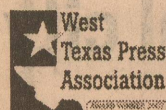


# THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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Yisrayl Hawkins' House of Yahweh (above) occupies an isolated parcel of property between Eula and Clyde in Callahan County. The church is surrounded by dozens, if not hundreds, of mobile homes and travel trailers, where many of the group's followers reside. The property is accessible from County Road 254, where a sign points the way and invites passersby to attend Sabbath Services at 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays.

## Combative suspect armed with knives confronts lawmen after high-speed chase Deputy Chatham's taser brings standoff to peaceful conclusion

Kenneth Dewayne Fletcher, 42, of 709 E. 44th Street in San Angelo, was arrested Thursday, February 14, 2008, after a high speed chase, which at times exceeded 100 mph, ended just inside Schleicher County on North US 277.

The chase began when Fletcher refused to pull over for a DPS Trooper in San Angelo. It ended as he crossed into Schleicher County on US 277. Fletcher stopped and pulled off the road as Schleicher County units moved to intercept him from the south.

Fletcher initially refused to sur-

render, choosing instead to brandish a couple of knives. He reportedly told a number of officers gathered around him that they would have to kill him.

Schleicher County Deputy Jason Chatham fired his taser into the suspect, but one of the leads pulled loose as the Fletcher reacted to the first jolt of electricity. At that point, Chatham reloaded his taser gun with backup cartridge and fired again, this time taking Fletcher to the ground.

The man was swarmed by lawmen and quickly disarmed.

Once handcuffed and subdued, Fletcher was treated by Schleicher County EMS volunteers and was transported by ambulance to a San Angelo hospital.

Investigators at the scene report that Fletcher may have been wearing a pacemaker so extra caution was taken to ensure his well being after he was tasered.

Meanwhile, Fletcher's red Ford F-150 pickup was searched where officers found a number of syringes as well as an assortment of prescription medications.

Initial reports in the San Angelo media that Fletcher tried to cut his wrists, or otherwise harm himself, appear to be unfounded. Officers at the scene report that the suspect suffered only a few scrapes and bruises when he was disarmed and taken to the ground.

Likewise, reports that Fletcher had taped the knives to his wrists or hands prior to the standoff, are also in error.

Neither were Fletcher's tires shot out by officers, as has been widely rumored here in Eldorado.

"There were a lot of officers at the scene, including a Texas Ranger and a DPS narcotics detective," Sheriff David Doran said after the incident. "This thing was handled by the book and we're all very lucky that it ended as peacefully as it did."

Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran, Chief Deputy George Arispe and Deputy Jason Chatham responded to the call. They were met at the scene by numerous DPS troopers, a DPS License and Weight officer, a DPS narcotics detective and Texas Ranger Nick Hanna.

Tom Green County Sheriff's Department deputies also responded to the scene and Sutton County Sheriff's Department officers were prepared to intercept the chase if it had continued beyond Eldorado.

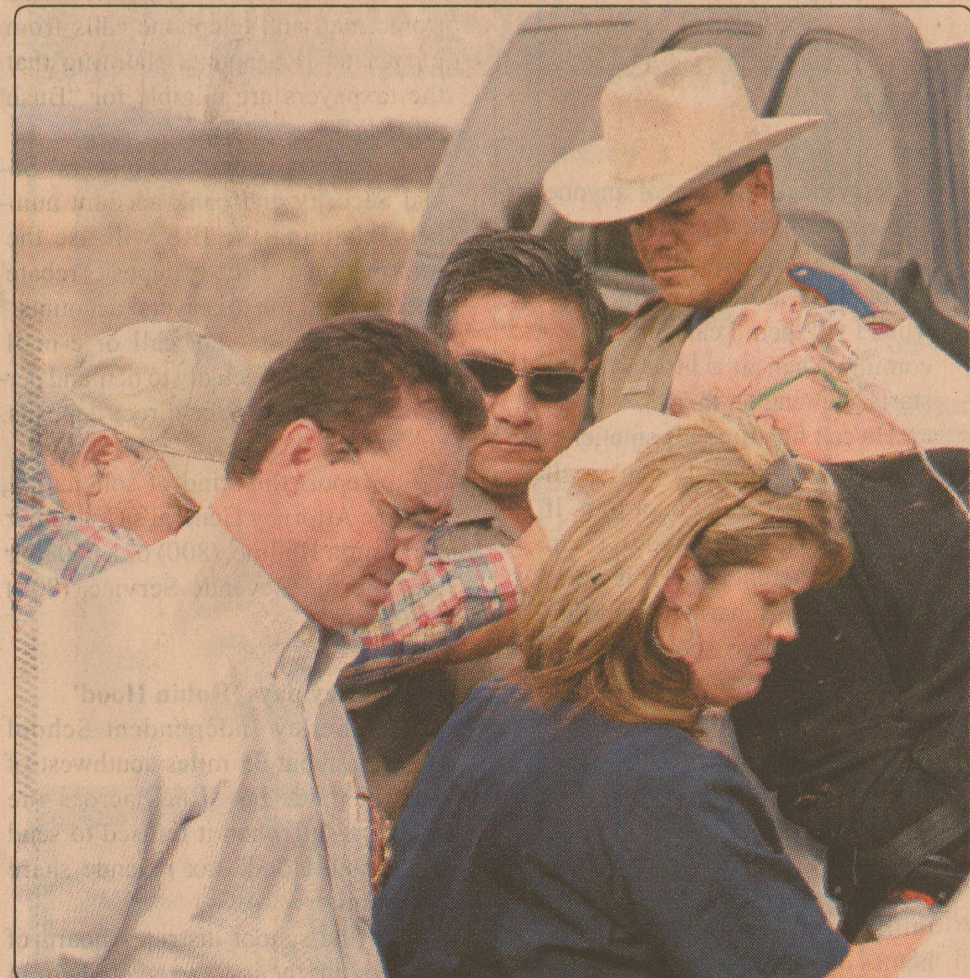


PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Chief Deputy George Arispe, Sheriff David Doran, DPS Trooper Steve Torres and EMS technician Melissa Rodriguez worked last Thursday to load Kenneth Dewayne Fletcher into an ambulance. Fletcher was tasered when he produced a couple of knives and refused to surrender after a high-speed chase ended in northern Schleicher County. He was taken by EMS ambulance to a San Angelo hospital.

## State's new Bigamy Law gets first test in Callahan County

Yisrayl Hawkins, a 73-year-old Callahan County man, stands accused on four counts of bigamy, and is being held in Abilene in the Taylor County Jail on \$10 million bond. He is believed to be the first person in Texas to face charges under the new Texas bigamy law, sponsored by State Representative Harvey Hilderbran in 2005.

Hawkins, a former Abilene police officer, is the leader of a church known as the House of Yahweh. He is said to have several hundred followers living on a secluded piece of property between Clyde and Eula. Among the principles taught by Hawkins is the practice of polygamy, or multiple marriages.

Hawkins reportedly changed his first name from Bill to Yisrayl after receiving a revelation from God. Many of his followers have also changed their last names to Hawkins and their first names to include the letter Y.

Hawkins is presently charged with four counts of promoting the practice of bigamy among his followers, which is also prohibited under Texas law. People familiar with Hawkins and his church say they expect he will also be charged with openly practicing bigamy since he is said to have multiple wives.

State Representative Harvey Hilderbran championed the state's new marriage law after a polygamous group of fundamentalist Mormons, moved into Schleicher County in 2004. He said the law was meant to beef up the state's 100-year-old statute and to incorporate more protection for women and underage girls.

"We had Eldorado and Schleicher County in mind as we crafted this bill," Hilderbran stated. "But as we got into the process we learned that there are many groups in Texas practicing some sort of bigamy or polygamy."

Interestingly, Schleicher County and Callahan County are both in Hilderbran's 53rd District. Schleicher County is on the district's western end while Callahan County is the northern-most in the district.

"I am pleased to learn that officials in Callahan County are putting the law to work to protect the rights of women and children," Hilderbran added. "I hope it will add to the arsenal of tools that investigators and prosecutors can implement as they seek to protect those most vulnerable in our society."

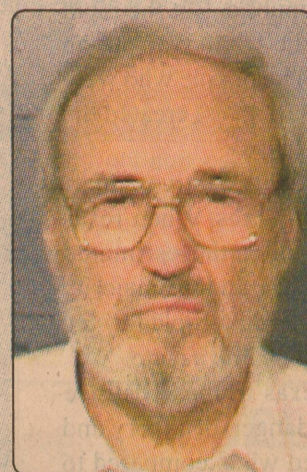
For his part, Callahan County Attorney Shane Deel said he reviewed the new law and found that it exactly fit the situation at the House of Yahweh.

The law lists Bigamy as an offense

against the family. It defines bigamy as being legally married, to purport to appear to marry more than one person.

The law also prohibits the promotion of bigamy, which is the section under which Yisrayl Hawkins is charged, much the same as Warren Jeffs was tried and convicted of arranging and performing illegal marriages in Utah.

Hawkins has long been under the scrutiny of local and state officials. His recent legal problems seem to stem from the arrest last year of one of his followers, Yedidiyah Hawkins, 40, who is accused of sexually assaulting his 14-year-old stepdaughter.



Yisrayl Hawkins Indicted on 4 counts of Bigamy. Currently held on \$10 million bail.



Yedidiyah Hawkins Charged with Sexual Assault of a Child, Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child and Aggravated Perjury. Currently held on \$685,000 bail.

Yedidiyah Hawkins is also in Taylor County jail on charges of Sexual Assault of a Child, Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child, and Aggravated Perjury. He is being held on \$685,000.00 bail.

As investigators began to tug at the threads of evidence surrounding the Yedidiyah Hawkins case, they found they were also unweaving the tapestry religious protection behind which Yisrayl Hawkins has long hidden.

But the 2007 charges against Yedidiyah Hawkins are far from the first investigated by law enforcement authorities.

In 2006, Abilene police investigated the death of a 1-month-old boy whose death and subsequent burial were not reported to authorities. An autopsy later revealed that the infant died of "malnourishment and traumatic asphyxiation" but no charges have been filed in connection with the death.

Also, a member of Hawkins' cult pleaded guilty in 2006 to injury of a child by criminal negligence when they performed surgery on the child. The surgery allegedly led to the child's death.

Arrest warrants were issued for Yisrayl Hawkins last November, but he wasn't picked up until Wednesday, of last week. Authorities say they wanted to avoid any chance of a showdown so they waited to arrest him away from his compound. Hawkins was followed from a home near Fort Phantom Hill. He was pulled over and arrested peacefully on FM 603, near Eula.

The House of Yahweh is reported to be an Old Testament-based religious sect that began in Abilene in 1980. The group later moved its headquarters to a 50-acre parcel of land near Eula in Callahan County. Yisrayl Hawkins is the group's prophet. He teaches his followers that they are members of the original Hebrew nation and that he will be one of the two witnesses to the end of the world spoken of in the Book of Revelation.

