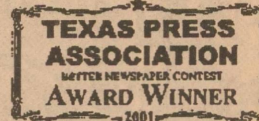


Remember
to VOTE in the
SCISD trustee
election on
Saturday!



Newman & Redish
claim Regional
doubles title

...see Page 4



THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 101, ISSUE 18

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

MAY 2, 2002

Sheriff's office recovers stolen car

Investigation leads to arrest of two San Angelo men

An investigation into the theft of a 2002 Pontiac Grand Prix in San Angelo last week, led to the recovery of the car in Eldorado, the arrest of the suspect in that case and the arrest of his brother on unrelated charges.

Maria Flores, owner of the Las Damas Bar on Martin Luther King Drive in San Angelo, reported the car stolen from in front of her business on Tuesday evening, April 23, 2002. It was found the next day in Eldorado, parked at the Texaco Star-Stop convenience store on North Divide Street. Investigators say that tips from confidential informants indicated that the car had been taken by Jesus Guerra, 23, of San Angelo. It was also believed that Guerra was still in Eldorado, hiding in a local residence.

Guerra was apprehended later in the day at a residence on East Fields Street by Sheriff David Do-

ran and three of his deputies. In an effort to serve an arrest warrant on Guerra, the officers attempted to gain entry to the house by having Deputy David Oliván, dressed in civilian clothes, knock on the door and ask for directions. The ruse failed, however, and the officers surrounded the home.

"We believed Guerra was in the house but we weren't sure," said Sheriff David Doran after the arrest. "We knocked several times but he refused to come to the door."

At that point, Chief Deputy George Arispe kicked in the back door and Sheriff Doran and Deputy Jason Chatham entered the residence with their pistols drawn. Moments later, Doran confronted Guerra inside the house and took him into custody. Guerra was booked into the Schleicher County Jail and charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. At

that point, officers discovered that Guerra was also wanted in Tom Green County on a warrant to revoke his probation on an earlier criminal trespass conviction.

As the officers continued their investigation, Guerra's brother, Isaias Guerra, 18, of San Angelo was interviewed at the Schleicher County Jail on Saturday, April 27. "We wanted to see if he had any information in this case," stated Deputy Chatham.

The younger Guerra offered the officers little in the way of useful information. However, while he was being interviewed, local dispatchers checked the statewide database and discovered that Isaias Guerra was also wanted in Tom Green County on a charge of burglary of a habitation. He was quickly taken into custody and booked into the jail.

Both men were arraigned before Justice of the Peace Jimmy Doyle. Jesse Guerra's bail was set at \$5,000.00 on the stolen car charge and \$5,000.00 on the motion to revoke his probation of a criminal trespass conviction. Meanwhile, a \$20,000.00 bond was set for Isaias Guerra on the burglary charge.

The brothers were then transferred to the Tom Green County Jail. Neither man had posted bond at press time.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Stolen car recovered — Deputy Jason Chatham searched for evidence last week inside this 2001 Pontiac Grand Prix. The vehicle, reported stolen in San Angelo the night before, was recovered the following day on the parking lot of the Texaco Star-Stop convenience store in Eldorado. Later in the day, Jesse Guerra, 22, of San Angelo was arrested at a residence on East Fields Street and charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Working together — A group of men worked to raise a cross on the courthouse lawn Saturday during the second annual Honor Bound Chivo Cookoff sponsored by Templo Getsemani Church. The exercise demonstrated that Christian men can accomplish great things if they labor in a spirit of cooperation.

Voters to decide 2 at-large seats on SCISD board

Schleicher County voters will decide two at-large seats on the SCISD board of trustees Saturday. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. in the Memorial Building and will remain open until 7:00 p.m.

SCISD Superintendent George Blanch explained that a settlement appears to have been reached in a lawsuit brought against the district by Albert and Ester Torres and Victor Belman. Blanch said that the two sides have filed an "agreed order" with U.S. District Court Judge Sam Cummins. If the judge concurs with the order, Saturday's election will go on as planned. Once the new board is seated, the school district will move toward redistricting again along six single-member district lines with one at-large district.

Interestingly, turnout in the early voting portion of the election has been much greater than in recent years when only single-member district seats were being decided. On Tuesday morning, more than 140 people had cast ballots in early voting.

Five candidates are sparring for the two open seats on the SCISD board of trustees. Incumbent trustee Jo Helen Kotsch, as well as Victor Belman, Lee Ann Higgins, John Paul Joiner and Tim Vasquez.

