

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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Rash of fires keeps volunteers busy

An outbreak of grassfires kept Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department firefighters hopping last week as they ranged from one end of Schleicher County to the other. The fires resulted from a number of different causes, including, downed electrical lines, a ruptured natural gas pipeline, and lightning.

The busy week for firefighters began on Tuesday of last week when they responded to a grass fire on the Stewart Ranch near Ft. McKavett in the extreme eastern edge of Schleicher County. Then, on Friday, June 18, 2004, a downed AEP Electric power line left three cows dead and burned up 15 acres of grass on the Gordon Emmons Ranch, west of Eldorado on County Road 408.

The battle would start again at 7:00 a.m. the following morning when a call came in that a natural gas pipeline had exploded in the Reynolds Community. Emergency Personnel rushed to the scene, but spent the next hour or so trying to determine exactly which of four pipelines was involved.

Ultimately, it was found that a 12 inch diameter pipeline, owned by Duke Energy, had ruptured. Fortunately for all involved, the rupture was some thirty feet away from where the pipeline crossed a 30-inch liquefied petroleum gas pipeline, owned by Conoco-Phillips.

Also fortunate was the fact that the fire was pointed away from the larger LPG line. A nearby home belonging to Earl Lloyd was also spared. However, some area residents went without electrical power for much of the day due to the fact that the pipeline rupture and fire occurred under a power line owned by Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative. A buried telephone line was also rendered useless by the fire.

Once the pipeline was identified, the necessary valves were located and closed and the fire burned itself out, revealing a small crater and the twisted remains the 12-inch line that looked more like ribbon than steel.

A line of thunderstorms pushed through Schleicher County on late Monday night and early Tuesday morning, sending firefighters once more scrambling to their trucks as lightning spawned a half dozen grass fires across the county. Fortunately, most of them were extinguished by the heavy rainfall that followed close behind the storm front, but not before local firemen spent hours driving back roads and across the rocky countryside in the eastern part of the county in hopes of finding and fighting the fire.

Fire Chief Jerry Jones asks all Schleicher County residents to be fire

conscious during the upcoming 4th of July holiday, particularly in light of the hot and dry conditions. The rains that fell in the fall and winter of 2003, have made for a bumper crop of grass, Jones says. Grass that now stands tall and dry in the hot summer sun.

Please report any fires to the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. at 853-2737 or by dialing 9-1-1. Fire Chief Jones also asks that anyone planning a controlled burn on their property, please report it ahead of time to the Fire Department.

Blanch returns to lead SCISD

Just a year after retiring from the education business and resigning as SCISD Superintendent of Schools, George Blanch is returning to Eldorado and will again take the reins of the local school district. That news came Thursday, June 17th, during an emergency meeting of the SCISD board of trustees. At that time, Blanch was hired as acting superintendent.

Blanch will be filling the post left vacant when Supt. Mark Gesch was placed on paid leave at the school board's regular meeting on Monday, June 14. Blanch will be paid \$80,000 per year, roughly the same amount Gesch is making.

The Success has been unable to contact Mark Gesch since news of his leave of absence became public. However, the newspaper has learned that he is actively seeking other employment. In the meantime Gesch remains on the payroll at SCISD. His contract with the school runs through the end of the 2004-05 school year.



COURTESY PHOTO
Together again -- Mias Amigas Club members gathered outside the Schleicher County Memorial Building in this archive photo. The club convenes again this weekend for its 73rd annual meeting.

Come one, come all to 73rd annual Mias Amigas

The familiar voices of Mias Amigas members will once again sing the Mias Amigas Song this weekend as they gather on the Schleicher County Courthouse Square for their 73rd annual meeting. Festivities will begin Friday evening, June 25, with registration, a sandwich supper, and a relaxing evening sitting under the large pecan trees and reminiscing about days gone by.

The Mias Amigas club was founded on June 25, 1931 as an all-school reunion for those Eldorado graduates who have been out of school for at least twenty years. Organized by a small group of 'girls' who wished to maintain their contact with each other and their community, the reunion has met annually ever since.

The sole purpose of Mias Amigas is to maintain and nurture friendships made through the school years. It has grown to include all graduates of Eldorado High School, both girls and boys and their families. These graduates gather each year to share stories, pictures and reminisce with friends about their school days. To qualify for membership persons must be a graduate of EHS and have been out of school for 20 years.

This year, the classes of 1954 and 1984, the 50 year and 20 year graduates, will be honored.

Persons wanting to participate in the Friday night sandwich supper are asked to bring some kind of picnic food such as sandwiches, chips, dips, or desserts. All

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



COURTESY PHOTO

Big Bang -- This twisted mess was once a 12-inch diameter natural gas pipeline belonging to Duke Energy. The line burst last Saturday morning, sending local firefighters scurrying to the scene, in western Schleicher County on County Road 425. Fortunately, no one was injured in the blaze.

YFZ Ranch officials want to drill for water

YFZ Ranch officials are apparently interested in drilling at least one additional water well on ranch property, some four miles north of Eldorado.

Cindy Cawley, General Manager of the Plateau Underground Water Conservation and Supply District says that she was contacted by Paul Allred regarding the need to drill for water on the ranch. Cawley, who was at a meeting in Austin when she received Allred's call, made arrangements for assistant manager Virgil Polocek to visit the ranch.

Cawley notes that while Polocek was given access to a water well near the ranch entrance, he was denied access to a second well on the north side of the ranch property.

Cawley said she eventually met with Paul Allred and explained the

steps involved in drilling a water well in Schleicher County. She also outlined the state regulations that are involved.

Cawley then expressed concern about alleged environmental violations on the ranch property, as reported by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and informed Mr. Allred that water district personnel have the right under state law to inspect any and all water wells on the property.

Allred reportedly told that he did not have the authority to grant her access to the ranch.

Meanwhile, a TCEQ spokesman reports that alleged air and wastewater violations on the YFZ remains a priority for the agency and that an investigation into those violations is ongoing.

Success recognized at TPA convention

The Eldorado Success captured seven awards Saturday during the Texas Press Association Better Newspaper Contest held in conjunction with the group's 125th annual summer convention, held this year at the Omni Hotel in Austin.

The Success was recognized in six separate categories including: Page Design, 1st Place; Editorial Writing, 3rd Place; Column Writing, 2nd Place; Feature Photo, 3rd Place; Headline Writing, 3rd Place; and Sports Photo, 2nd Place.

By placing in a majority of the contest categories, The Success tallied enough points to capture 2nd overall in the Sweepstakes category.

Publishers Randy and Kathy Mankin were accompanied to the convention by reporter Staci Key. Among the highlights of the convention was a speech

given by Liz Carpenter, former Press Secretary for Lady Bird Johnson. Also, a trip to the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum.

Lt. Governor David Dewhurst addressed the crowd on Saturday, as did State Attorney General Greg Abbott. USA Today war correspondent Tom Squitieri was another of the featured speakers.

The convention concluded Saturday with the annual awards brunch. Following the awards ceremony, Willis Web, publisher of the Jasper Newsboy, ended his year term as TPA President and handed the gavel over to Wanda Garner Cash, publisher of the Baytown Sun. She becomes the third woman president in the 125 year history of the TPA.

Randy Mankin, publisher of the Eldorado Success concluded his second

term on the TPA Board of Directors at the convention. He is due to assume the office of First Vice President of the West Texas Press Association at its summer convention in July. With that post comes an automatic appointment to the TPA board of directors.

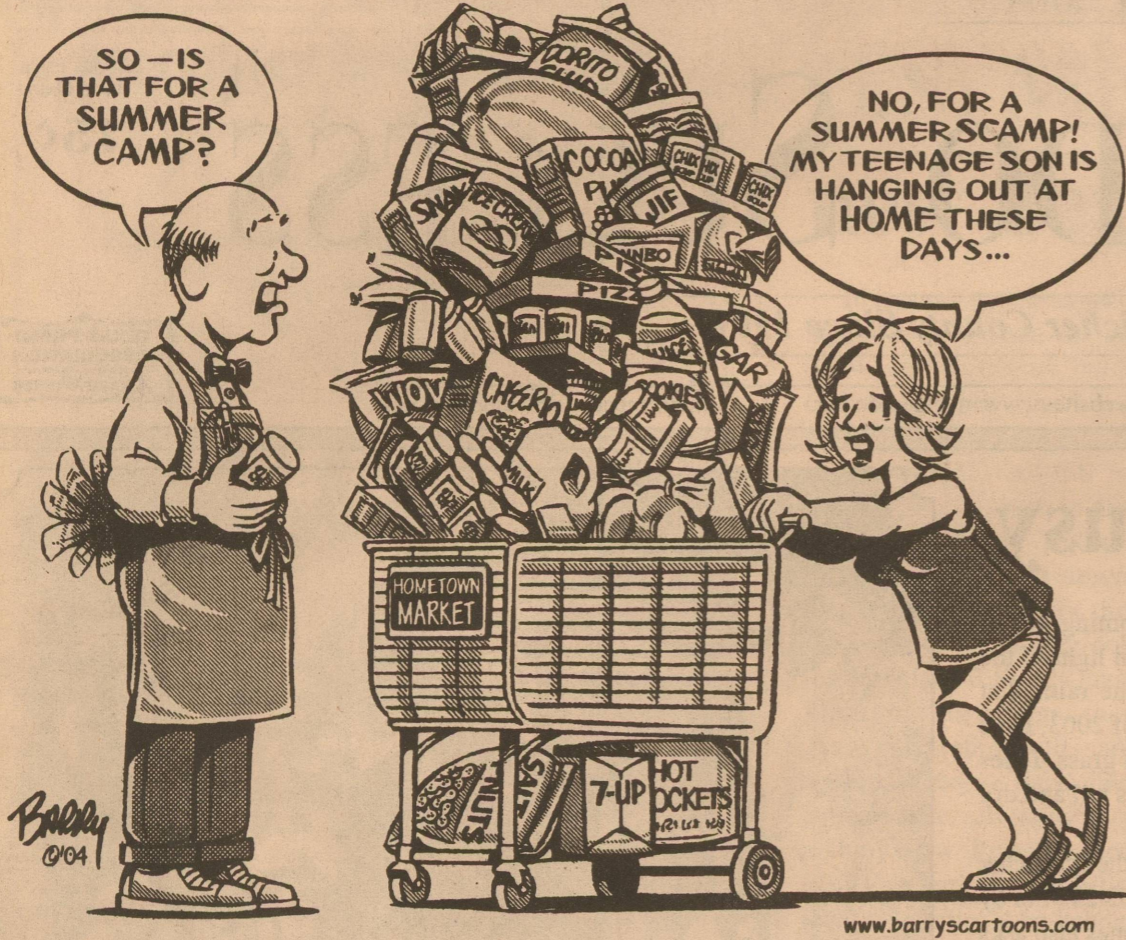
Mankin explained after the convention that he was pleased with the awards the Success had garnered this year. "But there's more to the contest that winning awards," Mankin stated. "The Better Newspaper Contest is a benchmark. It's where we put our best work up against the best work of our colleagues so that we can tell where we need to improve."

