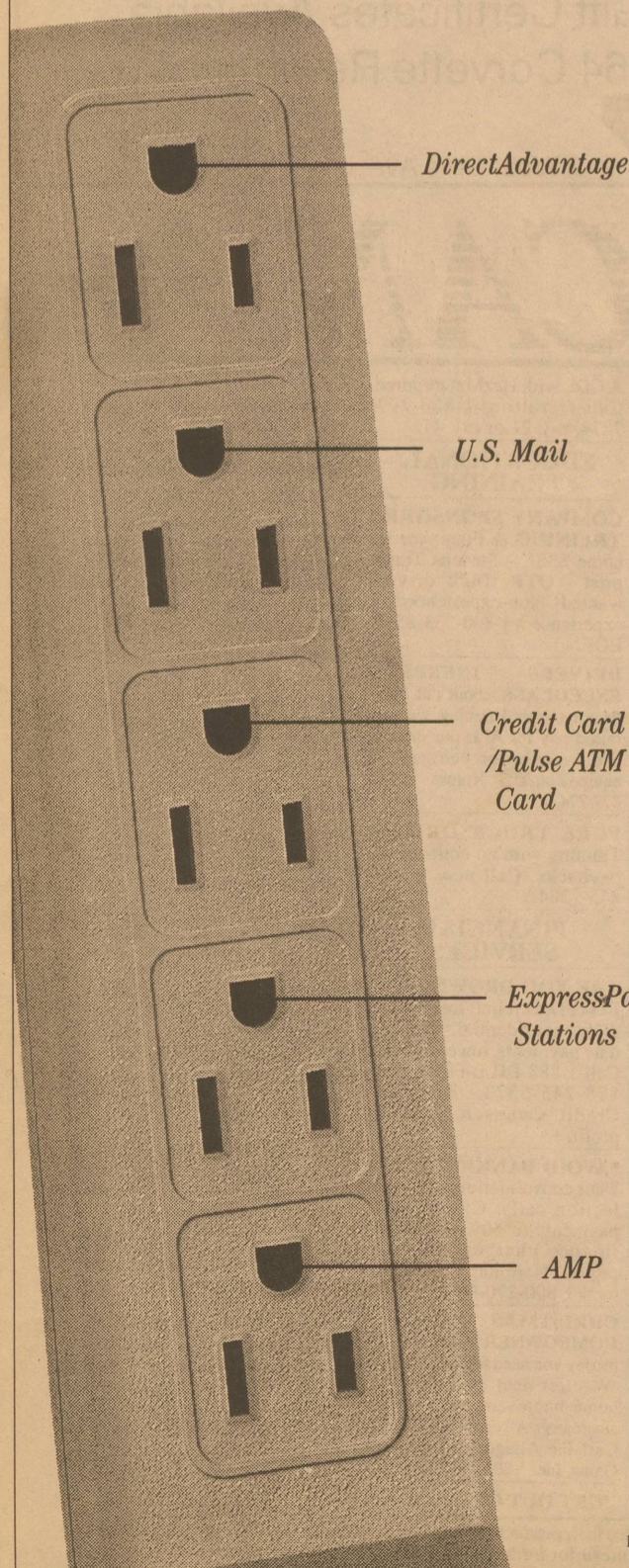
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