As is the custom, the results of the election will be posted in the window at the Success office as soon as the returns are made public Saturday night. Also, the results will be posted on the newspaper's website at www.myeldorado.net.

Churches open doors today for National Day of Prayer

The doors to several local churches will be open today and available for their members and guests who wish to participate in the National Day of Prayer.

President George W. Bush issued an annual proclamation, naming today, Thursday, May 2, 2002 as a National Day of Prayer. In it he said, "Especially since September 11, millions of Americans have been led to prayer. They have prayed for comfort in a time of grief, for understanding in a time of anger and for protection in a time of uncertainty. We have all seen God's great faithfulness to our country."

Churches across the nation are

opening their doors to those who seek the solitude of a quiet sanctuary. Among the churches to notify the Success of their plans include Agape Assembly of God, which will be open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. First Baptist Church will be open from 8:00 to 8:00 p.m. Primera Iglesia Bautista will also be opening its doors throughout the day. St. Luke's Baptist Church will be open during the noon hour and Community Baptist Church will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for those wishing to pray during their lunch break.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church is planning a Praise Service 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Graduating seniors targeted in voters registration push

AUSTIN — Secretary of State Gwyn Shea, working in collaboration with more than 1,800 high schools across the state, today unveiled a voter outreach effort directed at approximately 226,000 graduating high school seniors. High school campuses will receive graduation cards containing a voter registration application for each graduating senior the week of May 6.

Building on the success of this program first launched in 2001, Secretary Shea is continuing this effort to reach out to our young voters. "The youth of today are our leaders of tomorrow and if

they are not yet registered to vote, and are eligible to vote, they need to get involved in the electoral process—and the time for that is now! I will be traveling the state and am excited about visiting with soon-to-be graduates and sharing with them my experiences as a public servant, and more importantly, as a person who has been involved in the electoral process for years as an elected, and now, an appointed official. Voting is paramount—and I'm here to spread that message."

As part of a statewide public education effort, Secretary of State

ling City, Cross Plains, Ozona, Bangs, Ballinger, Bronte, Grape Creek and Rising Star. 104 students advanced from the try-outs and went on to participate in the Llano concert.

Seven students from Eldorado were selected to the All-District band and performed a concert on Saturday in Llano on Saturday, April 27.

Performing for the Eagles were: Brenc Minor (1st Chair Tuba), Liz Lacy (3rd Chair Clarinet) Rhapsody Swyter (5th Chair Flute), Diego Barrera (7th Chair Trombone), Hope Fuentes (10th Chair Flute), Liana Danford (12th Chair Flute) and Kristin Mittel (19th Chair Clarinet).

These students won the honor to play five music selections un-

der the direction of Mr. Ray Lashway of Lubbock. It took one hour for the band to learn each selection. Selections included: "Olympic Spirit March" by Ralph Gingery, "The Curse of Tutankhamun" by Michael Story, "Irish Tune from County Derry" arranged by Paul Cook, "Chips and Salas" by Michael Story and "Armed Forces on Parade" arrangement by Balent.

Students who also tried out Friday afternoon included: Rachel Joiner (Trumpet), Abel Montalvo (Trumpet), Michael Hill-Snare (1st Alternate), Brittany Jennings (Clarinet), Karina Sanchez (Clarinet). Johnny Larez (Trombone) qualified to go to the clinic/concert in Llano, but was unable to attend.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

All District Band — Claiming spots on the Middle School All-District Band for 2002 were: (Front L-R) Kristin Mittel, Hope Fuentes, Liz Lacy; (Back L-R) Diego Barrera, Brenc Minor, Liana Danford and Rhapsody Swyter. The contest was held here in Eldorado on Friday, April 26, 2002.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

OBITUARIES

Ruby Louise Walker

ELDORADO — Ruby Louise Walker, 91, died Saturday, April 27, 2002. Graveside service was held Tuesday, April 30, 2002, in Eldorado Cemetery. Arrangements were by Kerbow Funeral Home.

She was born on December 30th 1910 to E. D. and Ira Gregory in Aquilla, TX where she was raised as one of four children.

She leaves behind one son and

daughter-in-law, Lewis and Pagie Hughes of Tuscola. She is also survived by three grandchildren, including Lenette Doran of Eldorado, and four great-grandchildren.