The Eldorado Success is a long-standing member of the Texas Press Association. It has been continuously published in Eldorado since Dec. 6, 1901.

More awards — J.L. Mankin and Staci Key show off some of the awards claimed by The Eldorado Success during the 125th annual Texas Press Association summer convention, held last weekend in Austin. Interestingly, every member of the Success staff was honored in TPA Better Newspaper Contest.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN



A Purse on the Interstate

Bonnie Thorne of Huntsville was returning home from a trip to California when she stopped at the Dairy Queen in Big Spring for some refreshments. She was traveling with her sister, Ida Belle Moore and a visitor from France, Michel Daission.

Mr. Daission had shown some of Bonnie's family members around France and Bonnie was showing him around the US.

After sharing conversation with some local men having coffee at the next table, the trio left to continue their trip east. When they got into their car, Ida Belle said she would drive, but needed a pillow that was in the back seat. Bonnie put her purse on the trunk, retrieved the pillow and climbed in the car, completely forgetting about the purse.

Soon after their car got back on the interstate, a passenger in a passing car held up a purse and pointed to the back of Bonnie's vehicle. It was then she realized she was missing her purse, which



by Tumbleweed Smith

had all the trip money in it.

They returned to Dairy Queen in hopes of finding it there. Bonnie was told that one of the regulars having coffee, John Day, saw the car drive off with the purse on the trunk and he was going to try to find it. "If John Day finds that purse, you'll be sure to get it back," one of the waitresses told Bonnie.

Bonnie and her traveling companions resumed their trip. "I felt stupid and upset," says Bonnie, "but we continued on, somehow feeling that things would work out okay."

John Day found the purse in the middle of the Interstate a couple of miles east of the Dairy Queen. It was completely empty except for a little pair of scissors. "No telling how many vehicles had run over it," says John. He had no way of finding out who owned it.

He woke up the next morning with a new realization: "No woman would carry around an

empty purse." He returned to the Interstate and searched the area where he had found the purse. In weeds along the interstate he found her billfold containing her driver's license, credit cards and \$200 cash. He also found other cards and items from the purse and a money belt with \$800 in it.

John got his daughter to look up Bonnie's phone number on the internet.

Bonnie says when he called her he said, "Bonnie, do you know where your purse is?"

He then identified himself and told her he was sending her the purse.

"I told him to keep half the money, but he didn't do it," says Bonnie.

He did keep some, which he gave to his grandson. "They were tickled to death to get that purse back," says John. Bonnie sent John a couple of thank you notes, telling him what a good man he is. She told him the man from France was also impressed with the type of people in West Texas.

John said he didn't think he did anything real significant. "I did what any other old West Texas cowboy would do. I'd do the same thing again."

Eldorado's missing millionaires are alive and well in Oklahoma

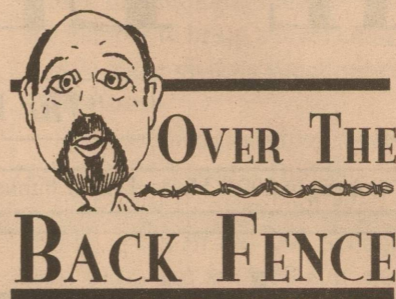
Just when Eldorado needed some good news, came word in last week's San Angelo Standard-Times that a dozen or so of our neighbors had hit it big, winning the Texas Lottery and claiming some \$12 million, after taxes.

But the joyous news was short-lived. First, the story didn't reveal any of the lucky winners' names. Then, it went on to say that the money had been paid out way back in 1999. To make matters worse, the winners wanted to remain anonymous, claiming the prize money under an assumed name -- they called themselves The Bethel Dozen.

No sooner had Rick Smith mentioned the big payout in his column last Thursday than did the telephone start ringing at The Success.

"Who are they?" one caller asked. Another wanted to know why The Success had not reported the story back in 1999. "Who are you covering up for? Are you one of the winners?" that caller queried.

To say I was surprised, is an understatement. Not that we haven't occasionally let a story slip through our fingers, but not one of this magnitude. Then



OVER THE BACK FENCE

by Randy Mankin

there's the aspect that somehow, somehow, twelve people had managed to keep secret the fact that they had each won over a million dollars. And...they had managed to keep that secret in Eldorado, a town not particularly well known for its secret keeping ability.

Well, something just didn't smell right and I started digging. Fortunately, it wasn't long before I struck upon a trail.

First, I ran an Internet search for "Bethel Dozen," "Texas Lottery," and "Eldorado." What I found was a document that listed lottery winners for the past several years. Sure enough, there were the Bethel Dozen with their hometown listed as Eldorado.

Hmm, this must be where Rick Smith got his information, I thought, but my ego wouldn't let me accept the fact that I had missed such a big story. So, I turned back to the computer to

do some more digging.

Before long, my efforts were rewarded, and the whole thing started making more sense. A press release, pulled from the archives of the Texas Lottery Commission revealed that there had indeed been a lottery jackpot, totaling more than \$12 million after taxes, claimed in 1999 by a group calling itself the Bethel Dozen. The story went on to say that the winners, most of whom lived in Gould, Oklahoma, had pooled their money and bought the winning ticket just across the Red River in Quannah, Texas.

Okay, I thought. Now we're getting somewhere. Still, I wanted more proof. So, after a quick call to the Lottery Commission to confirm the story, I pulled up a map of the Quannah area on the Internet. There, right across the Red River from the Texas town, was Eldorado, Oklahoma, laying about halfway between Quannah and Gould.

After calling Rick Smith to alert him to the fact that Eldorado, Texas was still awaiting its big lottery payday, I turned back to the Internet to see if maybe the YFZ Ranch had relocated across the Red River.

Governor tells agencies to prepare 5% cut

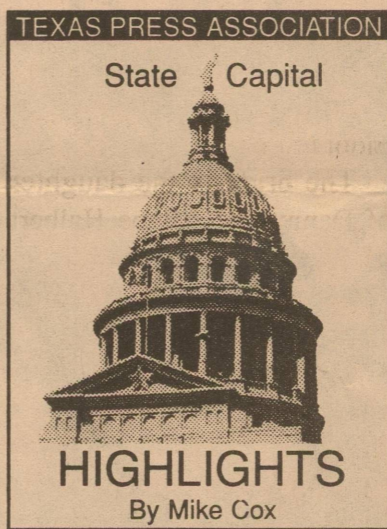
AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry is in Mexico this week on a trade mission, but before he left he told state agencies to start planning for a 5 percent budget cut next session.

During the last regular session, lawmakers pared 11 percent from the state budget, a cutback that resulted in drastic program cuts in the health and human services agencies.

The word to get ready for another round of state agency budget slashing came in a letter from the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Budget Office directing that budget submissions be based on 95 percent of current general revenue funding.

As soon as news of the letter from Perry's office got out, the Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities put out a press release saying the governor's proposed cut amounted to a "man-made disaster" for Texas.

"There is no revenue reason for agencies to be instructed to cut back even more on already-inadequate services," said the center's



David Levine. "With our recovering economy, we should have enough money to reverse some of the most harmful cuts made in the last legislative session, not make more."

The governor's office countered that the letter amounted to little more than bureaucratic boilerplate, the first step in a long budget-making process that won't end until some time late in the spring of 2005.

The called-for 5 percent cut is

based on "worst-case scenario" planning, said Perry spokeswoman Kathy Walt. "We have a lot of time before the next budget is decided," she said.

School finance talk continues...

While the Democrats attended their annual convention in Houston and Perry's office finalized his Mexican travel plans, a group of House members from both parties met in Austin to mull school finance options.

The meetings were informal, as opposed to gavel-knocking committee hearings. Teacher and business groups also were invited to offer their thoughts on the matter.

The talks were expected to continue this week.

One school problem solved...

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Tom Craddick have authorized the Texas Education Agency to transfer funds internally to pay for \$63 million in textbooks needed for the coming school year.

The book-keeping work allows TEA to be able to provide biology and bilingual English as a second language books.

The textbooks were to have been paid for through legislative changes in how fuel tax money is collected, but Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn's office had refused to certify the revenue, saying it had not met projections.

The legislative leadership said last week that the money TEA is ponying up this summer will be repaid in the next budget.

Looking for work?

The Texas Workforce Commission has set up a new way to seek employment or to post a job opening, a Web site called WorkIn-Texas.com.