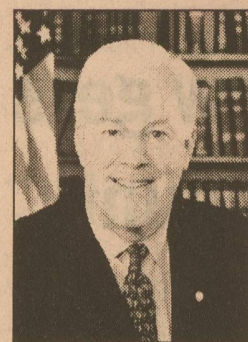
NOTICE

County-wide Burn Ban remains in effect!

# G.T.T. - Gone to Texas

by U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

"Gone to Texas"—often written simply as the letters G.T.T.—was a shorthand forwarding address left by settlers hurriedly departing for Texas in the 19th century. There's now a "G.T.T." on the doors of Washington presidential campaign offices as they scour Texas for votes in our March 4 primary elections.



**Commentary**  
by U.S. Senator

Early settlers came here for many reasons, noble and ignoble. Their experiences, blending opportunity with hardship, helped create the Texas mystique that still fascinates people around the globe.

"The story and idea of Texas appeal to millions of people, many of whom have never been anywhere near the state. Somehow their imaginations have 'Gone to Texas' and liked what they found there," writes Randolph B. Campbell in *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State*.

Texas's population has increased in every decade since the days of the Republic. But the rapid growth in the years before the Civil War put an indelible stamp on our state. The people who were lured here then, and their experiences, created the foundation for the legend of Texas.

At the beginning of the 1800s, Native Americans outnumbered all others in Texas. When Texas achieved independence in 1836, the estimated population here exceeded 50,000, and the majority group was Anglos. That number quadrupled by the 1850 census, just after Texas became a state.

A decision to move to Texas in those days required a willingness to face danger, drudgery and deprivation. But all that paled when compared to the incredible promise Texas offered for a better life. That drew thousands of settlers who'd scrawled "G.T.T." on the doors or floors of their cabins in Tennessee, Kentucky, the Carolinas and other places.

Most newcomers came by their own free choice. Economic opportunity—primarily cheap and plentiful land—topped the list of reasons for moving to Texas. Some settlers came to escape debt, a failed business, legal problems, or what one writer calls "rascality." For others, there was no choice at all—they came here as chattel. In 1850, there were an estimated 58,000 slaves in Texas.

The journey to Texas required determination and endurance during a weeks-long journey by wagon, horseback, ship or on foot. Virtually everyone came knowing they faced hard work and uncertain futures, and one writer described them as "toil-worn people."

The collective impact of these newcomers in the mid-1800s is well described by writer J. Frank Dobie: "The very qualities that made many of the Texas pioneers rebels to society and forced not a few of them to quit it between sun and sun without leaving cards engraved with their new addresses fitted them to conquer the wilderness—qualities of daring bravery, reckless abandon, heavy self-assertiveness."

Now, more than 170 years later, the unique combination of bravery, risk-taking and optimism is still embedded in the character of Texas. We are known and admired for that well beyond our borders.

A report from United Van Lines indicates that Texas continues to be among the nation's leaders in attracting new residents and creating new jobs. Now, as in the past, we are attracting freedom-loving people seeking an opportunity to be successful.

As the political campaigners travel our state—and watch as we celebrate Texas Independence Day March 2—let's hope they absorb the distinctiveness of the Lone Star State, the reasons for it and our pride in being Texans. The entire country can learn from the values we cherish in Texas.

*Sen. Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. In addition, he is Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Border Security and Refugees subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee's Airland subcommittee.*

# Say it ain't so, Uno!

Have you ever wondered how Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig managed to play baseball before the discovery of anabolic steroids? Or, how about Jesse Owens? Exactly how did he manage to win all those gold medals — and show up the Nazis — without benefit of performance enhancing drugs?

It saddens me to see the greats of the modern game paraded before Congress as it seeks to get to the bottom of a mess that Major League Baseball should have long ago cleaned up.

Odd, isn't it, that a man like Pete Rose could be forever banned from baseball, and its Hall of Fame, for placing a few bets on his own team, while a muscle-bound prima donna like Barry Bonds can steal away Hank Aaron's batting record without so much as a peep from the Commissioner?

Then there's Marion Jones, the sweetheart of track & field, stripped of every medal she's won since 2000 — again, all because the temptation to win was greater than any desire on her part to protect the sanctity of the games which made her a star.

But sadly, it's not a recent phenomenon. Remember that eight members of the Chicago White Sox team, including Shoeless Joe Jackson, were banned from



## OVER THE BACK FENCE

by Randy Mankin

baseball after throwing the World Series of 1919?

What's next? Well, I'm afraid to speculate, but only today I received a press release in my email inbox from the Cott Corporation, a Canadian beverage manufacturer. It seems the company has grown tired of being outmaneuvered by the big boys in the Cola Wars so it has introduced a new product called "Fortifido," a fortified water for dogs.

I mention this only because last week, for the first time in history, a Beagle won Best of Show at the Westminster Dog Show.

Not an Afghan Hound, a Saluki or a Shih Tzu, but a sure enough, red-blooded All-American Beagle named Uno.

Those Beagle lovers among us, and judging by the reaction, we must be legion, were elated. After decades of languishing in the shadows, a Beagle, a lowly Beagle had won the big show!

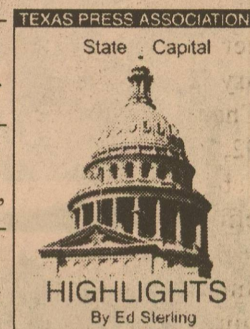
# Democratic frontrunners set up camp in capital city

by Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — Reflecting the importance of Texas in the political landscape, U.S. Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama opened campaign offices here on Feb. 16.

Both candidates, who are competing for the Democratic presidential nomination, have begun airing campaign ads in many Texas markets.

And, the two are scheduled to engage in a Feb. 21 debate at the University of Texas. Admission for students, members of the university community and the public was by invitation only due to security restrictions.



HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling

### Voter education drive begins

With the March 4 Texas primaries only days away, a May election on the horizon and the 2008 general election coming up in November, the move is on to increase the public knowledge about the right to vote.

Texas Secretary of State Phil Wilson on Feb. 11 launched "VOTEXAS," a statewide voter education program funded through the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Wilson, the state's chief elections officer, described the initiative as "Pretty much everything you could ever want to know about voting in Texas."

Information is available at [VOTEXAS.org](http://VOTEXAS.org). Early voting runs Feb. 19 to Feb. 29.

### Heart screening program begins

The Texas Education Agency on Feb. 14 awarded a \$1 million contract to Championship Hearts Foundation to screen sixth-graders for heart conditions that can cause sudden and unforeseen death.

The Early Cardiovascular Detection Pilot Program, created in 2007 by Senate Bill 7, will screen about 12,750 students enrolled at public schools across Texas, beginning this month.

The contractor will select schools that are geographically and ethnically diverse, the Texas Education Agency said.

### AG: watch out for refund scam

The Office of the Attorney General has received complaints from Texans who have received unsolicited electronic mail and telephone calls from purported IRS agents claiming that the taxpayers are eligible for "Bush refunds."

Scammers demand taxpayers' Social Security and bank account numbers, claiming the IRS will use the information to directly deposit "rebate checks" into the taxpayers' accounts.

The IRS does not call or e-mail taxpayers unexpectedly to demand personal information for direct deposits, the AG's office said.

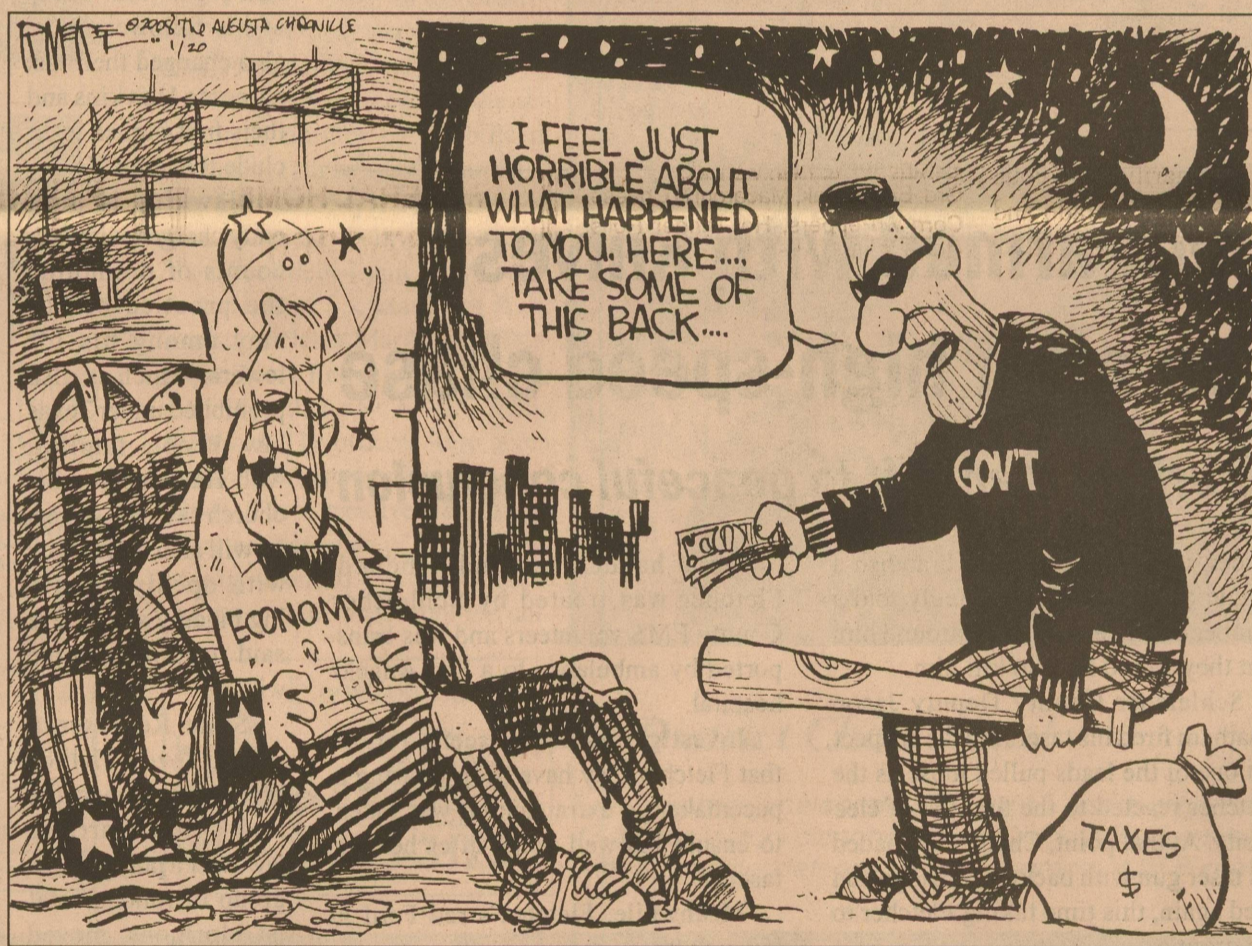
To report this kind of solicitation, call the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Hotline, (800) 621-0508, or the Internal Revenue Service, (800) 829-1040.