For all who knew Ruby, she was a ray of sunshine each and every day. She will always be remembered for her beautiful smile and contagious laughter. She will be truly missed by all who knew her.

Hospital administrator attends annual TORCH conference

Ann Fagan-Cook, administrator of Schleicher County Medical Center, recently attended the Southwest Conference of Rural and Community Hospitals in Dallas. The three-day conference, sponsored by the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals (TORCH), featured educational programs about the changing rural healthcare environment. The focus was on developing transitional administrative techniques. Experts on hospital reimbursement and insurance topics, congressional and regulatory initiatives and many other health care issues were there to present.

"With all the challenges facing small hospitals in Texas, we must take every opportunity to understand how to best approach the issues that impact us," Ann Fagan-Cook said. TORCH is a consistent advocate for rural hospitals across the state. They supply us with information about issues, they lobby for our cause in the state legislature and they are the first group we seek when we need assistance with a new challenge."

Cook said that constant education is vital because health care is changing so rapidly. "Every time we think we have a problem solved or challenge met, we are faced

with a whole new set of issues that must be dealt with," she said. "TORCH and the annual Southwest Conference of Rural and Community Hospitals are two dynamic resources for learning about new opportunities and staying abreast with what is on the horizon for our hospital."

The TORCH Annual Conference was on March 27, 28, & 29, in Dallas. In addition to a full agenda of educational/informational sessions, the conference featured over 75 exhibits by companies and organizations that supply a huge array of products and services to rural hospitals. The trade show provides an outstanding opportunity for administrators to see the latest innovations in store for and available to rural health care providers.

TORCH, formed in 1990, is the only association in the state devoted exclusively to providing advocacy and leadership in addressing the special needs and issues of the state's rural and community hospitals. TORCH focuses on problems and challenges that are unique to general acute care hospitals of fewer than 150 beds.



All in the family — Counting the guest of honor there were 5 generations present to celebrate Verda Crumley's 102 Birthday recently at the Schleicher County Nursing Home. Pictured above are Verda Crumley (center), her daughter Nevella Sallee, grandson Roy Lynn Sallee, great-granddaughter Diane Faster, and great-great-grandchildren Blade and Paige.

Crumley marks 102nd birthday

Verda Crumley celebrated her 102nd birthday in April at the Eldorado Nursing home. She has been a resident there for 6 years and enjoys her friends here and the wonderful care she has received.

She was a native of McCulloch County, Salt Gap and Brady. Verda Montgomery was born April 12, 1900 in Llano and later moved to McCulloch County.

She married Habert Crumley Aug. 4, 1918 and they lived in McCulloch County all their married life. They were married for 76 years.

Verda was active in Church, 4-H Club, Senior Citizen Club, she enjoyed her neighbors and friends and grandchildren. She loves to play dominos and enjoyed working in her house and garden.

She has 3 children Clifton Crumley, Verda West of San Antonio TX, and Nevella Sallee of Eldorado TX.

She has 10 grandchildren, 25

great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren.

There were 25 relatives at the party with 2 sets of 5 generations there.



Five generations attended Verda Crumley's birthday party they included her daughter Nevella Sallee, grandson Roy Lynn Sallee, great-grandson Roy Allen Sallee and great-great-grandson Tyler.

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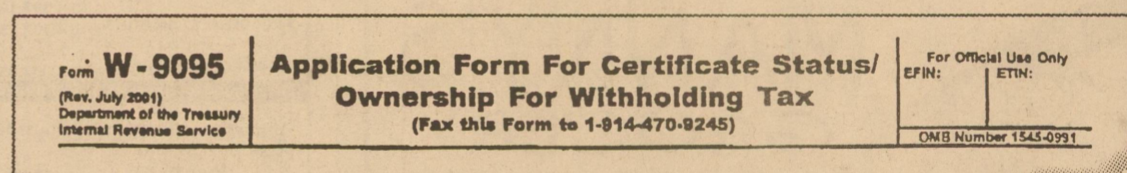
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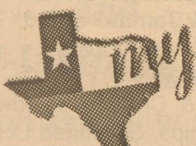


COURTESY PHOTO
Jaise Bosmans

Jaise Bosmans named to NJHS

Jaise Bosmans, daughter of Jimmy and Lillian Bosmans and granddaughter of Dora Bosmans of Eldorado, has been inducted in the National Junior Honor Society. She is a seventh grader at Monnig Middle School in Ft. Worth. Bosmans was among only 12 seventh graders to receive the honor. In all, there are 59 members of the NJHS at Monnig Middle School.