A partnership between the state agency and local workforce boards and centers, the site lists more than 27,000 available jobs and 46,000 Texans looking for work.

So far, according to the governor's office, more than 3,800 people have been hired through connections made through the Web site since its launch May 24.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

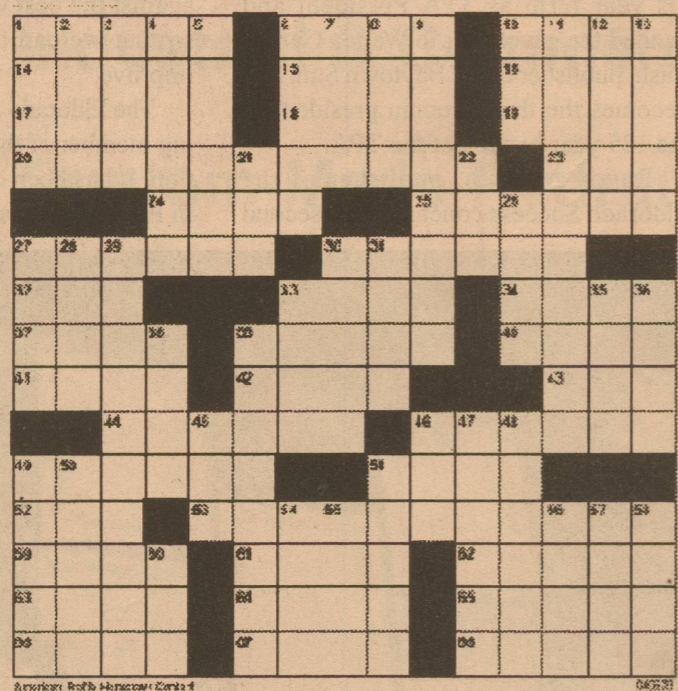
- ACROSS**
- Beer purchases
 - Like a Dali watch
 - Wholly absorbed
 - Eskimo's cousin
 - River to the Baltic
 - Cleveland's lake
 - "Key ___" (1948 Bogart/Bacall film)
 - "Star Wars" princess
 - Sign of things to come
 - Philosophy, literature, etc.
 - Mine yield
 - Earns after taxes
 - Reason to drink
 - Elder Alda
 - 1973 Paul McCartney and Wings hit
 - ___-Locke, Fla.
 - Chess turn
 - Slight lead
 - Sitcom set in Korea
 - Whittles down
 - Surgery souvenir
 - In addition
 - Cry of woe
 - Singer

- Garfunkel
- Paleontologist's find
- Thinly spread
- Nike competitor
- Sow's mate
- Ben-Gurion
- Airport city
- Time of retirement, perhaps
- Bettor's stats
- Perfume holder
- Early stage

DOWN

- Dial up
- Jai ___

- Give the eye to
- Jannings or Gilels
- "Mule Train" singer Frankie
- Yard divisions
- Like Santa's cheeks
- Strong point
- Belgrade native
- Playwright
- O'Neill
- Warehouse user
- Lounges around
- Creative spark
- Israel's Golda
- Babbles away
- Vintage automaker
- Brinks vehicle
- Docking spots
- Basic principle



See solution on Page 6

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by: **Kerbow Funeral Home**
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USPS 342-470
website: www.myeldorado.net

Publisher and Editor: Randy Mankin
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The Eldorado Success is published weekly at 204 SW Main Street in Eldorado, Texas by Masked Rider Publishing, Inc. Subscriptions are \$21.83 per year in Schleicher County and \$27.41 per year elsewhere in Texas. Out of state subscriptions are \$32.73. Periodical class postage paid at Eldorado, Texas 76936. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE ELDORADO SUCCESS, P.O. Box 1115, Eldorado, Texas 76936-1115. Notices of entertainment where admission is charged, cards of thanks, resolutions of respect and all material not news, will be charged at regular advertising rates. Advertisements, Classified Ads and Cards of Thanks are payable in advance unless the customer has an established account. A finance charge of 1.5% per month will be assessed to customers with balances over 30 days old. Any erroneous reflection upon the character or reputation of any person or firm will be promptly corrected when brought to the attention of the management.

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Mrs. Neil Andrew Cooper

Halbert/Cooper wedding

With gratitude to God Alyssa Halbert and Neil Andrew Cooper would like to announce the covenant of their marriage. The couple exchanged wedding vows at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Braunfels on June 12, 2004.

The bride's colors were pink and champagne. She wore an ivory strapless satin A-line dress with a lace-up back, champagne border and a sweep train. She had her great-grandmother's wedding band pinned inside her slip with a small blue bow. Her bouquet was a combination of pink and champagne Gerber Daisies and white Calla Lillies.

Matron of Honor was sister of the bride, Jessica Penkszyk of San Antonio. Bridesmaids were sisters of the bride, Charissa Sheppard of Eldorado, and Lycynda Halbert of San Angelo; sister of the groom, Hollie Grieve of Katy; cousin of the bride, Kauli Halbert of Austin; friends of the bride, Allison Edwards of Houston, Denise Garza of Corpus Christi, Patty Ruiz of New Braunfels, Stacey Rhodes of Abilene, and Rachel Lussier of New Braunfels.

Best Man was brother of the groom, Kyle Cooper of Houston. Groomsmen were brother-in-law of the groom, Tim Grieve of Katy; cousin of the groom, Dylan Weigelt of Clear Brook; brother-in-law of the bride, Eric Penkszyk of San Antonio; friends of the groom, Jarrett Roberts of Houston, Kevin Ham of Katy, Jeff Taylor of Dallas, Billy Maynard of NewPort Beach, CA., Luiz

Martinez of San Angelo, and John Rhodes of Abilene.

Ushers were bride's friend, Elliot Gall of Corpus Christi and groom's friend, John Rhodes of Abilene.

Flower Girl's were groom's nieces Abigail Grieve and Emilee Grieve of Katy and bride's friend Emily Gall of Corpus Christi.

Ring Bearer was bride's nephew, Skyler Sheppard of Eldorado.

The bride is the daughter of Danny and Allene Halbert of Eldorado. She is a 1993 graduate of Eldorado High School and a 1998 graduate of Texas A&M University Corpus Christi with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. She is currently employed by the State of Texas as a Legal Caseworker for Child Protective Services in Seguin. Alyssa is also a certified Kardio Kickbox and PIYO Instructor at Texas Tough Karate in New Braunfels.

The groom is the son of Jay and Gerri Cooper of Houston and the grandson of Leona Weigelt also of Houston. He is a 1996 graduate of Spring Woods High School in Houston and a 2000 graduate of Texas Lutheran University in Seguin with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies. He is currently pursuing a professional career as a singer/songwriter.

A reception and dance followed the ceremony at the T-Bar-M Ranch. After a honeymoon in Orlando, Florida at Disney World Resort the couple will make their home in New Braunfels.

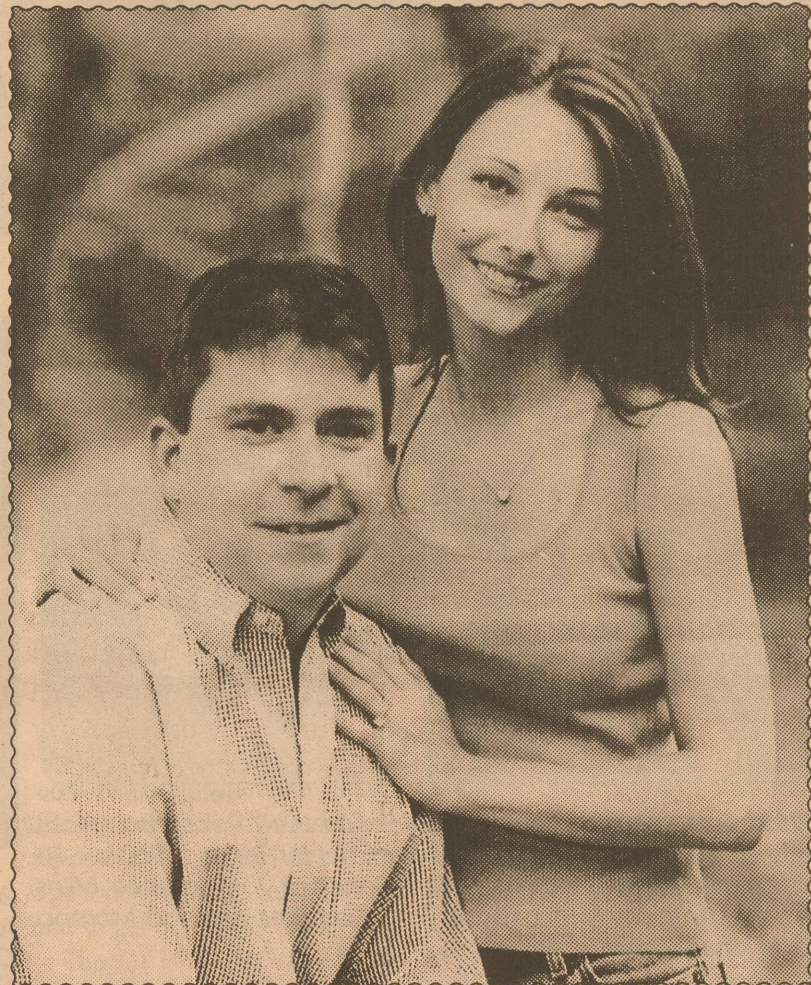
West/Biondo engagement

Announcing the marriage of Shannon West and Teak Biondo to be held on the beach at the Ritz-Carlton in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Island in a small ceremony on July 31, 2004.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Floyd West and the late Lisa Austin. Shannon is a 1995 graduate of Eldorado High School. She attended Texas Tech. University and is currently a Flight Attendant for Southwest Airlines in

Dallas. The prospective groom is the son of Fran & Al Sembos and the late Richard Biondo of Coppell, Texas. Teak is 1988 graduate of R.L. Turner High School in Carrollton, Texas. He is currently employed as Director of Operations and a pilot for Ameristar Jet Charter in Addison, Texas.