### Wimberley pays 'Robin Hood'

Wimberley Independent School District, about 35 miles southwest of Austin, made headlines across the state last fall when it refused to send its "Robin Hood" tax revenue share to Austin.

But the school district's board of trustees put the issue to a vote Feb. 14 and decided 6-1 to pay "under protest" about 15 percent of the \$2.4 million owed.

The Wimberley school district is **SEE CAPITAL ON PAGE 5**



# The Smell of Snow

Jerry Thomason of Pecos has an unusual ability.

"I have been known to smell snow before it gets here," he says with a chuckle. "To me, snow has a particular odor. A lot of times it'll be snowing at Orla or Carlsbad north of us and if there's a strong wind coming off of it I can detect the smell of snow."

He found out about his talent when he was ten or twelve years old.

"I remember going in one night and telling my mama that it was gonna snow that night. She asked me how I knew. I told her I could smell it. Next morning we got up and there was about two inches of snow on the ground."

He was living in El Paso then and could smell snow on Mount Franklin.

"Of course in El Paso it doesn't snow that often, but usually Mount Franklin gets snow on top of it. I lived about twenty miles away."

He can smell snow a hundred



by Tumbleweed Smith

miles away.

"I don't know why. I just seem to pick it up on the wind. All at once it has this dusty, musky odor to it. Someone told me one time that each snowflake is built around a particle of dust."

Occasionally he'll give a weather forecast to Bill Cole, manager of KIUN Radio in Pecos.

"I remember going in there the first time and telling him it was going to snow. He asked me how I knew. I told him I smelled it. He said, 'what.' I said I can smell it. And in about 30 or 45 minutes it started snowing. Every once in awhile he'll call me and ask if I smell snow. If I do, I'll tell him."

Jerry doesn't know of anyone else who can smell snow.

"I don't know what it's good for. People look at me like I'm crazy when I tell them I can smell snow coming. Then in a little while it starts snowing on them."

He can fine tune his smell.

"Nearly everybody can smell rain. It has a distinct odor to it. If the rain changes to snow, I can detect a different odor. If it starts raining, just barely sprinkling and it changes to snow I'll sniff a couple of times and realize it smells like snow. Sure enough, it'll go to snowing."

Jerry is a very normal person with an extremely discriminating sense of smell. His talented nose came in handy when he was a milkman delivering milk to the homes of Pecos residents.

"If I smelled snow, I'd put chains on the tires of my delivery van. I've delivered milk in all kinds of weather. But I was never surprised by a snow storm."

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# OBITUARIES

## Janis Lee Reeves Goza

SWEETWATER - Janis Lee Reeves Goza, 57, died Sunday, Feb. 17, 2008. Graveside services were held Monday in Belvieu Cemetery in Rotan. Arrangements were by McCoy Funeral Home.

Survivors include her daughters, Marcie Camacho of Lubbock and Sara Goza of Rotan; and sisters Jeanie McClure of Christoval, Kelley May of Round Rock, Cyd Manning of Eldorado, Karen Baldrée of Rotan, and LaVonia Jennings of Rotan.

## Roberta Ratliff

ROSWELL, NM — Funeral services were Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at LaGrone Funeral Chapel, for Roberta Ratliff, age 92, who passed away Saturday, February 9, 2008. Harold Hobson officiated.

Roberta was born to Robert and Myrta Black Milligan on June 29, 1915 in Coleman Co. Texas. She married Jack Ratliff in Eldorado, Texas on August 7, 1937, who preceded her in death.

Roberta attended a one room school house of which her mother was the teacher. Her husband, Jack, also attended school with her.

Roberta graduated in 1936 from the University of Texas at Austin.

Roberta Ratliff was a homemaker and assisted her husband,

Jack, in several business endeavors. She was of Presbyterian faith.

Survivors are sons: Jack "Bob" Ratliff and wife Nancy of Ft. Sumner, NM and Mack Ratliff and wife Alice of Roswell, NM. She is also survived by four grandchildren: Keith Ratliff, Robin McCracken and her fiancée, Jim French from Alamogordo, NM; Ann Sienicki and husband Tim from Santa Fe, NM; Lee Ratliff and wife Leah from Plano, TX; as well as six great grandchildren: Esme Sienicki and Jarrett Sienicki of Santa Fe, NM, Kyle McCracken and Kayla McCracken of Alamogordo, NM, Jesslyn Ratliff of Tularosa, NM, and Jack Ratliff of Plano, TX.

Arrangements were under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel.

## Ernestine Steger Moore

SAN ANGELO - Ernestine Moore, 87 of San Angelo, died Monday, Feb. 11, 2008, at an area hospital.

Funeral service was Thursday, Feb. 14, at the 1st United Methodist Church Chapel with the Rev. Nathaniel Hankins, officiating. Burial will follow in Fairmount Cemetery. Arrangements are by Robert Massie Funeral Home.

Ernestine was born Nov. 26, 1920, in San Angelo to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Madison and Lena Mae Milner Steger. She was a housewife and was very active in Sunday school as a song leader. She enjoyed many volunteer activities including, helping the blind, Meals for the Elderly, State school and Retired Senior Volunteer. She was passionate about sharing the word of God with others and her

21 years of sobriety in Alcoholic's Anonymous and Alanon.

She is preceded in death by her parents; a son, Micheal Moore and one brother Herbert Steger.

She is survived by a sister, Ada Weathersby of W. Columbia, S.C.; a brother, Dr. N.C. Steger and his wife, Ruth of Amarillo; two cousins, Gloria Kent of Eldorado and Mary Sue Stewart of San Angelo; and her very good friends, the Benes family of San Angelo.

Memorials may be given in Mrs. Moore's name to the West Texas Rehab at 3001 S. Jackson Street, San Angelo, Texas 76904.

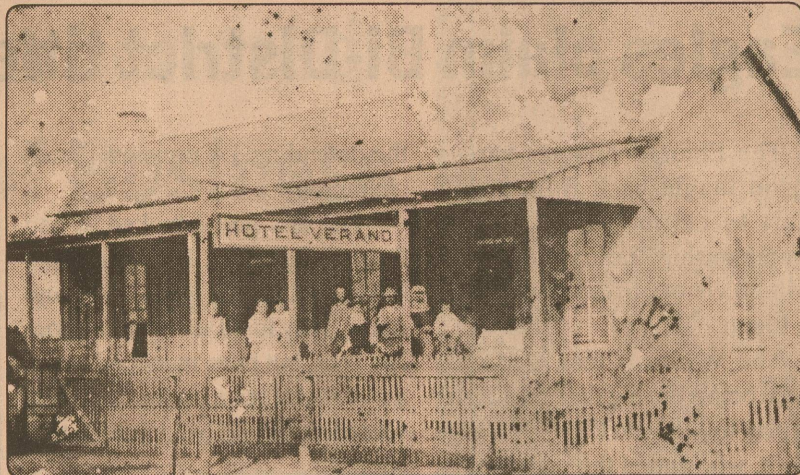


PHOTO COURTESY SCHLEICHER CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Verand Hotel

# Touch of History

by Rene Calote

## The Story of Verand

In 1890 the first little town was established in Schleicher County. It was named Verand, and was located about five miles north of the present town of Eldorado. It consisted of a stagecoach station, a store, post office and a hotel. It was built to accommodate the permanent ranchers that were settling in this area.

In 1884 a company of men from Winsdor County, Vermont bought 25,475 acres of land in this area. They paid \$14,502 to the railroad companies for the ranch, and it was named "Vermont Ranch".

Sim Frances and Frank Pierce were in charge of the ranch. The ranch had several employees and around ten acres of stock pens.

Some other early pioneer families to settle in the vicinity of Verand were: C.C. West, C.C. Lamb, J.B. McCartney, S.I. Nicks, S.H. Green and H.H. Sheard.

The only recorded official at Verand was C.C. West, who served as Postmaster, J.P. and officio Notary Public.

Verand was abandoned in 1895 because citizens were unable to get titles for their lots. Every family moved houses on wheels and all of their possessions to the newly established town of Eldorado. The lots were free to any new citizen that would move to this new location.

## Meals for Friends Menu

- Monday, February 25**  
Beef Tips, Rice, Cooked Carrots, Cornbread, Fruit Cup w/Strawberries & Banana, Lemon Meringue Pie, Milk
- Tuesday, February 26**  
Oven Baked Chicken, Lima Beans, Broccoli, Bread, Chunky Mixed Fruit, Milk
- Wednesday, February 27**  
Grd. Beef Steak, Macaroni & Cheese, Corn w/Peppers, Hot Dinner Rolls, Carrot Salad, Applesauce, Milk
- Thursday, February 28**  
Vegetable Beef Stew, Green Beans, Cornbread, Pear Half w/Cottage Cheese, Vanilla Pudding, Milk
- Friday, February 29**  
Baked Ham, Candied Yams, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Carrot Raisin Salad, Gelatin w/Fruit, Milk

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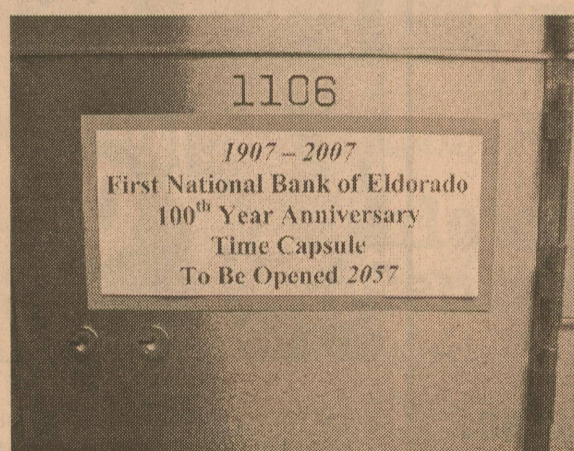
Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication only if they are signed and are accompanied with a day and night phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for length or offensive material. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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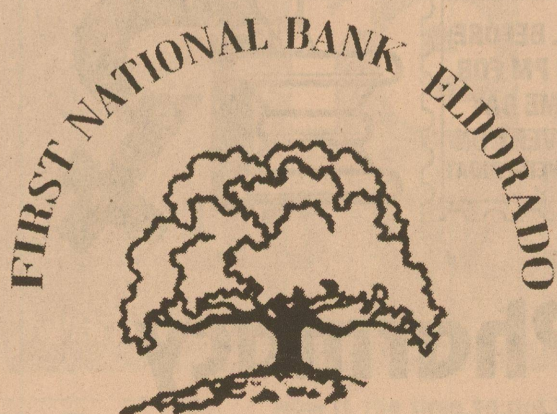
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# 100 Years of History



## A Century of Service!

First National Bank is closing out its 100th anniversary celebration by placing several mementos in a Time Capsule. The items are being locked away in a Safe Deposit Box which will be sealed for 50 years. Among the items included in the time capsule are: Pictures of our 100 Year events; 100 Year Calendar; Money (bills and coins); a debit card; checks; sign in sheet from our Park celebration; 100 Year Christmas ornament; newspaper articles; and other items selected by our employees. The time capsule will remain sealed until our 150th anniversary in 2057!