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Schleicher County Family Clinic

Newman & Redish win Regional doubles title, return to State

Gentry Newman and Christina Redish won the Region 1-2A tennis tournament on Thursday afternoon in Abilene at the ACU tennis facility. Newman and Redish defeated Abdullah and Abdullah from Clarendon 6-1, 6-3 to win the championship. In the semifinals Newman and Redish defeated Payne and Castaneda of Floydada 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 to advance to the championship round. In winning the regional crown the girls advance to the state tournament in Austin May 6 & 7. The will play at the Penick-Alison tennis stadium at the University of Texas.

The girls should be familiar with the surroundings. Newman was half of the team that won the State doubles title last year. She and partner Kayla McCravey defeated Redish and her teammate Lindsay Beach in an all-Eldorado final match.

In other region 1-2A action

Thomas Ballew and Bobby Phillips claimed third in the boys' doubles division by defeating teammates Buddy Greer and Quisto Gonzalez 6-4, 6-7, 6-1. With this victory Ballew completed a stellar career as an EHS player. Thomas is a four year varsity player who exited the high school tennis scene with a classy performance in the semifinals and third place match. All four of these boys had exceptional years.

In other girls' doubles action Courtney Brown and Courtney Sauer lost a tough quarterfinal match to Abdullah and Abdullah of Clarendon, 6-4, 7-5. Brown and Sauer also had terrific years on the tennis court for EHS.

Congratulations to all of the regional tennis qualifiers for representing themselves, their community, and their school exceptionally well at the Region 1-2A tennis tournament.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

State bound doubles team — Gentry Newman and Christina Redish are headed to the State Tennis Tournament in Austin. The girls are no stranger to the State Tournament. Newman and last year's partner Kayla McCravey defeated Redish and her partner Lindsay Beach to claim the State title in an all-Eldorado final match.

Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week



This week the Mighty Eagle Fan of the week is Wanda Edmiston. If you are chosen as Pizza Pro's Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week, cut out the ad, bring it by Pizza Pro and say, "I'm the Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week!" and receive a free pizza on us!



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Eldorado Youth Baseball			Eldorado Youth Baseball		
Majors	W	L	Minors	W	L
White Sox	4	0	Red Sox	3	0
Braves	1	2	A's	1	1
Tigers	0	2	Tigers	1	1
			Astros	0	2

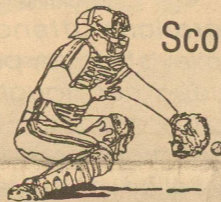
White Sox 2 - Tigers 1
White Sox 2 - Braves 1

Red Sox 7 - Astros 6
A's 12 - Tigers 11

Eldorado Youth Baseball
Jr. League 13's and 14's
Eldorado (1) 16 - SA Southern 6
Eldorado (2) 2 - SA Northern 3
Eldorado (1) 9 Eldorado (2) 8

Eldorado Youth Baseball
Sr. League 15's and 16's
Eldorado 3 - Ballinger 11

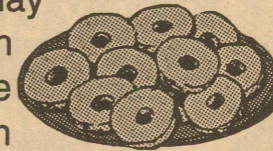
Eldorado Youth Baseball
Girls Softball
Angels 10 - Rookies 12
Angels 7 - Rookies 8
Untouchables 15 - Stars 18
Untouchables won over Angels (score unavailable)
Blue Jays scores will be posted next week



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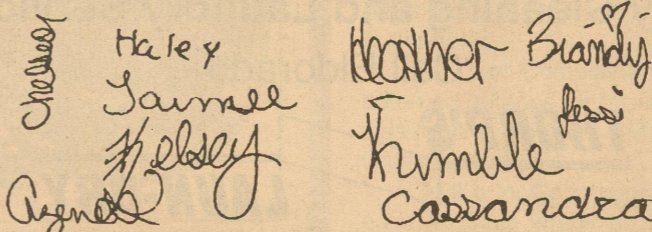
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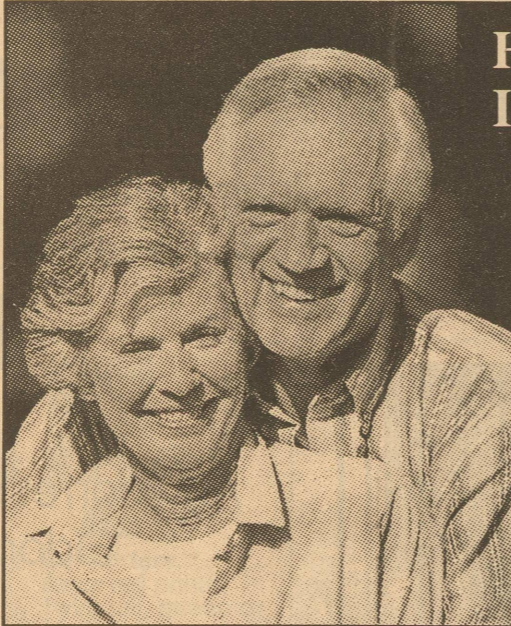
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Eagles tracksters compete at Region 1-AA meet in Abilene