Following the wedding the couple plan to make their home in Carrollton, Texas.



Teak Biondo and Shannon West

Meals for Friends Menu



- Monday, June 28**
Country Fried Steak, Baked Potato, Spanish Green Beans, Wheat Rolls, Lime Rice Swirl, Juice, Milk
- Tuesday, June 29**
Oven Fried Chicken Breast, Potato Salad, Zucchini Squash, Wheat Bread, 1/2 Orange, Lemon Square, Milk
- Wednesday, June 30**
Pork Chop w/ Gravy, Diced Potatoes, Carrots, Tossed Salad w/ Tomato, Wheat Roll, Peach Cobbler, Milk
- Thursday, July 1**
Hot Dogs w/ Chili, Cheese, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Bun, Pineapple Waldorf, Brownie, Milk
- Friday, July 2**
Soft Tacos & Cheese, Pinto Beans, Corn w/ Sweet Peppers, Tortillas, Chopped Lettuce & Tomato, Fresh Fruit w/ Canteloupe, Milk

BIRTHDAY LIST

- JUNE**
24th Will Whitten, Jerry Whitten, Chelsea Long, Janet Warnock, Mike Haynes, Tracy Brenner
25th Kristi Reeves
26th Lito Belman
27th Mabel Freitag, Ruth A. Mittel, Michael A. Redish, Austin A. Shockley, Rachel Nixon, Ramon Navila
28th Liz Anderson, Ross Hodges
29th Pedro Luis Garcia, Amika J. Gonzalez, Anthony Pina, Steve Blaylock, Megan Poynor, Kathy Smith, Brittany Galan
30th Charissa Sheppard, Ed Meador, DeAnn Rodriguez, Maureen Hodges, Colt Ashton, Ashton Murr, Alex Cardenas

ANNIVERSARIES

- JUNE**
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25th Lester Paul & Kymm Nixon
30th Mr. & Mrs. B.J. Reynolds, Rick & Lori Stricklan

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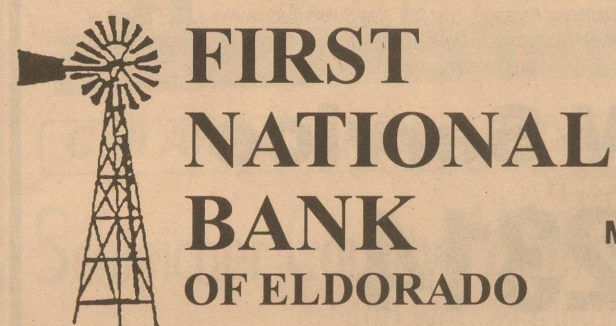


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Eldorado's Internet Homepage

2004 Major All-Stars
(Front L-R): Josh Jurecek,
Eloy Bustos, Dylan
Dombroski, Tony McCord,
Jonathan Belman,
Anthony Mata; (Back L-R):
Coach Floyd Fay, Mason
Baker, Dustin Ramos, Ben
Wipff, Garrett Lux, Miles
Mikeska, Briley Ledbetter,
Coach Tinker Wipff. The
Eldorado All Star Majors
place third in the Ozona
Tournament weekend of
June 18-19, 2004.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

2004 Major League Diamondbacks -- (Front L-R) Robert Buchholz,
Christian Sanchez, John Paul Galan, Junior Trejo; (Middle L-R)
Mason Baker, Briley Ledbetter, Rudy Sanchez, Josh Jurecek, Miles
Mikeska, Anthony Mata; (Back L-R) Coaches Armado Moreno
Wade Shirley and Teresa Shirley.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

2004 Major League Longhorns -- (Front L-R): Robert Chavez,
Tony McCord, J.R. Martinez, C.J. Knutson; (Back L-R) Eric Estrada,
Coach Lee Jimenez, Nathan Jimenez, Bailey Espinosa, Shawn
McCord, Oscar Sanchez, Coach Julian Martinez.

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2004 Major League Titans -- (Front L-R) Ramero Perez, Eloy Bustos,
Jonathan Belman, Dylan Dombroski, Jamie O'Harrow; (Back L-R)
Shane Young, Coach Floyd Fay, Garrett Lux, Ben Wipff, Dustin
Ramos, Coach Tinker Wipff, Christopher Whiddon.



Trey
Chavez



Frankie
Arispe

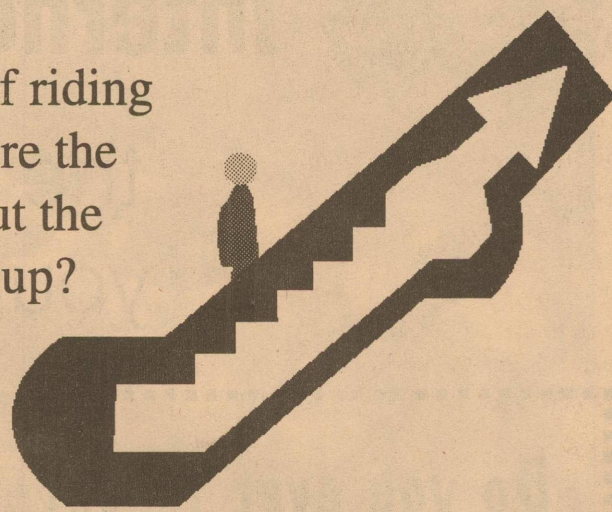


Jared
Grubbs

Guess What?

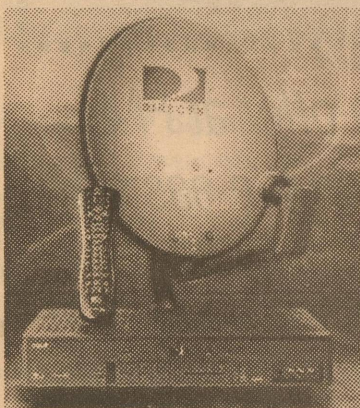
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Eagles place 3 on All-West Texas Team

Frankie Arispe, Trey Chavez
and Jared Grubbs were named this
week to the San Angelo Standard-
Times All-West Texas Baseball
Team.

Outfielder Trey Chavez, had
five home runs, batted .481, 28
RBI, and 14 stolen bases while
scoring 35 runs for the Eagles.

Jared Grubbs, second base-
man, drove in 20 runs while batting
a .410. Grubbs, a junior, stole 10
bases while scoring 25 runs.

Frankie Arispe, a senior utility
player, hit three home runs, 20 RBIs
and was District 2-2A's Most Valu-
able Player in 2003. Pitcher, Arispe,
struck out 101 batters in 71 innings.
He was 10-3 with a 2.18 ERA. The
2004 Eagle Team tied for second in
District 2-2A and was coached by
Gary Grubbs who was named 2003
Coach of the Year.

Births, Deaths, Weddings,
Engagements are all
reported in
THE SUCCESS
It's the best source around!

Clarification-Firework Ban

Correction-June 17, 2004-Commissioners Court voted Monday June 14, 2004 to prohibit certain fireworks (purchasing and selling) in the unincorporated areas of Schleicher County. An offense is a Class C Misdemeanor. The Success story stated all fireworks were banned in the county. All fireworks are banned only in the city limits.

A. No person may sell, detonate, ignite, or in any way use fireworks classified under 49 C.F.R. part. 173.100(r)(2)(10-1-86 edition), as "skyrockets with sticks" and "missiles with fins" in any portion of the unincorporated area of Schleicher County

B. This Order does not prohibit:

1. Common fireworks, small in size classified as Class C explosives;

2. Large fireworks devices designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation and classified as Class B explosive by the U.S. Dept. of Trans. (TEX. OCC. CODE, Chapter 2154).

It should be noted that the sale or discharge of fireworks of any type is unlawful within the city limits of the City of Eldorado



Jason Richters and Kerri Baskin

Baskin/Richters to marry

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Baskin, Jr. of Crosbyton are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kerri, to Jason Richters of Eldorado, Texas. The wedding will take place July 31, 2004 at the First Baptist Church in Eldorado.

The prospective bride is a graduate of Crosbyton High School and is employed by Drs. Gregory and Mahaney in Lubbock. The prospective groom is a graduate of Eldorado High School and Sul Ross University. He will be employed as a teacher and coach with the Lubbock Roosevelt Independent School District.

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.

FLDS not associated with Latter-day Saints

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I would like to say that we are in no way affiliated with the Fundamentalists Later-day Saints (FLDS). In fact using the term "Mormon" or Latter-day Saint to describe polygamous groups creates confusion. A more accurate and less confusing description would be "polygamist group or polygamist movement."

Over a century ago, polygamy was one of the most hotly debated principles of the 19th century America and has given the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints a distinctiveness that has followed them into the 21st century. Polygamy was an important practice of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for more than half a century. The practice began during the lifetime of Joseph Smith, not from the founding of the church, and became publicly and more widely known during the time of Brigham Young.

Today, polygamy is outlawed in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This has been the case for more than a century. The penalty for a church member practicing polygamy would be excommunication or removal from the church. Our new neighbors and other polygamist groups have caused much confusion for casual observers.

Most early converts to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were raised in monogamous homes and struggled with the idea of a man having more than one wife. It says a lot about the faith early members had in their leaders excepting it as a commandment of God. Even Young himself who had many wives and children confessed of his dread of the principle of plural marriage but accepted it as a commandment of our Heavenly Father.