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## Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

by Linda Thistle

	8		5	3	2			
7			1	6				
	2	8						1
8			6					7
	9	3					4	
6	7			4	5			
	4			3	1			
	6	2	9					5
5		1						8

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★  
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ Hoo Boy!  
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.  
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See Solution on Page 8

## BIRTHDAY LIST

### FEBRUARY

- 21st Chelsey Martinez, Orval Edmiston, Luiz Martinez
- 22nd Eric Cheatham, Peggy Daniels, Emilio Valejo Jr., Heather Nixon, Jimmy Powell, Josh Young, Ricky Fuessel
- 23rd Mike Prater, Caleb Daniels
- 24th Abelardo Montalvo, Marina Lozano, Toni Hendrick, Amanda Wanoreck, Susie McAngus
- 25th Tammy Dombroski, Georgina Caldwell, Shanna Edmiston, Kymm Nixon, Velma Tyler
- 26th Jaime Martinez, Jennifer Martinez
- 27th Lacy Ragsdale, Claude Jenkins
- 28th Catrina Lloyd, Dee Ann White, Gerald Lange, Doug Ward, Andre Fay, Brianah Creek, Rudy Spigarelli, Luis Santellano, Doug Ward

## ANNIVERSARIES

### FEBRUARY

- 21st Candi & Kurtis Homer
- 22nd Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Perez
- 23rd Bill and Becky Rankin
- 24th Jose Lino and Benita Fuentes
- 27th Jimmy & Nancy Powell
- 29th Martin & Cathy Torres, J.R. & Dianna Goodrum

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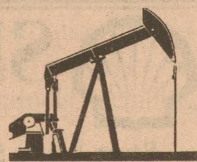
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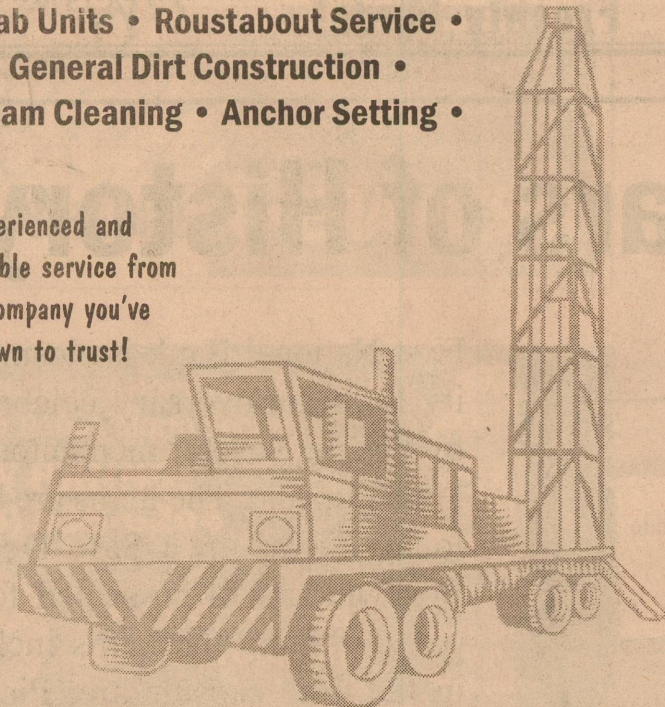
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## Eagles claim Bi-District title with 48-38 win over J-City

The Eldorado Eagles varsity squad fought back from a slow start to claim the Bi-District championship Tuesday night with a 48-38 victory over Johnson City in Llano.

The Warbirds managed only three points during the first quarter of play to Johnson City's 11. Jorge Mata, who ended the night with a team high of 16 points, found his rhythm and helped the Eagles claw to within one point of Johnson City heading into the half, 24-23.

Eldorado outscored Johnson City again in the third quarter by a margin of 14 points to 12. This gave the Eagles a 37-36 lead heading into the final period.

The Eagles swarming defensive efforts practically shut down Johnson City's offense and held them to only two points in the fourth quarter. Eldorado found the hoop for 11 points and held onto a comfortable 10 point lead as time expired.

Lalo Sanchez ended the night with 10 points. Paul Martinez hit two three pointers en route to an eight point performance. Dustin Ramos scored seven points on the night. Tyler Dombroski and Michael Redish managed four and three points respectfully.

The victory not only gave Eldorado a Bi-District crown, but also a chance to take on Thorndale,

the defending 1A division 1 state champion.

"The last poll I looked at had them ranked #2 in the state," Head Basketball Coach Rene Valeriano said. "They lost a lot of talent from last year, but have managed to put a successful team on the court this season. It should be an interesting game."

Thorndale's 30-1 record is impressive enough, but when you take into account their one loss came to a 4A team (Huntsville) it seems they have had a perfect season.

They have outscored their opponents 2278 to 1395 throughout the year. A big part of this success is Brandon Irwin, a 6'3" senior wing. Irwin has accounted for 660 of the team's total points.

"We will have to account for their size," Valeriano said. "I think we are up for the task."

### Eagles whip Eden in warmup

Eldorado defeated Eden 72-47 during a practice game prior to the playoffs. Dustin Ramos drilled eight three pointers to lead the team in scoring with 28 points.

Jorge Mata was close behind with 25 points. Michael Redish was the only other Warbird in double digits with 10. Lalo Sanchez rounded out the scoring with nine points on the night.

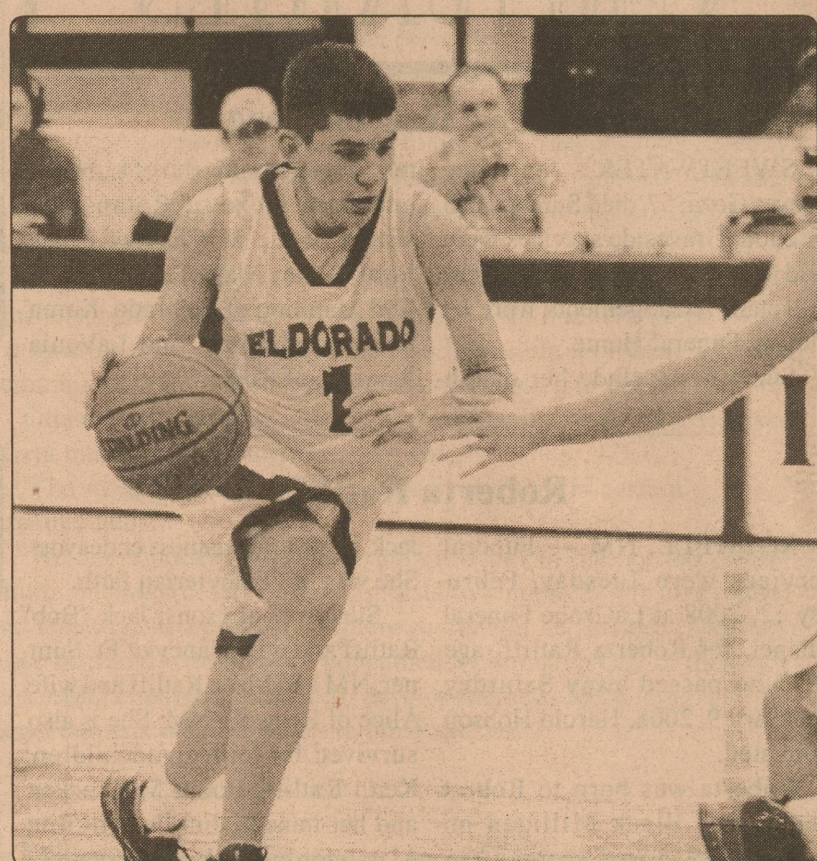


PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Dustin Ramos drives down court Tuesday during Eldorado's 48-38 win over Johnson City in Llano. The victory secured the Bi-District title for the Eagles, and sets them up for a showdown with Thorndale, defending state champions, in Burnet Friday night at 7 p.m.

## Lady Eagles nine cage Ozona Lady Lions 15-0

The Eldorado Lady Eagles softball team traveled to Ozona on Monday and returned home with a 15-0 mercy rule victory in their season opener.

The Lady Eagles scored 10 runs on 4 hits with 2 errors in the first inning. The Lady Eagles starting lineup of the Aubrey Martinez, Corie Williams, Cassandra Buitron, Haley Higgins, Bridgett Mitchell, Amika Gonzales, Megan Griffin, Deisy Aranda, and Rebecca Rodriguez scored at least one run each in the first inning.

The Lady Eagles took the field, and the Lady Lions of Ozona saw their first batter of the first inning reach on a walk. Bridgett Mitchell then recorded three consecutive strikeouts to end the inning and leave one Lady Lion stranded on first base.

Aubrey Martinez, Amika Gonzales, Megan Griffin, and Deisy Aranda all scored at the top half of the second inning. Eldorado's 4 runs on 3 hits and 2 errors pushed their lead to 14-0.

The bottom half of the 2nd inning did not fair much better than the 1st inning for the Lady Lions. The first batter was struck out looking, and the second batter was hit by a pitch and advanced to first. The Lions left fielder then recorded a walk to first and that would be all for the Lady Lions. Bridgett Mitchell recorded two consecutive strikeouts to the end of the inning, and after two innings Eldorado held a commanding 14-0 lead.

The 3rd inning would see Bridgett Mitchell hit a hard shot to shortstop that proved too hard to handle and Mitchell would reach first base. Mitchell stole 2nd before Amika Gonzales recorded

the first out of the inning with a nice play by the Lady Lions second baseman. Megan Griffin recorded the second out of the inning on a full count swing and miss. Deisy Aranda reached first on balls and Mitchell advanced to third on a steal. Aranda also took the next pitch and stole 2nd.

Mitchell reached home on a passed ball by the Lady Lions before Rebecca Rodriguez struck out swinging. Eldorado recorded 1 run on 2 hits and left one runner stranded. Eldorado now led 15-0.

The Lady Lions saw their first batter attempt to bunt and Mitchell would throw the runner out with a nice reach from first baseman Rodriguez. The second batter of the inning would strike out looking at a nice change up pitch. The third baseman would next reach first base on the only hit of the evening for Ozona when she blooped a hit into right field just out of the reach of Rodriguez at first base.

The final out of the inning and the game would be recorded when the flex position hitter for Ozona would hit a shot to second baseman Corie Williams who tagged the runner out going to 2nd.

Eldorado captured the victory by virtue of the 15 run lead after three innings of play.

Bench personnel for Eldorado were Kadie Niblett, Marci Minor, Krista Galindo, and Brittaney Gauna. Allyson Jarrett and Chelsey Hill round out the Lady Eagles roster but were unable to make the trip to Ozona.

Next action for the Lady Eagles will be on Thursday, February 21st through Saturday, February 23rd when the Lady Eagles travel to Crane for the 4th Annual Crane Ladybird Cactus Classic Tournament.

Eldorado is scheduled to play at 10 a.m. beginning with Pecos at County Field #1. Eldorado will then play at 2 p.m. versus Wall on County Field #1 and then play the host team Crane at 6 p.m. in the evening at the high school field.