Cool temperatures and drizzle kept the umbrellas open for the first several hours during the first day of the Regional 1-2A Track Meet in Elmer Gray Stadium at Abilene Christian University. Running in a fine mist, EHS freshman Eric Garcia set a personal best during the 3200 Meter Run, placing 10th with a time of 10:45.38. Garcia was in a very swift field with the 1st place going to Heath Wing, of Ralls HS, with a time of 9:47.55. Eric also ran the 1600 M on Saturday, finishing with a time of 5:07.09.

Christina Redish also fought back the drizzle during the first hours of the meet. The discus ring was kept dry with towels and leaf blowers. Redish placed 15th with a throw of 88-06 and did not ad-

vance to the finals.

Christina did a little better at shot-put but the cool damp weather took its toll on all the throwers. Redish placed 7th with a throw of 33-11.

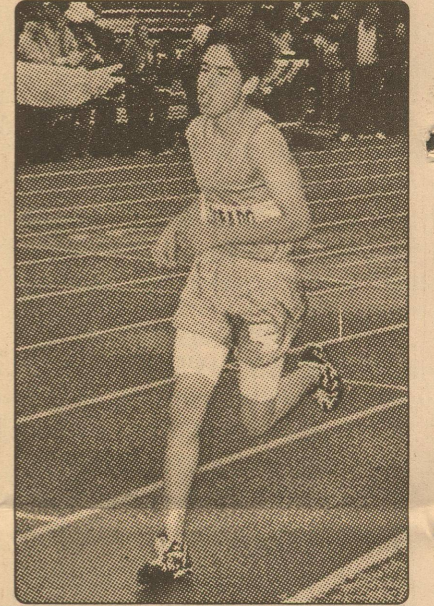


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Swift runner — Eric Garcia placed 10th in the 3200 Meter Run at the Region 1-AA Meet in Abilene last week with a time of 10:45.38. He also competed in the 1600 Meter Run, finishing in 5:07.09.

School Menu



Milk & Bread Offered
Menus Subject To Change
Cafeteria Line

- Monday, May 6**
Meat & Macaroni Casserole, Glazed Carrots, Green Beans, Cornbread, Peanut Butter Cookies
- Tuesday, May 7**
Beef Tacos, Tater Roundabouts, Whole Kernel Corn, Apple Sauce Cake w/ Icing
- Wednesday, May 8**
Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Jello w/ Topping
- Thursday, May 9**
Bologna & Cheese Sandwiches, Potato Chips, Shredded Lettuce & Tomatoes, Mixed Fruit
- Friday, May 10**
No School
- Breakfast**
½ pt. Milk & 4oz Juice Offered with each breakfast
- Monday, May 6**
Dry Cereal, Crackers
- Tuesday, May 7**
Honey Bun, Cheese Sticks
- Wednesday, May 8**
Muffin, Fruit
- Thursday, May 9**
Dry Cereal, Crackers
- Friday, May 10**
No School
- Fast Food Line**
- Monday, May 6**
Pizza, Tater Roundabouts, Peanut Butter Cookies
- Tuesday, May 7**
Steak Sandwich, Baked Potato w/ Sour Cream, Shredded Lettuce & Tomato, Apple Sauce Cake w/ Icing
- Wednesday, May 8**
Chili Crisptos w/ Cheese Sauce, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, French Fries, Jello w/ Topping
- Thursday, May 9**
Bologna & Cheese Sandwiches, Potato Chips, Shredded Lettuce & Tomatoes, Mixed Fruit
- Friday, May 10**
No School

Lucille Littlepage attends Sharp family reunion

On April 12-14, 2002 the children and descendants of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Sharp gathered at the Haskell National Bank Community Building for a reunion. They enjoyed lots of food, and lots of fond memories of growing up in the Rochester community and their school days there. Mr. and Mrs. Sharp farmed for many years around Rochester while raising 4 girls and 3 boys.