While not all early member families of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints practiced plural marriage, it was widespread enough among early settlers of the Utah Territory to bring political opposition from the government of the United States. In fact only about three percent of the men in the Church practiced plural marriage. The government outlawed the practice and jailed many Church officials and confiscated Church property. Abandoning plural marriage was one of the

set conditions that was to be met before the Utah Territory could receive statehood.

Under these circumstances, Wilford Woodruff, the fourth president of the Church in 1890, received a revelation to withdraw the practice of plural marriage. Woodruff saw what would have become of the Church in this revelation if the church did not obey the government. In his "Manifesto" which is written declaration to church members and the public, he stated that the practice of plural marriage was to be stopped. He emphasized "that church members should refrain from contracting in any marriage forbidden by the law of the land." The media, at the time, suggests that polygamy was discontinued in return for statehood. The Manifesto, however, makes no mention of statehood. Persecution was nothing new to members of the church, abandoning a key principle of the church for statehood was false. "Any change had to come by revelation. I should have let all the temples go out of our hands. I should have gone to prison myself and let every man go there, had not the God of heaven commanded me to do what I did...I wrote what the Lord told me to write," stated Woodruff.

The leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints view the practice of plural marriage as a commandment of God for that period of time. Now that the commandment is no longer in place, Church leaders speak out against its practice. Gordon B. Hinckley, the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints today, says, "I wish to state caegorically that this Church has nothing whatever to do with those practicing polygamy. They are not members of this Church. Most of them have never been members. If any of our members are found to be practicing plural marriage, they are excommunicated, the most serious penalty the Church can impose. More than a century ago, God clearly revealed that the practice of plural marriage should be discontinued, which now means it is against the law of God." Speaking of those who continue to practice plural marriage, President Hinckley said, "They are in violation of the civil law. They know they are in violation of the law. They are subject to its penalties."

Gary Grubbs

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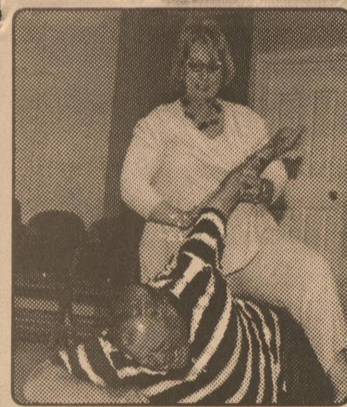
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Where did dinosaurs come from and is there scientific evidence for the inspiration of the Bible? These questions and many more will be answered during the series "Christian Evidences" offered by the Eldorado Church of Christ.

Branyon May, an intern with Apologetic Press, a nonprofit organization overseen by the Church of Christ that focuses on teaching Christian evidences and defending New Testament Christianity will be the key speaker presenting "Christian Evidences" June 27-30, 2004 at the Eldorado Church of Christ on the Mertzon Highway.

Christian Evidences, as the name states, is a study of evidence, both biblical and secular, supporting the Christian faith and the tenets it is built upon; Existence of God, Inspiration of the Bible, Deity and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

First of the series will start on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. The series will continue Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. and continue Monday through Wednesday evening beginning at 6:00 p.m. A meal will be served after each service.

On Tuesday evening the "CFS" (Craiker Family Singers) will perform after the meal.

Everyone is encouraged to come and fellowship. For more information contact Ray Don McIntosh at 325-853-2124 or 325-811-3751.

Branyon is a recent graduate of Angelo State University Physics Department and his wife Alana is a 2000 graduate of Eldorado High School and also a recent graduate of Angelo State University in Physics. Alana is the daughter of Katrina Gonzales. The couple will soon be moving to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to attend the University of Alabama's graduate program in Astrophysics.



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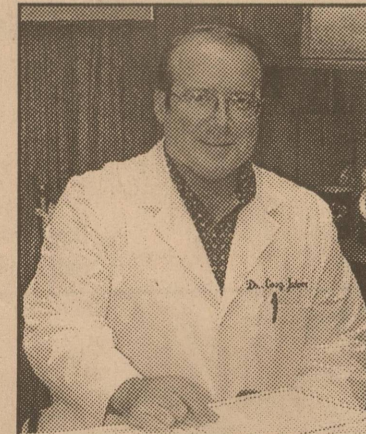
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Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg fly high in "The Terminal"

by *The Movie Man*

Amazing! A movie about dodgeball performed better than a film laden with time-proven talent.

Now, if that latter movie had been last week's sorry *The Stepford Wives* (don't fall for those lukewarm "positive" reviews), the Movie Man would certainly agree with the dodgeballing. But it's *The Terminal* starring Tom Hanks and the terrific Steven Spielberg.

And it wasn't even close; the team of Hanks and Spielberg got clobbered by Ben Stiller-Vince Vaughn. (*The Movie Man* should note that he's a Stiller fan and a big advocate of Meet the Parents and, especially, Zoolander.)

It'd be hard to name a duo with more success than Spielberg and Hanks. (Well, it's not impossible: George Lucas and Harrison Ford [or Spielberg and Ford, for that matter].)

It's no secret that the Hollywood elite enjoyed withholding honors from Spielberg throughout a great chunk of his career.

Even early on when he created some of the greatest films ever - *Jaws*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *E.T.: the Extra-Terrestrial*, and *Jurassic Park*. These are beloved American movies, action-packed/touching and wonderfully made.

His serious turns were always shunned, perhaps because of simple jealousy. *The Color Purple* was completely shut out of Oscar honors. So was *Empire of the Sun*, maybe the most underrated movie ever made.

Finally, even Hollywood diehards had to admit that Schindler's List, released in 1993 (the same year as *Jurassic Park*) was that rarest of celluloid: An actual piece of art.

(While there is no such thing as a 10 [except *Movie Wife*, of course], *Schindler's List* has come closest. [Followed closely by *Braveheart*].)

But soon enough, the snubs returned. *Amistad* (with one of the best opening shots ever in a film) was dismissed in 1997.

However, the greatest insult of all



occurred in 1998 when the exceptionally overrated (and already forgotten) Shakespeare in Love beat Saving Private Ryan (with Hanks) for Best Picture. It's the greatest gyp in cinematic history. (At least Spielberg won Best Director.)

The Movie Man is impressed that Spielberg is so remarkably consistent - except for *Schindler's List* and *Saving Private Ryan*'s 8, every Spielberg picture has received a 7: *Jurassic Park* ('93); *Jurassic Park: The Lost World* ('97); *Amistad* ('97); *A.I.: Artificial Intelligence* ('01); *Minority Report* ('02), and *Catch Me if You Can* ('02).

No other director can even approach

that level of quality.

Spielberg, despised by many mainstream critics for what they see as pandering to maudlin and/or obvious emotional themes, is the best American filmmaker. Period.

The Movie Man, naturally, has heard the droning of David Lynch/Martin Scorsese/Wes Anderson/Quentin Tarantino (ugh!)/etc. lovers. But they are all wrong.

Just because you're popular doesn't mean you've sold out. You don't have to be off-the-wall or "daring" to lead the pack. Spielberg is the perfect example of that.

If only he could've beaten that dodgeball movie...

The plot...

Viktor (Hanks) arrives at JFK Airport in New York City from an Eastern European country.

Hanks has come on a mission, but it gets delayed - substantially - when it's discovered that his country has had a coup while he was in the air and his homeland

"no longer exists."

That puts Hanks and airport boss Frank (Stanley Tucci), who is up for a promotion, in a tough spot. Hanks doesn't qualify for any kind of diplomatic way out of his situation.

So Tucci gives Hanks a few food vouchers and tells him to stay in the airport. To Tucci's amazement, Hanks does remain at JFK, eventually becoming what Tucci perceives as a pest.

Meanwhile, Hanks becomes friends with airport workers and meets beautiful, if messed up, flight attendant Amelia (Catherine Zeta-Jones).

Hanks continues to wait. Months pass. Eventually, he gets a break and, with the help of his new friends (and despite Tucci), Hanks heads out into New York to complete the his mission.

What works...

Hanks, with Denzel Washington, is the best actor in America. His range (and choices [even considering the "dud" that this year's *The Ladykillers* was]) is exceptional.

With an accent that requires a bit of work to understand, Hanks creates a wonderful character (based on a true, if highly jacked-up, story).

Another bonus is Tucci. He's channeling Peter Sellers here and is convincing in the same way Sellers could emote exasperation. The biggest laughs in the movie come from Tucci's "what next?!" expressions. This is the second role in two weeks that should merit award attention; last week it was Glenn Close in the abysmal *Stepford Wives*.

The background characters fare well, too. Especially INS agent Zoe Saldana who must deny Hanks exit from the airport day after day.

Spielberg's camera is its usual remarkable character. Few can frame a shot and light it as well as he does. The film is flawlessly directed.

Best scene...

In a wordless sequence, both Hanks and Spielberg show their skill.

Hanks, penniless and hungry, figures out that the way to make money in an airport is to return luggage shuttles for a quarter.

He alternates between madly dashing about the place scrounging up carts - even if it means dumping children out of them - and pouring his change onto the Burger King counter to eat larger and larger meals. It's a wonderful sequence, played and assembled perfectly.

What doesn't work...

Early on, Spielberg falls back on the old trick of spinning the camera around the main character during a scene to illustrate his confusion. That's an old ruse he doesn't need.

Zeta-Jones, still a stunner even though she smokes when pregnant (which, of course, has little to do with her role, but, ugh, gross!), has a mostly do-nothing part and that's what she does with it.

While Hanks' final exit is well-handled, the completion of his mission is anticlimactic.

The rating...

This is the mildest PG-13 ever. A couple of swear words (used to fine comic effect) and drug mention apparently pushed this up a rating level. But it's no more than a PG.

Summing up...