Friday's action will see Eldorado taking on Lamesa at noon at the high school field. Eldorado is then scheduled to play at 2 p.m. versus Marfa.

Saturdays play will be determined late Friday based on pool play. The top three teams from each pool will advance to the gold bracket and the bottom three teams in the pool advancing to the purple bracket.

Pool B teams will be Reagan County, Seminole, Denver City, Ozona, Kermit, and McCamey.



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Jorge Mata puts back a rebound for two-points Tuesday night during Eldorado's 48-38 Bi-District win over Johnson City. Mata was the game's high-scorer with 16 points. The victory sets the Warbirds up for a showdown with Thorndale, defending state champions, in Burnet Friday night at 7 pm.

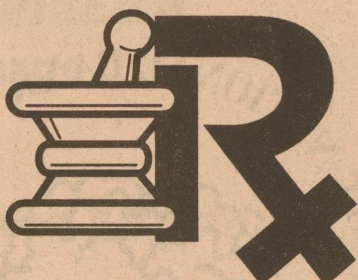
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Manny Gonzalez

## Manny Gonzalez named to 2008 FCA All-Star squad

EHS senior Manny Gonzalez, son of Uber and Linda Gonzalez, has been chosen to participate in the 9th annual Fellowship of Christian Athletes Myrtle Greathouse All-Star Football Classic, to be held Saturday, June 7th, 2008 in Abilene's Shotwell Stadium.

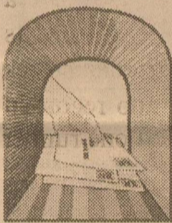
Gonzalez played quarterback for the Eldorado Eagles this season.

Gonzalez was one of 90 area football players selected for the game, which benefits the Big Country Chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Representing 49 area schools, the roster for the North and South squads were announced at a

Press Conference on Saturday, Feb. 2nd, 2008 at Beltway Park Baptist Church in Abilene, Texas.

The young men were nominated by their head football coaches for the game, which features schools from an approximate 100-mile radius of Abilene covering 36 counties. Players from Class A through 5A make up the two squads.

They will be honored at a Victory Banquet on Sunday, April 6th at 4:00 pm at the Abilene Civic Center. They will report for two-a-day workouts on Wednesday, June 4, 2008. They will be involved in several activities during All-Star week.



## 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.

### A visitor's take on courthouse square decision

Dear Editor:

I was surprised and disappointed to learn that your County Commissioners and Judge voted to stop Jim Runge from having events at your County Courthouse. As one vendor from Robert Lee, we have been at two events each year for several years. We have always enjoyed being in Eldorado, and it's fine people!

We eat at local restaurants, shop at grocery stores, hardware store, buy fuel, stay at RV parks, or the motel. We spent on average from \$500.00 to \$700.00 in Eldorado each time we were

there, and we are just one vendor out of more than 40.

I suppose the County Officials think business in Eldorado is so good that it does not need any "outside" cash flow!

Personally I think they are shooting their self in the foot!

Robert Lee would almost kill for events, "outside" cash flow, & media attention like Eldorado HAD! Hmmm..... that's an idea, maybe we can talk Jim into doing events in Robert Lee?

Les Gray  
Robert Lee, Texas

## Capital Highlights...

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

considered property wealthy under state law, but school officials have maintained that the district could not afford to send the money.

### Crime lab grants are awarded

Gov. Rick Perry on Feb. 12 awarded grants totaling nearly \$900,000 to nine forensic crime labs.

The money is awarded through the federal Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act fund and is distributed by the Governor's Criminal Justice Division.

"Texas must provide law enforcement with the latest in forensic science technology in order to protect our citizens while ensuring our criminal justice system does not wrongfully convict the innocent," Perry said.

Receiving grants are Bexar, Dallas, Harris, Jefferson and Tarrant counties, and the cities of Austin, Fort Worth, Houston and Pasadena.

### Comptroller upgrades Web site

Texas Comptroller Susan Comb's Web and graphic design teams have redesigned and re-organized the "Window on State Government" home page to make it more action-oriented, cleaner and easier to navigate.

The address for the page is [www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us).

Users are asked what they want to do — pay taxes, find a tax form, search for unclaimed property or locate other information — and a quick click takes the user to the right location.

A recent addition is "Where the Money Goes," a link to in-depth information about how the state spends taxpayer dollars.

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## Martha's Angels to hear guest from speaker Brent Thackerson

Martha's Angels will meet at noon Thursday in the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Guest speaker will be Brent Thackerson, Director of the Oklahoma Baptist Boys Ranch. Brent and wife Linda live with their three children Chase, Emory, and Laney live in Edmund, Oklahoma. Brent is the son of Clyde and Betsy Thackerson of Eldorado.

The Ranch's Christian-based program encourages each boy to develop

a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Each cottage attends a local Southern Baptist church. The boys are not required to join a church, become a Baptist, or make any religious decision or commitment. Each boy is encouraged to participate as much as he likes in church activities and programs. House parents conduct daily devotions in the cottages and biblical principles are taught to the boys.

## Beta Sigma Phi Report

by Barbara Jackson

The First Community Federal Credit Union meeting room was the setting for the Annual Valentine Salad Supper social and business meeting of Preceptor Kappa Delta Chapter of BSP.

The hostess, Dorothy Dacy assisted by Linda Dellavechia decorated the table with red foil streamer down the middle of a white table cloth. Pink and white helium filled balloons were evident throughout the room. The hostess made tasty red punch and dessert was cupcakes decorated to resemble mice with vanilla wafer ears, mustache whiskers of red candy and a red hot nose. Each member brought a salad of her choice making for an array of eight varieties of delicious salads. Flora Hubble gave each member a Valentine cup filled with candy and Kim'et Nelson gave us a Valentine with a face tattoo. The hostess gave each of us a little basket of chocolate kisses. She also read a story from the newspaper about the meaning of celebrating Valentine's Day.

The meeting began with the opening ritual and a prayer by Flora Hubble. Kim'et Nelson gave the treasurer's report and minutes from the previous meeting were

read by Mrs. Dacy. There was a tie for Valentine Queen with the honors going to Flora Hubble and Maggie Lloyd. Belinda Faulk won the Sunshine gift.

Following the meal Mary Leigh Dunagan distributed gifts from secret sisters to each member. This is a tradition of the sorority which makes Valentine's Day special to each sorority member. The meeting was adjourned with the closing ritual and Mrs. Dacy release many pink and white balloons into the cool night air. They traveled south as Eldorado was experiencing a cool north wind on this night.

Also attending was our president Glenda Harris to preside over the meeting and Barbara Jackson. The next meeting will be held in the home of Delmer and Barbara Jackson on February 26th.

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<b>CHARLIE BARTLETT</b> (10:55am) (1:55pm) 4:55pm 7:55pm 10:55pm (R)	<b>STEP UP 2 - THE STREETS</b> (10:30am) (1:30pm) 4:30pm 7:30pm 10:30pm
<b>VANTAGE POINT</b> (10:00am) (1:00pm) 4:00pm 7:00pm 10:00pm (PG-13)	<b>THE BUCKET LIST</b> (10:20am) (1:20pm) 4:20pm 7:20pm 10:20pm (PG-13)
<b>WITLESS PROTECTION</b> (10:15am) (1:15pm) 4:15pm 7:15pm 10:15pm (PG-13)	<b>THE EYE</b> (11:40am) (1:40pm) 4:40pm 7:40pm 10:40pm (PG-13)
<b>27 DRESSES</b> (10:05am) (1:05pm) 4:05pm 7:05pm 10:05pm (PG-13)	<b>THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES</b> (11:00am) (2:00pm) 5:00pm 8:00pm 11:00pm (PG)
<b>DEFINITELY, MAYBE</b> (10:35pm) (1:35pm) 4:35pm 7:35pm 10:35pm (PG-13)	<b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD</b> (11:05am) 3:55pm 8:05pm (R)
<b>FOOL'S GOLD</b> (10:50) (1:50pm) 4:50pm 7:50pm 10:50pm (PG-13)	<b>WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS</b> (10:25am) (1:25pm) 4:25pm 7:25pm 10:25pm (PG-13)
<b>JUMPER</b> (10:10am) (1:10pm) 4:10pm 7:10pm 10:10pm (PG-13)	

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Final Signups  
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6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

# School board approves student drug testing policy

The Schleicher County ISD board of trustees held their second public hearing Monday evening over a proposed new drug policy that includes random drug testing of students. Some fifteen community members were on hand for the hearing with all of the comments being in favor of the policy.

Finally, after a lengthy discussion of policy details, the trustees moved the issue to a vote where it was approved unanimously.

The new policy will be implemented this semester, but after Spring Break. Monday, March 24, 2008, will be the first day the policy is in place.

Among other business, the school board approved the district's financial reports and the minutes of the January 14 and 31st meetings. They then met with Schleicher County Judge Johnny Griffin, concerning land the school owns, but which the county ad-

ministers in Gaines County. Griffin explained the history of the property and noted that the 177-acre parcel has no surface water and is not irrigated. The property has been leased out for dry-land farming. All monies collected from the property go into a permanent school fund controlled by the county with interest from the account being paid to the school district. The lease on the land expired on Dec. 31, 2007, Griffin said, and the county is seeking the school's input on whether to sell the property, while retaining mineral and wind rights, or whether to seek another tenant farmer.

The trustees received the report, but took no action on the Gaines County land.

Architect Larry Harvey then met with the trustees and presented a Facilities Assessment manual covering all the district's property and buildings. He estimated that a price of \$135 per foot could be expected for any major renovations to buildings.

The trustees reviewed the man-

ual the agreed that they would like to begin the facility upgrade by renovating the locker rooms at the Middle School gym. Other items currently under consideration are Fire and Smoke Alarm upgrades and an air conditioning system for the high school gym.

The board's next decision will involve the scope and timing of the Middle School gym project.

In other business the board approved the text book adoptions list. They also approved the Campus and District Improvement Plans, as well as a district Wellness Policy. They further approved TASB Policy Update 82 as mandated by the state.

The trustees then approved two out-of-district trips, one for the Middle School to go to Sea World, and a second for the High School TAFE chapter to attend the state convention.

The board then went behind closed doors for an executive session to discuss personnel. When they returned to open session, the trustees approved contracts for campus principals Scotty Carman, Kara Garlitz and Macla Edmonson. They also approved the contracts of band director Jerry Barker, technology director J.D. Doyle and athletic director Johnny Burleson.

Before adjourning, the trustees learned from Superintendent Billy Collins that the district's enrollment, as of February 8, was 633.

Trustees present for the meeting were Leanne Higgins, Jan Wanoreck, Kurtis Homer, Lupe Sanchez, Kirk Jones, and Robert Jay. Trustees Berta Nicholson was absent.

The next meeting of the SCISD board of trustees is slated for 6 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2008 in the High School Library.

# Jorge Chavez medals in UIL Number Sense at LV

Jorge Chavez won a Silver Medal in the Number Sense contest at the Lakeview U.I.L. Practice Meet, February 16, 2008. Ben Wipff won a 6th place ribbon in the 9th grade division. Together Jorge Chavez and Ben Wipff received 5th place team ribbon in Number Sense.