All seven of the children were present at the reunion. They are: Lucille (Sharp) Littlepage of Eldorado, Ruby (Sharp) Hubbard of Fort Worth, Jack and Velma Sharp Lusk of Haskell, John and Odessa (Sharp) Lewis of Odessa, Erwin and June Sharp of Lindale,

Wayne and Sarah Sharp of Electra, Dale and Jackie Sharp of Canton.

Nieces and nephews attending were Linda Godsey, Darlene Kee, Gayla Tatom, Gary and Judy Lewis, Jeremy Lewis, Ted Sharp, Kelli Adkison, Lynell Hare, April and Mikayla Hare, Steve Sharp, Brady Sharp.

Cousins, Melvin Sharp of Rule and Travis Sharp of Abilene, Joe and Joyce Sharp (Sego) Davis of Haskell were also present. Joyce has been a dear friend of this family all of her life.

After the reunion, the group gathered at the cemetery to take a family picture next to their parents' monument.



Seven children of Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Sharp gathered at their parent's gravesite during the Sharp family reunion in Haskell. They include (L-R) Dale Sharp, Wayne Sharp, Erwin Sharp, Odessa Lewis, Velma Lusk, Ruby Hubbard & Lucille Littlepage.

Congress allocates funds for Ports-to-Plains Corridor study

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Charlie Stenholm today announced the allocation of \$1.65 million to the Port-to-Plains Corridor Plan. This funding was previously approved in the fiscal year 2002 Transportation Appropriations Act.

Along with three other West Texas Representatives, Stenholm worked for approval of this funding which will be used for a man-

agement and development plan. The Ports-to-Plains Corridor has been designated as a high priority corridor in the National Highway System. Since receiving that designation, local communities along the Corridor have forged a coalition and cultivated key contacts at the state and international level to move the project along.

"I have been very pleased by the community support we have seen for this project and I have little doubt that this Corridor could provide an economic boost to numerous West Texas towns," noted Stenholm.

Funding of the Corridor Management and Development Plan will allow the Texas Department of Transportation to conduct the environmental and routing studies necessary to continue development of the Corridor.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Quilt raffle — This "Liberty Star" quilt is being raffled by the Schleicher County Chamber of Commerce. It is currently on display in the lobby of First National Bank of Eldorado. It will be displayed in several local business before the drawing during Schleicher County Day on June 15.

Chamber of Commerce raffles quilt as fund raiser

The Schleicher County Chamber of Commerce is currently raffling an 86" X 86" "Liberty Star" pattern quilt as a fund raiser. The quilt will be on display at various businesses until the drawing on June 15th, 2002 during Schleicher County Day. Tickets are \$1.00 each and may be purchased from any Chamber Board member. You need not be resent to win the raffle.

Chamber board members include Connie Andrews, Jim Kosub, Stan Meador, Stacy Haynes, Albert Torres, Rachael Nixon, Beverly Minor, Stacy Jurecek,

Princess Gruben, John Ben Cawley, and Vickie Williams Chamber Secretary. For more information, please call the Chamber office at 853-3109.

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House and Senate conferees complete Farm Bill

by Charlie Stenholm
 U.S. Representative 17th Dist.

After many weeks and long hours of negotiations, I am pleased to report that House Members and Senators working on the farm bill finally reached agreement on a six-year farm bill package.

This legislation, that sets the nation's farm, conservation and nutrition programs, will replace the 1996 Freedom to Farm Act that will expire this fall.

For those of us working directly on the farm bill conference, it has been a long and difficult process. And I know it has also been frustrating for the folks in farm and ranch country who have been waiting on Congress to make decisions that will affect their future livelihoods.

While I am pleased that we were finally able to work out a compromise agreement with our Senate colleagues, I can't help but recall the wisdom of a very old saying: "The two things you don't ever want to watch being made are sausages and laws!"

Among the most difficult issues to resolve with the Senate were loan rates for commodities, payment limitations on farm subsidies, mandatory country-of-origin labeling, and the ban on packer ownership 14 days prior to slaughter.