Spielberg is the Randy Johnson of filmmakers. (*The Movie Man* would've used Nolan Ryan but too many readers are too young to know the Ryan Express.) When he pitches, great things are expected.

Spielberg has crafted a 3-hitter. Not bad.

Consumer Confidence Report 2003

(Drinking Water Quality Report)

CITY OF ELDORADO

Phone No: (325) 853-2691

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED

by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and they have determined that certain water quality issues exist which prevent our water from meeting all of the requirements as stated in the Federal Drinking Water Standards. Each issue is listed in this report as a violation and we are working closely with the TCEQ to achieve solutions.

En Espanol

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o discusiones sobre este reporte en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (325) 853-2691 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: July 12, 2004
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: City Hall at 6 S. Cottonwood
Phone No: (325) 853-2691

Where do we get our drinking water?
Our drinking water is obtained from Ground water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: EDWARDS-TRINITY PLATEAU. The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s). This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in this assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection activities.

Secondary Constituents

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Treatment Technique (TT)

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL)

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

MFL - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

pCi/l picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ALL drinking water may contain contaminants.

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants.

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

About The Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water. U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents.

Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Constituent	Average of All Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Unit of Measure	Reason for Monitoring
1999-2002	Chloroform	1.24	0.0000-4.6000	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants
1999-2002	Bromoform	0.38	0.0000-1.0000	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants

2070001

Page 3

1999-2002	Dibromochloromethane	0.24	0.0000-0.6000	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants
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Lead and Copper

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2002	Lead	1.3000	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Copper	0.1060	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

Inorganics

Year	Constituent	Highest Level at Any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2002	Barium	0.139	0.1390-0.1390	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Fluoride	1.9	1.9000-1.9000	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2003	Nitrate	3.38	0.0000-3.3800	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Selenium	2.7	2.7000-2.7000	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
2002	Gross alpha adjusted	7	4.5000-7.0000	15	0	pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Combined Radium 226 & 228	1.3	0.9000-1.3000	5	0	pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Gross beta emitters	5.1	3.0000-5.1000	50	0	pCi/l	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

NA = MCL not applicable - not regulated. Special Monitoring Requirement.

Organics NOT TESTED FOR OR NOT DETECTED

Disinfection By-Products NOT TESTED FOR OR NOT DETECTED

Unregulated Contaminants

Total Coliform NOT DETECTED

Fecal Coliform NOT DETECTED

Solution to puzzle on Page 2

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

Three cool pools beat the Texas heat

Barton Springs/Hamilton Pool/Krause Springs

by Mark K. Campbell

It might've been the final days of spring but, as we all know, summer in Texas arrives well before June.

The heat index was poking around 100 on the days we decided to visit a trio of unique swimming holes. We found three in a 60-mile line (sort of). The threesome all shared being spring-fed and all were naturally crowded with hot folks looking to cool off for a spell.

And each had suffered from recent heavy rains. One in particular.

But there were quite different in other ways. A city, one by a county, and one own one privately. That had quite a bearing on how much fun you could have.

Barton Springs

There are plenty of urban swimming holes in the state, but none are like Barton Springs Pool. In Austin just south of Town Lake, it's a "city" pool visited by generations of locals as well as folks who have traipsed quite a ways to plunge into its almost-cold waters. Like Poland.

Some find joy in swimming in cold water and Barton Springs is cold. It averages 68 degrees; on the day we were there - with hundreds and hundreds of others - it was 70 degrees which made zero difference: You still numbed up pretty quick.

The pool area, which became part of a city park in 1917, is three acres within the 358 acres of Zilker Park. Austinites are famed for being outdoorsy sorts and they flood this park. It has soccer fields, a disc golf course, hiking trails, playgrounds, a train, a statue, and, of course, Barton Springs Pool.

Someone also figured out a way to cash in on the park's popularity. It costs \$3 per vehicle to enter on "weekends, holidays, and special events." That can stack up the traffic out on Riverside Drive.

As expected on a hot, sunny day, the place was packed. People were sprawled everywhere. We stood in line, paid our \$3 (adults; \$2 junior, 12-17; and \$1 for those 11 and under and seniors), checked out Philosophers Rock - a bronze sculpture of naturalist Ray Bedichek, historian Walter Prescott Webb, and writer J. Frank Dobie shooting the breeze in swimming trunks - and entered.

We've been going to this pool since the mid-70's when there was no better place on the planet to go people watching. That still seems to be the case. Every attractive teenager and 20-something was splayed out on a beach towel, oiled up and baking in the relentless sun. Telling them how, in 20 years, they'd regret broiling their now shockingly-wrinkled skin would've been a waste of breath, of course.

Naturally, there were plenty of other people not even close to being attractive, but they too donned bikinis (women) or went shirtless (men). On the way out of town, we saw a guy who had done both. It was horrible.

The changing areas are walled but open air - and the place were nude sunbathing is allowed. Needless to say, it's quite a shock to see that sort of thing when you just want to slip into your Speedo. In the men's section, we had one sun worshipper who had apparently misplaced his Speedo... and everything else he owned.

The pool is a long rectangle. One end is shallow and where families congregate. In the middle is the diving area - the pool goes from wade-able to over 15 feet deep suddenly - where, under the diving board, the actual springs comes out. The far end is deeper and the only place where floats are

allowed. All the folks who have spent hours and thousands of dollars in the gym are on this end.

The pool is home to the rare Barton Springs salamander, a lungless critter that lives only there and a few places nearby. It's an endangered species so don't try to catch one. The pool is run by the City of Austin and, being liberal Austin and all, they'd probably put you in prison if you tried to, say, do a cannonball on one.

The spring enters the shallow end, is dammed up, and then flows out the other end. Just where the water exits en route to the nearby Colorado River, scores of people who didn't want to pay the entry fee enjoyed the cool water for free. It wasn't nearly as deep but you could take your dogs there and they really seemed to like cooling off.

None of the three parks we visited permitted pets so Callie, the 5.3-pound schnoodle, had to stay home on this trip.

Barton Springs is mostly a people-watching locale. Yes, water exercisers like lap swimmers come and go in the mornings before anyone else arrives. But, the pool is flat-out sedate compared to the activity just on the other side of the fence where dogs and their owners romped. They seemed to be having a lot more fun. Inside the pool area, pretty people did pretty much nothing but lay around.

The bottom of the pool is natural, filled with mud, rocks, and plant life so be prepared for some squishy steps.

Considering its urban location, this was a nice pool - hey, Robert Redford learned to swim there as a boy - but nicer ones awaited.

Hamilton Pool

This unique hole, like most Texas streams and pools, was once a gathering place for Native Americans. About 30 miles west of Austin, the pool, run by Travis County, is part of a wider preserve. The place is 13 miles off Highway 71, in the middle of nowhere, it seems.

There are two tricks to this place. One is to get there early. Once 80-100 cars are in the place - the maximum, depending on how people park, according to the



PHOTO BY PAULA CAMPBELL

Barton Springs -- The springs enters the swimming area at this shallow end. The pool, which can be walked completely around, gets progressively deeper.

official there - no more cars are permitted in until another leaves. One in, one out. It's not uncommon for a line to form on summer afternoons; it could take up to an hour to get in, the guy said.

The fee is \$8 per vehicle. Pedestrians, should someone have actually hiked that distance, and bikers pay \$3 each.

The other trick is to know whether swimming is actually allowed that day. It was not on our arrival, the second time that happened. The first time was three years ago because of a drought. This time severe flooding had jacked up the bacterial level in the pool, much of it caused by the runoff of cow stuff from the pastures above.

Still, there is enough to do at Hamilton Pool even without swimming in the hole.

A single trail - quite steep and much of it over natural rock - T's into another path. The one to the right goes to the pool. To the left, .8 miles away, is the Pedernales River.

Both trails are testy. The pool is much closer, less than a quarter

mile from the T. It's substantially cooler in this riparian atmosphere, a nice respite from the broiling upland above. Huge cypress trees abound as the paths hug the stream often.

At the pool, it's possible to completely walk around it. But there are some steep areas and a couple of places where you have to squeeze through some big rocks. The water is Caribbean-like, green-blue and clear, in the "collapsed grotto." You can hike directly behind the waterfall and, scores of feet under a huge limestone overhang, over to an area where ferns are constantly filtering water.

Above are stalactites, also sharing their water. There's a small sandy beach at the opposite end of the waterfall. About 75,000 people a year visit Hamilton Pool. Those physically disabled can be accommodated with advance notice; there's a drive used just by workers there that cuts off much of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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Closed Saturday
Sunday 8:00-2:00



PHOTO BY PAULA CAMPBELL

Statue -- The author, trying to get across his point that John Graves is the best Texas writer, can't get the attention of some of Austin's favorite, if dead, authors at Philosophers Rock at Barton Springs Pool.



X BAR RANCH DINNER SHOW

June 26 Biscuits O'Bryan-As the cook for the I.O. Everybody Ranch, Biscuits has entertained audiences across the nation with history, clean humor, stories, poems and cowboy philosophy. He delights both young and old leaving smiles on their faces and a better understanding of the cowboy way of life. Biscuits received the Will Rogers Award from the Academy of Western Artists in 2003 for Best Humorist/Storyteller.

MENU: Grilled Country-Style Ribs & Sausage, Fresh Summer Fruits & Vegetables and Homemade Desserts.
DATE: June 26; **TIME:** 7:00 P.M. meal served +/- 7:30 p.m.
PRICE: \$14.50 per adult and \$8 per child (6-12)

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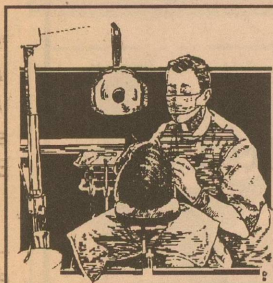


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Nowhere to run -- Volunteer firefighter Kary Gibson made use of Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative's bucket truck Tuesday evening to gain access to a swarm of bees in the attic of the old jail building on the courthouse square. Fortunately, the bee suit afforded some protection since Gibson had nowhere to run once the operation started.