Jorge Chavez won a 5th place ribbon in the 12th grade division Mathematics and in Science due to computer problems the results will be announced later. Mrs. Angela Case was the sponsor for these events and attended the tournament with Wipff and Chavez.

# Stock Show Reports from Ft. Worth & San Antonio

The Schleicher County 4H and FFA kids are doing very well at the major shows so far this season. After the successes of the O'Harrow kids at Odessa, and the Buchholz's kids at Kerrville, Davis Hutto continued the success at Ft. Worth. Davis had the middle weight division champion goat and also the Reserve Champion Dorper Sheep. Both of these animals brought good money in the premium sale.

The next show we attended was San Antonio. We had a total of 17 kids participating. These 17 kids showed breeding gilts, market goats, market lambs, steers, and market barrows. We had four out of seven goats make the premium sale along with one barrow. The Schleicher County kids are doing well. Jorge Chavez placed a

market barrow 2nd in his class. The following kids placed market goats: Wes Brown-9th, Jaymie O'Harrow-7th, Jackson O'Harrow-5th, and Davis Hutto-4th.

Hopefully our kids can keep up their good fortune for the rest of the show season. We next travel to San Angelo, followed by Austin, and then Houston.



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by Cary Stevens

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**ACROSS**  
1. Lacking zest  
6. Tried to score  
10. Cub scout groups  
14. Put up with  
15. Toy dog, for short  
16. Like a supervillain  
17. Show as similar  
18. Actor Sharif  
19. Latvia's capital  
20. 1956 Deborah Kerr movie  
23. Reason for overtime  
24. Sports page info  
25. Get one's fill  
29. Cold cuts section  
32. Freud contemporary Alfred  
33. Fodder repository  
34. Rock concert lineup  
38. Volume often found in living rooms  
41. TV dinner holder  
42. Russo of "Yours, Mine and Ours"  
43. Captain Nemo's creator  
44. After the whistle  
45. Like some olives and dates  
46. Elicit a smile from  
50. Lend a hand to  
51. Indigestion aid  
58. Prefix with trust

**DOWN**  
1. Comics prince, for short  
2. "That's \_\_\_ much"  
3. Peak discoverer Zebulon  
4. Think tank nugget  
5. Make undrinkable briefly  
6. Name in fine china  
7. Skirt bottoms  
8. Approving answer  
9. Senate stretch  
10. Clean up, Pied Piper-style  
11. Madonna title role  
12. Dark period  
13. Bumps off  
21. Wee drink  
22. Air pump letters  
25. Milk: Prefix  
26. Nasal stimulant  
27. Italian car, briefly  
28. Stand up to  
29. Steak \_\_\_  
30. Dresden's river  
31. Cyber-chuckle  
33. Dele undoer  
34. Help in a heist  
35. With 55-Down, Canadian-born humorist  
36. Dixie bread  
37. TV listing, informally  
39. The Big Band \_\_\_  
40. Watergate tapes, e.g.  
44. Writer Rosten  
45. WWE win  
46. Stradivari's mentor  
47. Hardly worth mentioning  
48. Political extremist  
49. Berlin's "Blue \_\_\_"  
50. Deal maker  
52. \_\_\_ burgers (do fast-food work)  
53. Mugger subduer  
54. Bell-ringing cosmetics company  
55. See 35-Down  
56. Teen fave  
57. Suffix for the wealthy  
61. Toon Chihuahua

**Choice of Beverage**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20				21					22			
23				24								
25	26	27	28		29	30	31					
32					33				34	35	36	37
38					39				40			
41					42				43			
44					45							
46	47	48	49		50							
51					52	53	54		55	56	57	
58					59				60			61
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

American Profile Hometown Content  
See solution on Page 8

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:  
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## Rep. Harvey Hilderbran honored by Texas Association of Business

AUSTIN — State Representative Harvey Hilderbran (R-Kerrville) was named a "Fighter for Free Enterprise" by the Texas Association of Business (TAB) based on his pro-business voting record during the 80th legislative session.

The business group released its biennial For the Record publication in November, which scores the performance of Texas lawmakers based on key business votes during the 2007 legislative session. The publication has long been revered as an even-handed voting record of business issues that benefit every corner of the state.

"For the Record has been a reliable tool for TAB members who want to know who is responsible

for the new laws that are impacting their businesses," said TAB President and CEO Bill Hammond. "Similarly, these business owners like to know who in the legislature they can count on in the future."

During the 80th session, Rep. Hilderbran authored legislation to clarify that personal vehicles used for the production of income are exempt from ad valorem taxation.

"I am committed to providing

tax relief to an already overburdened small-business owner in Texas," Rep. Hilderbran said.

Votes that were eligible for consideration are bills of a subject matter addressed by the TAB Legislative Priorities publication that is distributed to all legislators at the beginning of session, bills testified or against by TAB staff, and/or any bill that TAB sent advocacy or position letters to legislators offices.

## Texas DPS: We don't solicit!

The Texas Department of Public Safety does not solicit financial contributions from private citizens. DPS is funded from your tax dollars.

If you have been contacted by a telemarketing organization representing itself to be the Texas Department of Public Safety, you should know that the DPS receives no financial support from these organizations. Some groups include in their names the terms "Texas Rangers," "State Troopers," "Texas Highway Patrol" or "De-

partment of Public Safety." While some officers may be members of these associations on their own time, these organizations are not affiliated with the DPS. They are private associations raising money to fund their own programs, some of which may benefit officers and their families.

If you have been contacted by an organization that you believe is misrepresenting itself, you can contact the Texas Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-621-0508.

## DRT Medallion Marker Service slated at Fairmont Cemetery

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas Fort Concho Chapter San Angelo Texas will have a Medallion Marker Service on 23 February 2008 at Fairmont Cemetery at 2:00 pm to honor Sarah Chriesman Armstrong. Sarah Chriesman Armstrong was the daughter of Horatio Chriesman the official surveyor for Stephen F. Austin.

The Fort Concho Chapter of

DRT welcomes anyone with ties to this family or just interested in the historical significance of this occasion to join us. Family names that connect to this family are Armstrong, Chriesman, Blanks, Ogelsby, Perry and Silliman. For more information contact President Tammie Smith at (432) 693-2656 or Joyce Gray (325) 650-2507.

### School Lunch Menu



#### BREAKFAST MENU

**Monday, February 25**

Banana Nut Muffins, Choice of Cereal, Choice of Juice, Milk

**Tuesday, February 26**

Waffle Stix/Syrup, Choice of Juice

Milk

**Wednesday, February 27**

Breakfast Pizza, Choice of Juice

Milk

**Thursday, February 28**

Pig-n-a-Blanket, Choice of Juice

Milk

**Friday, February 29**

Cinnamon Toast, Choice of Cereal

Choice of Juice, Milk

#### CAFETERIA LINE

**Monday, February 25**

Chalupas, Lettuce and Tomato Salad,

Spanish Rice, Pineapple Tidbits

**Tuesday, February 26**

Spaghetti/Meat Sauce, Hot Rolls

Carrot Stix/Dip, Brownies

**Wednesday, February 27**

Pep Pizza, Tossed Salad/w Tomato

Bread Stix 5-12, Sliced Peaches

**Thursday, February 28**

Taco Rolls, Carrot Stix/Dip, Pear

Halves

**Friday, February 29**

Cheese Pizza, Tossed Salad

Oranges

#### BASKET LINE

**Monday, February 25**

Hamburger Steak/Gravy, Hot Rolls

Green Beans, Mixed Fruit

**Tuesday, February 26**

Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli /Cheese

Tossed Salad/w Tomato, Chocolate

Chip Cookies

**Wednesday, February 27**

Vegetable Beef Stew/Grilled Cheese,

Corn Bread, Carrot Stix/Dip

Rosie Apple Sauce

**Thursday, February 28**

Chicken Fajita/Flour Tortilla, Refried

Beans, Lettuce & Tomato Salad,

Sliced Pineapple

**Friday, February 29**

Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Baked

Chips, Sandwich Salad, Apples

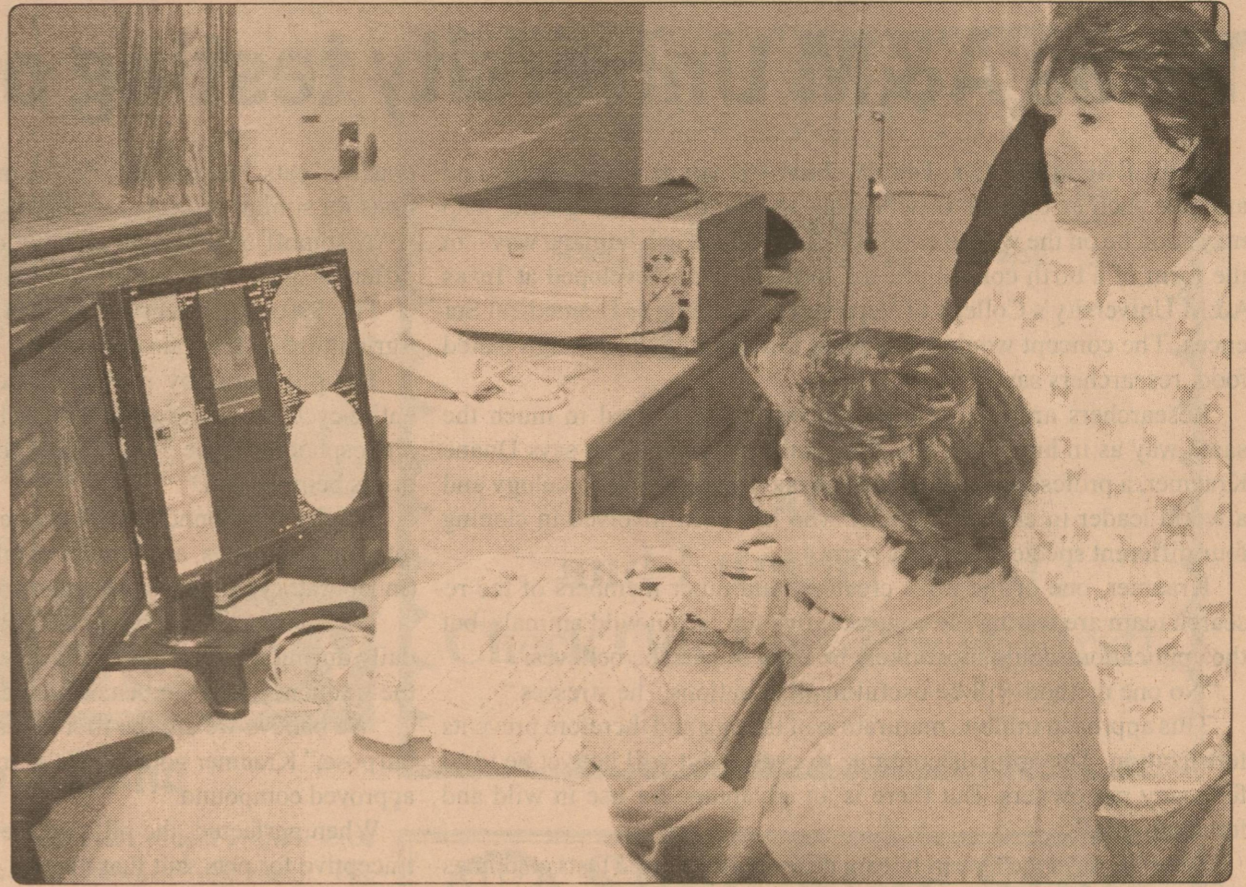


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Billie Mendoza (seated) and Helen Brame review the monitor of Schleicher County Medical Center's new CT-Scanner. The GE Lightspeed CT is a significant upgrade from the hospital's old unit. SCMC personnel have been training on the new machine and look forward to putting it in service in order to better serve the community and surrounding area.