While the House wrote a ten-year farm bill, the Senate wrote a five-year bill. In the end, we compromised with a six-year farm bill that will expire in 2008.

The new farm bill increases loan rates for major crops and re-creates a target price system that had been abolished by the Freedom to Farm Act.

As a result of the new farm bill, total agriculture spending will be increased by about \$7.4 billion a year, an increase of 70 percent.

With this new bill, the House and Senate basically agreed to increase crop subsidy spending by about \$4.8 billion per year.

Under the new legislation, conservation spending will be increased by 80 percent and includes a new so-called Conservation Se-

curity Program (CSP) that its supporters say will encourage farmers to adopt better conservation and environmental practices.

On the subject of country-of-origin labeling, the final bill includes a requirement that meat, fish and produce be labeled with the country of origin, beginning in two years.

The original House bill had included a labeling requirement on fresh fruits and vegetables only.

A number of us in the House had strong reservations about country-of-origin labeling and the burden it would impose on the nation's food industry.

It is worth noting that cattle feeders asked that animals that had been in the United States for 100 days be allowed to be labeled as U.S. beef.

However, a spokesman for the Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas indicated that their producers didn't want that and considered it a slap in the face to the cow-calf producers.

And while a group of western ranchers had been strongly promoting country-of-origin-labeling, a spokesman for that group said that putting a "USA" label on cattle that have been in the country only 100 days would be unacceptable and misleading to consumers.

This group believed that the 100-day rule was being pushed to address the current flow of Mexican feeder cattle into the U.S. and that the number of these cattle coming into our country could possibly double or triple.

This whole notion of food labeling sounds good to some folks, but we may be moving into a slippery slope here with excessive regulation and paperwork that will impose unreasonable burdens on our food processing industry.

This is an issue that the House Agriculture Committee will be carefully looking at in the very near future.

Regarding the ban on packer ownership 14 days prior to slaughter, the final compromise eliminated this provision altogether. This is not to say that Congress won't be looking into this matter in greater depth in the near future.

The new farm bill will bring about a number of significant changes in the provisions affecting peanuts, dairy and conservation programs.

The peanut program, for example, will move from an import quota system to a more market-oriented marketing loan program.

While this change will be costly in the short term, it will ultimately save the government money in the long run.

The dairy industry will end up with a national counter-cyclical program that would trigger direct payments to dairy producers when the Boston Class I milk price falls below \$16.94 per cwt of milk.

On the subject of payment limits, the Senate had originally wanted a cap of \$275,000 per year, a level that would have hurt a number of cotton and rice producers.

House and Senate conferees settled on an annual limit of \$360,000 per year, however these payment limits will not apply to 2002 crops.

The new law also makes unlimited use of generic certificates for marketing loan gains.

Regarding the timing of this farm bill, it has been my goal all along that an agreement could be reached in time for the 2002 crop year. USDA officials have indicated that it could take at least four months to implement certain portions of this measure.

The full House and Senate must still approve the conference report before it can be sent to the president to be signed into law.

There is another factor that folks need to be keeping in mind, however, and that is how Congress and the administration will pay for all of the provisions in the farm bill if the U.S. continues deficit spending.

If Congress and the White House fail to return the budget to a surplus situation in the next few years, Congress may be forced to cut back on some of the new farm bill provisions. This will be especially true if the prices for commodities do not rise significantly.

More information will follow in the days ahead.



Chivo Cookoff Winners — Reyes Sanchez (center) and the team from Templo Getsemani claimed 1st Place honors in the 2nd Annual Chivo Cookoff held here last Saturday. Leo Rodriguez (L) and the team from Agape Assembly of God placed 2nd while Ruben Martinez (R) and the team from Monte De los Olivos in San Angelo was 3rd Place.

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 Roasted Chicken, Pinto Beans, Spinach, Corn Bread, Cherry Cobbler, Milk

Tuesday, May 7
 Chicken & Rice Casserole, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Peach Halves, Chocolate Cake, Milk

Wednesday, May 8
 Roast Beef w/ Gravy, Mashed Potato, Brussel Sprouts, Wheat Roll, Brownie w/ Nuts, Juice, Milk

Thursday, May 9
 Pork Chop w/ Gravy, Baked Potato, Yellow Squash, Corn Bread, Pineapple, Waldorf Salad, Milk

Friday, May 10
 Hamburger on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato and Onion, Oven Baked Fries, Carrot Salad, Fresh Apple, Milk