Eldorado Weather

Fri 6/25	Sat 6/26	Sun 6/27	Mon 6/28	Tue 6/29
84/64	89/67	88/66	84/67	90/69
Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.	Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.



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1:45 4:15 6:50 9:20
- **"THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK"**
(PG-13)
dts 1:00 3:45 6:45 9:30
2:00 4:45 7:30 10:00
- **VAN HELSING** (PG-13)
1:30 4:20 7:00 9:50
- **RAISING HELEN** dts (PG-13)
1:50 4:30 7:10 9:50
- **TROY (R)**
1:15 4:40 8:00

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Texas pools beat the summer heat

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

the pool walk.

At the end of the other trail flows the Pedernales. It's a moderately-rugged hike with dips and turns through more natural, slick-from-wear, rock. When the path is adjacent to the clear stream, you can see minnow, bream and large-mouth bass. Other times the trail veers back up into the canyon and, at one point, through a grassy area. You'll need good shoes here.

But the cool Pedernales awaits. It flowed smoothly past and a trip out to some gigantic rocks to just sit in the passing water was worth the hike. Even if it did take 20 minutes to get all the small rocks out of my sneakers.

Hamilton Pool is a day park. It closes, with a locked gate, at 6 p.m. and no one is admitted after 5:30. There's no water, no drinks, no nothing available. And it's 13 miles back to the highway intersection. So come prepared.

Krause Springs

These pools — there are two — are on private land and have been one of Central Texas' well-kept secrets.

The Krause home is about 35 miles west of Austin, not too distant from Hamilton Pool, back up and west on Highway 71. You turn at the Exxon in Spicewood on County Road 404 and you'll see a sign just past a sharp turn in the road.

This is one laid back place. You find a place to park in a grassy field

near the house. (And don't block people in as some folks did.) After signing a waiver, you pay your \$3 each to a guy who is as friendly as an uncle.

"You'll probably want to stay to the left," he said and he was right.

Immediately below — after I could tear my wife away from an impressive garden at the front of the house — is a 70' x 20' swimming pool created by routing springs through it. Families frolicked here. Yes, the water's cold!

Skirting the pool to the left, you find an exceptionally steep (and wet from travelers) staircase. That leads down to the natural pool below in Cypress Creek. Everywhere people had laid down towels or chairs and just parked themselves on the limestone. The pool was large enough for scores of swimmers and deep enough for a rope swing to be employed.

A waterfall, from the swimming pool above, tumbles through a fern-laden cliff.

Upstream, others simply sat in the shallow water, adjusting their posteriors occasionally on the cypress roots that ran willy-nilly over the rock stream bed.

Camping is available here. Plenty of people take advantage

of that. And more use the scattered picnic areas with barbecue pits. So many people were cooking that it smelled great at Krause Springs.

The best natural waterfall is accessible without venturing down that daunting stairway. Trails from the house and camping area merge behind the bathroom and lead to the waterfall. It's still steep here, mostly dirt with a little rock, but not as wet.

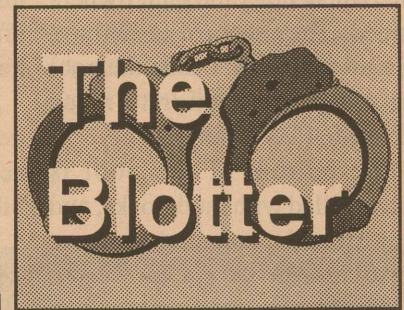
You can get right into the falls which, like other Central Texas springs, average 70 degrees. It's invigorating or startling, depending on how hot you are.

The Krauses slowly improved the property year after year after acquiring the land in totality in the 1950.

The grounds, which include a giant wind chime and a large bell, are terrific — the site is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places and has the plaque to prove it — and some of the cypress trees are simply monstrous, perhaps over 1,000 years old.

Krause Springs is very family oriented. The place opens at 9 a.m. and closes at dusk.

If you forget important things like water and food, back up the road is that Exxon — probably the best stocked Exxon on the planet.



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

June 16 • Barker, J.B. Louis, male age 26, arresting officer S.C. deputy, offense Motion to Revoke and Theft by Check, Released on \$1000.00 Surety Bond and \$500.00 Surety Bond.

June 19 • Johnson, Charles William, male age 30, arresting officer S.C. deputy, offense Possession of a Controlled Substance, Released on \$2000.00 Surety Bond (Concho Bail Bonds).

Incidents

June 15 • 5:20 p.m. Menard County S.O. called to report a fire at the county line East 190, Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded.

June 16 • 1:45 a.m. Complainant reported that there was a Possessum on her front porch. Officer responded.

• 9:49 a.m. Complainant requested to speak to an officer to a confrontation with another subject. Officer responded.

• 6:39 p.m. Complainant called and requested an officer to her home. Officer responded.

• 11:44 p.m. Complainant called to report a suspicious vehicle. Officer responded.

June 17 • 12:07 a.m. Complainant reported that there was something in her back yard. Officer responded.

• 2:20 p.m. Complainant stated that someone had stolen her son's wallet.

• 5:45 p.m. Complainant called and requested to speak to an officer about a snake at his residence. Officer responded.

• 8:31 p.m. Complainant called and requested to speak with an officer about a dog that had been chasing his daughter. Complainant also advised his daughter had sprang her knee running from the dog. Officer spoke to owner and advised that dog is to be tied up.

• 8:36 p.m. Complainant called and requested to speak with officer about a vehicle driving recklessly and also had run over her dog. Officer responded.

• 9:51 p.m. Complainant called and reported a grass fire on 190 West. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded.

June 18 • 3:40 p.m. Complainant requested a basic transfer to Shannon. EMS responded.

• 4:26 p.m. Complainant requested to speak to an officer. Officer responded.

• 9:34 p.m. Reported grass fire on 190 West County Road 408. Powerline was down. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded and WTU.

June 19 • 6:44 a.m. Caller spotted a fire on 190 West. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded.

• 6:46 p.m. Caller spotted a fire on 190 West. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded.

June 20 • 12:10 p.m. Complainant reported that there was a fight at the baseball field. Officers responded.

June 21 • 4:40 p.m. Complainant requested an officer help her in lifting a male subject. Officer responded.

• 7:57 p.m. Complainant reported a grass fire. Officer and Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded.

• 9:09 p.m. Complainant requested a officer deliver a message to a male subject. Officer responded.

• 9:38 p.m. Complainant reported some suspicious vehicles. Officer responded.

• 10:26 p.m. Complainant reported a grass fire. Christoval Fire Dept. responded.

• 11:41 p.m. Complainant reported a grass fire. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Dept. responded.

• 5:57 p.m. Complainant reported two horses loose near the wool house. Officer responded.

June 22 • 2:00 a.m. Complainant reported that there was a water leak at the Eldorado Place Apts. The city was contacted.

• 8:28 a.m. Hospital called and requested a basic transfer to Community Hospital. EMS responded.

Award-Winning Tastes



Greek Style Salad With Lemon Pepper Dressing

Photos courtesy of Veg-All

What's for dinner?

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

Answering the "What's for dinner?" question isn't always an easy task. When you're looking for a fresh idea, adding an unexpected twist to a popular recipe or using some of your favorite ingredients in a different way can produce some amazingly delicious results.

When a leading brand of canned mixed vegetables sponsored a national recipe contest recently, judges were impressed with the culinary creativity contestants brought to the table.

Greek Style Salad With Lemon Pepper Dressing
— Barbara Lento, Aliquippa, Pa.
1/4 cup pine nuts

- 3 cups water
- 1/2 cup uncooked orzo pasta
- 1 can (15 ounces) Veg-All Original Mixed Vegetables, drained
- 1/2 cup diced red pepper
- 1/2 cup diced green pepper
- 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup quartered black olives
- 2 scallions (or green onions), thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon whole cumin seeds
- 1/4 teaspoon dried dill weed
- Lettuce

- Dressing:**
- 1/4 cup olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 - 1/2 teaspoon lemon pepper
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt

Garnish:

- 1 medium cucumber, peeled and sliced
 - 10 to 20 grape tomatoes
1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Bake pine nuts for 4 minutes; set aside.
 2. In 3 cups boiling water, cook orzo pasta for 9 minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water. Let stand in strainer.
 3. In small mixing bowl, mix all ingredients for dressing; set aside.
 4. In large salad bowl, toss all ingredients for salad except lettuce. Add dressing; mix well.
 5. Serve on bed of lettuce; garnish with cucumber slices and grape tomatoes.

Servings: 6

For more recipes, visit www.veg-all.com

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GARAGE SALES, YARD SALES & BAKE SALES

Eldorado - 2 Family Garage Sale - Friday, June 25, 206 N. Poplar (Rosa Fuentes) 8:00 a.m. - ???, Little Bit of Everything. 27p

Eldorado - Garage Sale: 307 Bailey, Saturday, June 26; 8:00 - ???, Boys clothes, toys, sofa, tables, men & women clothes, lots of misc. items. 27p

Two estate sale furniture: Queen bed, recliners, chairs, occasional tables, new lt. blue/cream couch, navy/white print couch, beautiful pine dining table and 6 chairs, oak w/hunter green trim table & 5 chairs, hide-a-bed \$89, twin mattress set \$69, futon, old white wicker dressing table & chair, gold upholstered chairs, green stripe chair, white antique rocker, lamps, oil paintings, color tv's, etc. CONSIGNORS MUST CALL AHEAD BEFORE BRINGING IN CLOTHING AND/OR FURNITURE all must be in good condition. Second Hand Rose, Eldorado 853-3736.