## Make a Difference in a Child's Life



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**ENCOURAGE...** Support the child's efforts in trying new things so you nurture creativity and exploration

**FUN...** Take time to laugh and play and share the wonders of life together

**PATIENCE...** Be understanding when the child makes a mistake - it's all part of learning and growing

**PRAISE...** Express delight for all the things you like about the child and you will help build self-esteem

**RESPECT...** Treat the child as a valuable person, who in return will learn self-respect and to respect others.

**SECURITY...** Provide boundaries to allow the child to grow safely and feel secure.

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# Texas A&M University testing oral contraceptives for animals

COLLEGE STATION, Feb. 19, 2008 – If you're a land owner and animals such as coyotes or wild pigs are driving you hog wild, help may soon be on the way to control their numbers in a humane way – in the form of a birth control pill for animals being developed at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. The concept would be to get it to wild animals through baited food, researchers say.

Researchers are testing oral contraceptives – used in much the same way as in humans – and the results are promising, says Duane Kraemer, a professor in veterinary physiology and pharmacology and a world leader in embryo transfer who has been involved in cloning four different species in recent years.

Kraemer, one of the pill's creators, and other members of the research team are testing the contraceptive for use on wild animals, but the applications could most likely be used in pets, he believes.

"No one method will be useful in all situations," he stresses. "This approach inhibits maturation of the egg and therefore prevents fertilization. The animals continue to cycle, so it will not yet be ideal for many pet owners. But there is an advantage for use in wild and feral animals."

Kraemer says the research team has recently started tests on domestic models for predators – animals such as feral pigs and cougars – but if successful, it could be used on a wide variety of animals, including

dogs and cats, he explains. The team also has submitted grant applications for similar projects on coyotes and deer.

"A spinoff of this contraceptive could probably be used on many different species," he adds.

The \$90,000 project is being funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and private donations.

The pill works by inhibiting the maturation of the egg, not the entire cycle, Kraemer says. The technical name for the drug is called a phosphodiesterase 3 inhibitor, and it is one member of a family of drugs being tested.

Similar compounds have been tested in laboratories elsewhere in mice and monkeys, and similar results have been obtained by in vitro (in laboratory) methods in cattle and humans.

The compound can be mixed with animal feed and must be eaten daily during the critical time. It may also be encapsulated to decrease the frequency it has to be consumed, Kraemer says.

"We believe we are the first to test this compound for this specific purpose," Kraemer notes. "We're trying new uses for this previously approved compound."

When perfected, the pill could eventually be used as an oral contraceptive for pets, but that may be a bit in the future, Kraemer says.

In dogs, for example, the ovulation process is especially complex, but researchers are confident such a birth control pill can one day be successfully developed.

The need is apparent: According to the American Humane Society, about 7 million dogs and cats are euthanized each year at animal shelters. One female cat can lead to the production of 420,000 offspring in her lifetime.

In Texas, feral hogs have become a severe nuisance to farmers and ranchers, and the state has an estimated 3-4 million feral hogs, by far the most in the country. Deer are also becoming a problem to more communities each year because of overpopulation of deer herds.

Other species such as coyotes and even wild horses also need sufficient management control, experts note.

"The need for such an animal contraceptive is certainly there," Kraemer adds.

"We are confident we can develop this pill in the not too distant future, but we still have plenty of tests to complete. It's an exciting and much-needed project, but more funds will be needed, especially since deer and wild pigs are consumed by humans. One of the more interesting challenges will be to develop methods for feeding it to the target animals without affecting other species."

## Generic or name-brand herbicides: Is there a difference? Find out at TSCRA's School for Successful Ranching

FORT WORTH — Participants in Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's 2008 School For Successful Ranching will have the opportunity to join the great debate and decide for themselves what's in a name when it comes to generic versus name-brand herbicides.

Dr. Wayne Hanselka, professor of ecosystem science and management at Texas A&M University and range specialist with Texas AgriLife Extension Service, will lead a session on herbicides designed and labeled for rangeland use at the school, to be held March 14-15 at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi.

Hanselka is quick to point out that, whether good or bad, a generic product is not necessarily a carbon copy of the original.

"Just because a [new] chemical has the same active ingredient as one we've had a long time, doesn't mean it's the same herbicide," he says.

"First of all," Hanselka explains, "the active ingredients are naturally important because that's what works on the plant. But, how it's put together and what the carriers are also contributes to the total package."

"It's a synergistic effect. It's not just the active ingredients. So, just because we've had a chemical that has been tried and true for years and a new one comes out with the exact concentration of active ingredients in it, that doesn't mean it is the same thing."

"That raises questions on efficacy." Knowing there is no one-size-fits-all approach when it comes to rangeland herbicides, Hanselka will still focus on addressing as many issues as possible at the School for Successful Ranching.

"We'll take the various herbicides, particularly by mode of action — what I mean by that is we'll start with the soil-applied herbicides, then go through what's available, what their strong points are and just tell people the differences between, say, [what] Arsenal® will do and Velpar® will do."

"Then we'll go into the basal or cut-stump efforts and talk about them. Then we'll talk about the foliar and the various combinations that we can use. We'll also have a section on weed control — the herbicides available there — and then we'll end up with a little section on adjuvants and carriers... The blue dyes, the mentholated seed oil, etc."

"[We hope to] clear up some of the confusion on names and formulations so that they can make better decisions on what to invest

in," he says.

This year marks TSCRA's 14th annual School for Successful Ranching, a two-day program featuring three educational tracks — animal management, the business of ranching and range management. TSCRA has brought in experts from the Texas

AgriLife Extension Service, King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management, Welder Wildlife Foundation, NRCS and Oklahoma State University to lead the sessions.

Registration is \$60 for TSCRA members or \$100 for nonmembers and includes two hot meals and free admittance to the TSCRA Trade Show, featuring more than 150 exhibitors. Space is limited,

so pre-registration is encouraged. For additional details including a complete schedule, or to register, visit [www.texas cattleraisers.org](http://www.texas cattleraisers.org).

The School for Successful Ranching is held in conjunction with the 2008 TSCRA Annual Convention and Trade Show, Brand the Future.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 130-year-old trade organization whose 15,000 members manage approximately 3.7 million cattle on 96.5 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma. TSCRA provides law enforcement services, livestock inspection, legislative and regulatory advocacy and education opportunities for its members.

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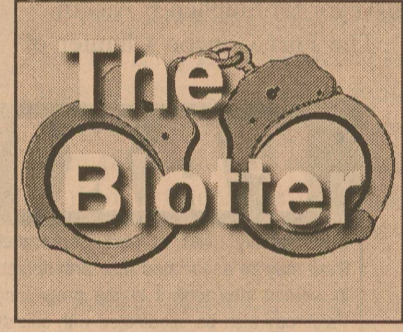
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### Solution to puzzle on Page 6

Choice of Beverage

V	A	P	I	D	S	H	O	T	D	E	N	S		
A	B	I	D	E	P	E	K	E	E	V	I	L		
L	I	K	E	N	O	M	A	R	R	I	G	A		
T	E	A	A	N	D	S	Y	M	P	A	T	H	Y	
T	I	E	S	T	A	T	S							
L	O	A	D	U	P	D	E	L	I					
A	D	L	E	R	S	I	L	O	A	M	P	S		
C	O	F	F	E	E	T	A	B	L	E	B	O	O	K
T	R	A	Y	R	E	N	E	V	E	R	N	E		
				L	A	T	E	P	I	T	T	E	D	
A	M	U	S	E		A	I	D						
M	I	L	K	O	F	M	A	G	N	E	S	I	A	
A	N	T	I	L	A	V	E	N	A	D	I	R		
T	O	R	E		I	C	O	N	C	H	O	R	E	
I	R	A	S		P	E	N	T	E	L	L	E	N	



**The Blotter**  
 The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the Sheriff's office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Accidents 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**  
**February 23 • McMullen, Clifton, male age 47, offense Driving While Intoxicated 1st Offense. Released.**

**INCIDENTS**  
**Feb. 13 • 7:50 a.m. Subject requested an officer to shoot skunk. Officer notified.**

**1:31 p.m. Minor vehicle accident on Cottonwood. Officer responded.**

**8:18 p.m. Caller requested an officer patrol their neighbor Subject reported suspicious noises.**

**10:27 p.m. Caller reported two possible Chevy duallys boxed in caller three miles South of Eldorado. One vehicle was tailgating with bright lights, while the other would slam on their brakes forcing caller to swerve to avoid a collision.**

**11:15 p.m. 911 operator called stating they had a possible transfer, then the other party hung up.**

**11:16 p.m. Caller reported an older model silver gray rag top driving recklessly on Hwy. 277 south.**

**Feb. 14 • 2:56 p.m. Complainant reported their vehicle had been hit while in the grocery store parking lot. Est. damage \$2,000. Officer notified.**

**5:39 p.m. Caller requested a welfare check on husband. Caller had not heard from husband all day. Officer responded.**

**Feb. 16 • 12:20 a.m. 911 Caller reported teenage drinkers and requested officers. Officers dispatched to scene and found drug paraphernalia.**

**11:57 a.m. Caller requested an ambulance at residence. Officer and EMS responded.**

**6:20 p.m. Caller requested an officer to report on damage to entrance of gate by hunters. Subject left a voice mail stating they had damaged the gate and would pay for the damages.**

**6:20 p.m. Volunteer Fire Chief reported grass fire on County Road 2129.**

**Feb. 17 • Caller reported a disturbance and wanted a deputy at their residence. Two officers responded.**

**Feb. 18 • 10:20 a.m. Caller requested to speak to an officer.**

**10:30 a.m. Caller requested a civil standby as child was being returned. Officer responded.**

**3:57 p.m. Caller reported a possible grass fire on Hwy. 277 North.**

**6:55 p.m. Caller requested an ambulance to residence.**

**8:53 p.m. Complainant requested a Criminal Trespass.**

**Feb. 19 • 3:33 p.m. Caller reported a large grass fire 15 miles on Hwy. 190 West. Fire Department responded. Fire was not in Schleicher County.**