Card of Thanks

Thanks to every team that participated in our Annual Co-Ed Softball Tournament. To the people that provided the P.A. system, the concession stand, everyone that helped call games a special thanks to those that helped clean up. May the Lord God Bless You. Knights of Columbus

The family of W.R. Davidson wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to each person that showed their love and concern during our loss with calls, food, cards, memorials, prayers.

God Bless You, Anne Dolye Davidson

Schleicher County Nursing Home can't thank you enough for your help with the purchase of a brick paver to improve the patio area.

Thanks again for your help! Linda H. Rodgers, Lucille McWhorter, Stuart Williams, Sid and Susanna Johnson, Peggy Ussery, Marion Porter, Shine Spigarilli, Mabel Freitag, Frances Peters, Norma Lynn Mund, Manula Espinosa, Nevella Sallee, Jack & Peggy Williams, Mr. & Mrs. Gene McCalla, Darlene Hardesty, J.R. Sparks, Ann B. Barker, Jill Preston, Leslie Bassinger, Tim Vasquez.

Annie Arispe, Activity Director

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for helping us celebrate our graduation and for all the gifts and cards. We would also like to thank all the Teachers, Principals, and anyone else that took the time to help us and support us all our years in school.

Marco and Virgilio Escobar

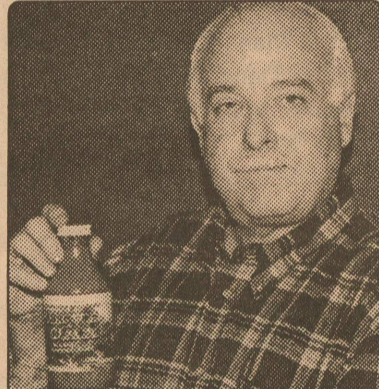
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Eldorado Spotlight



This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on 2-year-old Kimberly Martinez. When the Spotlight camera caught up with Kimberly she was receiving a bicycle safety helmet from the Safe Kid Coalition's "Helmet Lady" Catie Wiedenhofer during the Bike Helmet Give a Way sponsored by Schleicher County Medical Center and Schleicher County EMS.

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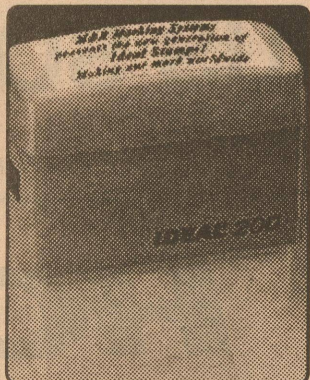
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Sealed bids, addressed to the Schleicher County Commissioners' Court will be received by the County Clerk, until 10:00 a.m. **June 28, 2004**, when such bids will be opened in the Commissioner's Courtroom for the purchase of:

One Transport DIESEL FUEL
Price shall include all taxes applicable

The Commissioners Court has the right to accept or reject any and all bids submitted.

Peggy Williams
County & District Clerk
P.O. Drawer 580
Eldorado, Texas 76936
(325) 853-2833

Buy a Brick, Build a Memory, At Schleicher County Nursing Home

Cost of 4" X 8" Brick \$50.00

Please join us in honoring your loved one by placing a permanent reminder of their time with us. Proceeds from the brick sales will offset the construction work required to improve the patio area.

F.M.I. contact Annie Arispe at 325-853-2507, ext. 107.

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TexSCAN

TexSCAN Week of June 20, 2004

AUCTION
ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION. Selling regardless of price. June 26, 11:07 a.m., 6 miles N. of Cortez, CO. 6 acres, home, machine shop, barn, 2 buildings, water rights, horse pasture. Hwy. frontage, not zoned, spectacular views. Pacific Auction Exchange: 1-877-612-8494 or www.auction-works.com

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DRIVERS - SINGLES START at .34 cents. Teams at .41 cents. Also, hiring Owner/Operators and CDL graduates. OTR, dedicated and regional. USA Truck. 1-800-237-4642.

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ATTENTION CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICERS. Apply to become a Wichita Falls, Texas Police Officer. Excellent base salary of \$38,833.60. Call 1-940-761-7615 for information or check www.cwftx.net

HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE STUDENTS arriving August need host families. Local representatives also needed to work with students/families. American Intercultural Student Exchange - 1-800-SIBLING, www.aise.com

WANTED! QUALIFIED PERSONS to go to college full-time and get paid for it. Call the Texas Army National Guard at www.1-800-Go-Guard.com

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NOW HIRING 2004 Postal positions. Federal, state and local. \$14.80 - \$48+/hour. No experience necessary. Entry level, full benefits, paid training. Call 7 days for information, toll free, 1-888-826-2513, Ext. 152.

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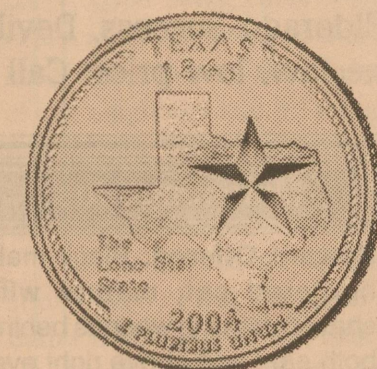
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U.S. Mint releases new Texas Quarter

It is said that everything is bigger in Texas, and on June 10, 2004 the launch of the Texas commemorative quarter-dollar coin was no exception. Staged around the 35-foot-tall bronze Lone Star sculpture in front of the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin, the kick-off for the 28th commemorative quarter-dollar of the popular 50 State Quarters® Program was a larger-than-life Texas celebration with mariachis and free barbecue. Each child who attended the ceremony received a shiny, new Texas quarter, and adults exchanged their bills with local celebrities who handed out rolls of new quarters.

The design by Daniel Gene Miller of Arlington was chosen from nearly 2,600 design concepts submitted in the Texas Quarter Dollar Coin Design Advisory Committee. The Texas Numismatic Association narrowed the design contenders down to 17 finalists which went before the committee. The committee then narrowed the field down to five, and Gov. Perry submitted the preferred design to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury



for approval.

The Texas quarter is the 28th release in the United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarters Program. It marks the third quarter release of 2004. State quarters release order coincides with state's entry into the Union. The program began in 1999 and will conclude in 2008 when the 50th quarter-Hawaii's-is released. Texas was admitted into the Union on Dec. 29, 1845, making in the 28th state.

Texas quarters in two-roll sets and bags are available on the United States Mint's website at www.usmint.gov and by calling 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468). Lesson plans about the Texas quarter and the 27 previous quarters can be downloaded free from the website.

Mias Amigas Club meets

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the food will be placed on long tables for the enjoyment of all. Remember to bring a lawn chair. It will make visiting much more comfortable.

Saturday finds the group meeting in the Memorial Building at 8:30 a.m. for coffee and registration. At 9:30 the Old School Bell rings, and at 10:00 a.m. the general assembly occurs. The graduating classes of 1954 and 1984 will receive special recognition on their 50th and 20th anniversaries, respectively. At 11:30 a barbecue lunch will be served under the trees on the courthouse lawn. Lunch tickets (\$6.00 per person) will be available at the door for those who have not signed up yet.

Among other activities planned is a 40th reunion for the class of 1964.

Members of the 50-year Class of '54 are: Nell Williams Atchley, Fred Barrett, Ann Williams Brock, Fae Davis Conner, Jimmy Conner, Oretha Powell Dannheim, Jimmy Doyle, Billy Jack Ethredge, Janice Caleb Graves, Lynn Griffin, Alice Isaacs Henry, Frieda Yardly Hanusch, Alva Lee Harris, Clarice Dannheim Hurst, Carolyn Ratliff Humphrey, Glenna Edmondson Johnson, Jery Johnson,

Also, Wilma Lloyd Logan, Mickey McCown, Ramiro Minor, Gail Mittel, Raymond Mittel,

Trudy Gaynor Nilson, Jerry Perry, Kaye Dossett, Carey Frisby, Shirley Sofge Jackson, Jimmy Perry, Vernon Phillips, Carol Lyn Dickens Allen, Jack Stanford, Jorgi Lagow Stanford, Myrl Sudduth, Jack Steward, Robert Townsend, May Runge Kissko, Ann Williams Brock, Shirley Faulk, Ann Rogers Schooley, Alfred Ray Fore, Esther Jones Sofge, Frances Bauguess, Wayne Dickens, Bubba Alexander, Glen Richburg and Herbert Tree.

Members of the 20-year Class of '84 are: Rita Adame Raymond, Mary Grace Arebalo Gonzales, Norma Belman Bautisto, Trey Bradshaw, Luke Brame, Vikki Cavness Cathey, Ricky Cathey, Bill Cawley, Bill Clark, David Corbell, Tom Dean, Dora Fay Nance, Mary Guerrero Martinez,

Also, Letecia Fuentes Porras, Richard Gauna, Richard Gibson, Kelly Griffin, Mark Harder, Todd Harris, Margaret Jasso Cole, Quintin Killebrew, Laura Lozano, Thersa Marlow, Daniel Mejia, David Mejia, Steve Minor, Mitzi Mittel Mayfield, Charlotte Mobley Hill, George Orr, Gina Patton Donahue and Mark Payne, Michael Phillips, Sherry Powel Gilly, Gary Robinson, Jon Robledó, Ana Robles Herrera, Adon Santellano, Randy Scott, Gary Sharp, Manuel Tobiar, Margaret Turner, Douglas Ussery, Davina Vannett, Missy White Sims and, Terry White.

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