**SCHLEICHER COUNTY ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTION**

**Candidate Filing Dates**  
**February 9, 2008 through March 10, 2008**

Application for a place on the ballot may be picked up between  
 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Thursday  
 8 a.m. - 3p.m. – Friday  
 SCISD Administration Office  
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**Single Member District Place 6**  
**District Place At Large**

**\*\*NOTICE\*\***  
**The last day to file will be March 10, 2008**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Early Voting to be held at the  
 Schleicher County Elections Administrator's Office  
 (Within the Memorial Building) 1 N. Cottonwood St.  
 Eldorado, Texas  
 April 28, 2008 through May 6, 2008  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Election Day: May 10, 2008**  
**Memorial Building**

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**LAST DAY EARLY VOTING**  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008**

### BID NOTICE-DUMP TRUCK

Sealed bids addressed to the Schleicher County Commissioner's Court will be received by the County Clerk until 10:00 a.m. February 25, 2008 when such bids will be opened for the purchase of:  
 1 - New Dump Truck  
 Cab

- White in color
- Conventional - Air ride, Welded Steel Galvanized Shell
- Factory Air Conditioning
- AM/FM CD Player
- Adjusting Steering Column
- Rubber Floor Mats
- West Coast Mirrors
- Dual Roof Mount Air Horns
- Air Ride Seat For Driver
- Fixed Seat For Passenger

#### Engine:

- 11-Liter 4 Cycle Diesel
- US '04-Compliant Engine
- Min. 35 HP @1500RPM
- 1480 Lbs Torque @ 1200 RPM
- 60% Torque Rise
- Overhead Cam Design

#### Front Axle:

- 20000 Lbs Rated Axle
- 20000 LBS Suspension
- Wheels & Tires to Be Rated 1t 18000 LBS

#### Rear Axle:

- 44000 LBS Rear Axle
- 44000 LBS 10 Leaf Spring Suspension
- Double Reduction
- Wheels & Tires To Be Rated at 44000 LBS

#### Transmission:

- Allison 4500 RDS Transmission

#### Body:

- Color - Forrest Green
- Steel Bed
- 12" Asphalt Apron
- Min. of 42" Side Walls
- Min. of 10 Ga Side Walls
- Full Air Controls for Shifting PTO, Pump, & Tailgate
- 1/2 Cab Protector
- Electrical Tarp System
- 3/16" Steel Floor
- 3/16" Tailgate

Delivery Date must be on or before 60 days after bid is awarded.  
 Payment made upon delivery  
 All bids must be clearly marked: BID ENCLOSED  
 The Commissioner's Court reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids received.  
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 County & District Clerk  
 P. O. Drawer 580  
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 Lynn Meador, Broker 325-650-6324  
 Jo Ward, Agent/ 325-853-2339

**NEW LISTING** 4 South Poplar St.—Two bedroom, one bath, living room, dining room, kitchen and utility. New roof and some refurbishing. Large lot in a good location. \$40,000.00

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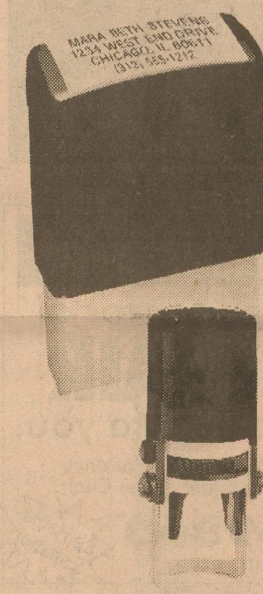
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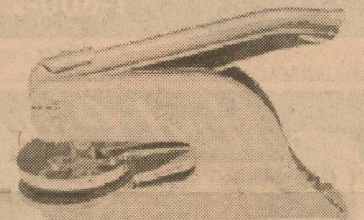
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## Woman's Club enjoys program on Indian attire

by Noweita Briggs

The Eldorado Woman's Club met February 12, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in the Methodist Fellowship Hall. Eleven members and one guest were present. The theme for the meeting was "Indian." President Jerre Holley opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all present. Myrt Williams gave a prayer and Nelva Martin led us in pledges to our flags. Program leader Mary Roden next introduced Lynn Parson, our guest speaker.

Lynn and her family have lived in Schleicher County since 2005. Lynn brought us a wonderful report on Indian Headdresses and other attire which would be worn by a Indian Princess on her wedding day. Lynn participates in events where she rides her special horse Justin, and she is attired in a traditional Indian Princess Bridal attire. The hand sewn dress is made from deer skin and has a wide yoke made with individual sew on beads. The sleeves have four foot fringe of cut skin strips. The outstanding headdress is made of many colorful beads, shells and stones which are individually hand sewn and is shaped like a skull cap with a long attachment which flows past the shoulders. Authentic old

Chinese coins adorn the outside of the head piece. It is impossible to describe how stunning the entire attire is. Linda's dress and headpiece were made by a very special lady. It took her two years to make the garments. The dress weighs eighty pounds and the headpiece twenty five pounds. Linda said the headpiece is so heavy it makes her head ache and the heavy weight of the dress tires her. Linda wears a necklace of white and tan shell beads that were used as currency.

Indian women were not allowed to ride a horse but would walk beside the horse. In the tribe only one lady was allowed to make the wedding attires. Her horse would be a gift to the groom from her father. The bride would carry her deer hoof dance stick, turtle shell bag for medicine and her skinning and boning knives. Her appaloosa horse would be adorned with a beaded throat latch and adornments that would identify to others who her family was.

When Linda participate in events she rides on an authentic 1857 McClelland military saddle. When Linda rides the bit has to be placed on the outside of the horses mouth as the Nanon horses were much smaller than today's horses.

Her military saddle and bridle and bit were from the Little Brigham battlefield. The saddle and bridle would have been taken by the brides father into battle. Also on the horse would be furs that would represent the brides great wealth and also fertility. The tribe wore her bridal attire when she went from her fathers' village to her future husbands village. Linda said that each bead was sewn into place separately and all the beads had to stay on the bridal attire during traveling to the future husbands place.

Each tribe was different. The only time the horses were painted was when they were used during battle. All paint came off after the warrior came back from a battle. This writer has only given a brief account of Linda's attire she wears at the jury events she attends. She travels many miles each year. We wish to thank her so very much for bringing her equipment and attire to our meeting, and for telling us some things about the wonderful events she attends. She has been training and showing her horses since 1986. She also trains horses for others, and her clients are from all over the world. She trains English, Halter, Indian and Vintage style. She also brought pictures of her and her horses in all their beautiful arrangements.

Following our marvelous program our business meeting began with Pat Holt reading the minutes and Nelva Martin giving the treasures report. Our roll call was answered by giving the name of an Indian tribe. Some were Cheyene, Arapaho, Tejas, Crow. Two books "Death on the Prairie," and "Death on the Desert" was brought to our attention as good reading about the Indians.

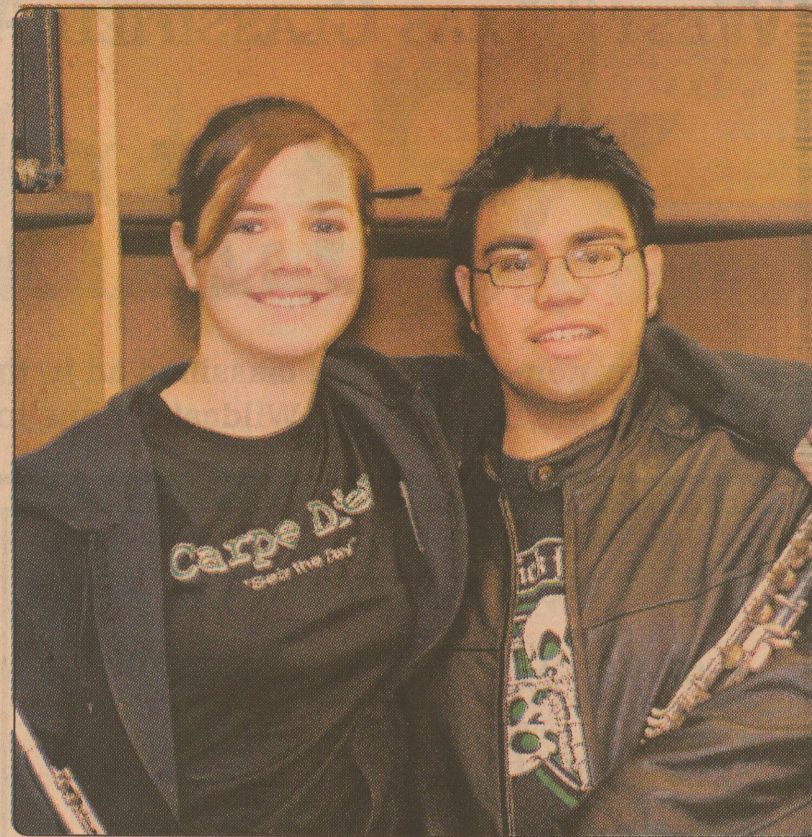
A report was made by the selection committee on the officers selected for our new club year. They are: President-Myrt Williams, 1st Vice President -Cathy Niblett, 2nd Vice President-Lynn Stover and Jerre Holley, Secretary-Pat Holt, Treasurer-Nelva Martin, and Historian-Mary Roden. A motion was made that this slate of officers be approved. The officers were given a unanimous approval by a show of hands. The Executive Committee reported that some of the club by-laws be amended. First amendment was raising the dues from ten dol-

lars to twenty five dollars; do away with the office of Parliamentarian; fines for not attending a meeting; the associate fees be raised from fifteen dollars to thirty dollars and the club continue to pay the rental fee on the Memorial Building Club Room. The club voted unanimously to accept all amendments.

Pat Holt brought to our attention Tiffany Hernandez has been on the Dean's List twice this school term and would the club like to present her with a love offering. It was decided we would take action at our next meeting. It was also brought to our attention we would need a different place to meet for some of our meetings during the election balloting. The club voted to move this meeting to the bank's meeting room.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at the Methodist Church Annex. The reciting of our Club Collect closed our business meeting.

Refreshment time was hostessed by Jill Preston, Betsy Thackerston, Shine Spigarelli, Gloria Swift, and Ruth Davis. The table appointments were decorated tall crosses with each being a different style.



SUCCESS FILE PHOTO

### State Bound!

Rhapsody Swyter and Timothy Cuevas each earned a gold medal during the UIL Solo Ensemble Contest held February 9. Swyter and Cuevas qualified for the State Solo and Ensemble Contest by playing prepared music for a judge and receiving a Division One rating in Class 1. The judge evaluates each performance and awards a rating of one to five with one being the highest. Swyter will be advancing playing her flute and Cuevas will be advancing playing his clarinet at the State Contest held in San Marcos at the end of May. Morgan Barker received a Division One rating in Class 3 playing his Baritone solo.



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

### Bi-District Champions!

Tyler Dombroski celebrates his team Tuesday night after the Warbirds rolled past Johnson City 48-38. The victory clenched the Bi-District crown for the Eagles, and sets them up for a showdown with Thorndale, defending state champions, in Burnet Friday night at 7 pm.

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