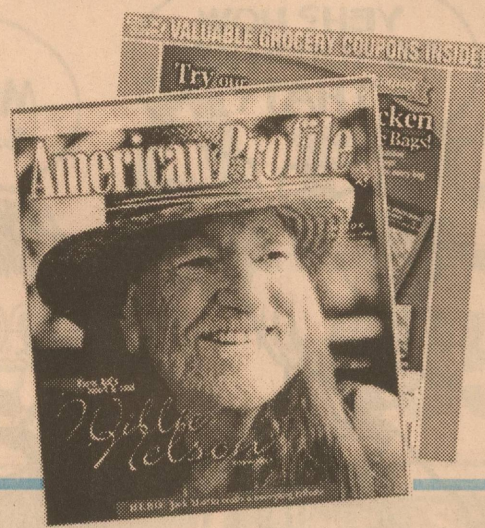
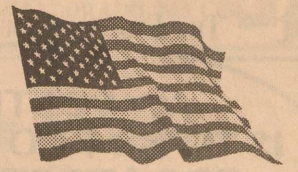


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Money-Saving Coupons
in this week's American Profile



Eagles upend
Christoval 20-13

...see Page 4

THE ELDERADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 102, ISSUE 36

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

Father Vathalloor installed as new priest at Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Catholic communities of Eldorado, Knickerbocker and Mertzon came together last Thursday for the installation of Rev. Joseph Vathalloor as the new priest at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Eldorado.

The beautiful service, began with a reading from the letters of St. John, "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God."

A ceremonial procession of participants filed into the church sanctuary, including a cross bearer, altar servers, Knights of Columbus Honor Guards, Deacons, a Bishop and Priests from the surrounding area.

Music and vocalists, provided by the choir from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in San Angelo, punctuated the program. Father Vathalloor served as associate pastor at St. Joseph.

Following a second reading of the Holy Scriptures from Colossians 3:12-17, Monsignor Larry Droll of St. Am-

brose Catholic Church in Wall introduced Rev. Vathalloor and Bishop Joe Vasquez of the Galveston-Houston Diocese.

Bishop Vasquez presented to the congregation of Our Lady Guadalupe, Immaculate Conception of Knickerbocker and St. Peter's in Mertzon their new pastor, Father Joseph Vathalloor and read aloud the letter of appointment by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, O.M.I.

Still standing in front of the congregation Bishop Vasquez began the Commitment of Service by offering the Oath of Fidelity and Father Vathalloor C.M.I. the Profession of Faith. Both documents were read, signed and witnessed by those assembled.

Father Vathalloor then took the podium to address his congregations. "As I am taking up the pastoral responsibilities of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Immaculate Conception Church in Knickerbocker and St. Peter's in

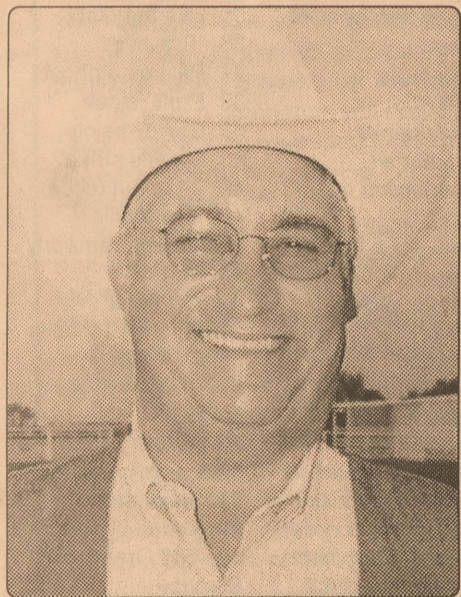
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PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

New priest in town — Rev. Joseph Vathalloor (center) was installed as the new priest at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church last Thursday. Here he prepares to hold his first communion as Deacon Mike Kahlig (left) of Mertzon and Bishop Joe Vasquez of the Galveston-Houston Diocese assist.

Clark named Cowboy of the Year at Pleasanton Cowboy Homecoming



Mickie Clark COURTESY PHOTO

Mickie Clark of Charlotte, TX, was named Working Cowboy of the Year at the annual Cowboy Homecoming in Pleasanton on Saturday, August, 16. Clark is the son of Tucker and Lula Mae Clark of Eldorado. He is the ranch foreman of he La Paoma Ranch.

The winner of the award is decided each year by a committee of former Cowboys of the Year. In order to be considered for the Working Cowboy of the Year award, a cowboy must be nominated for the honor and meet the following criteria:

- Must be working cowman and reside in Atascosa County
- Must have years of experience as a cowboy
- Must possess an overall knowledge and ability with a horse
- Must demonstrate ability in working with trailing cattle herds of various sizes in the brush country
- Must possess a knowledge of cattle habits and ailments
- Must possess unquestionable character and dependability

Clark was nominated this year by Arthur McCall. His nomination letter reads as follows:

In your search for Cowboy of the Year for 2003, I wish to submit Mickie

Clark of Charlotte, for consideration. Fifty-one year old Mickie Clark has been a cowboy all his life. He grew up on a ranch near Eldorado, Texas and as a youngster, did ranch work alongside his father.

Mickie is a ranch foreman for the La Paloma Ranch in the Charlotte area. La Paloma covers 10,000 acres and runs about 600 head of cattle. They also have 25-30 horses in training.

Cutting horse training is a big part of the ranch operations. Mickie and his wife, Suzy, live on the ranch and she has taught school in Charlotte school system for 28 years. He has distinguished himself with his ability and knowledge or horses. A horse "Doc Special Peppy," trained by him, won the World Championship for the cutting events in 1999 Paint Horse Association.

This man shows horse in cutting events as often as possible as well as ranch horse competitions and sales at the bigger rodeos like San Antonio, Houston and Ft. Worth. He also trains rope horses as well. He is well known and well respected throughout the horse world, not only for his skills and abilities but also for his integrity.

This Cowboy of the Year is not just a horseman but a cowman and truly a ranch manager. He knows cattle well and knows how to "cowboy." He is knowledgeable and capable in all areas of ranch management. He has combined being a horseman, a cowman, a manager and just an all around good hand.

We could go on for some time about this man's ability in the world of the "real" cowboy. Those of you that know him will agree that he is well deserving to be selected as Cowboy of the Year for 2003.

The prize for the Cowboy of the Year, through the efforts of the Pleasanton Young Farmers, was a custom saddle created by Ernest Carvajal of Carvajal Saddlery of Floresville. Presenting the saddle was Randy Shearrer of Pleasanton.

Hill pleads guilty to wire fraud in AFLAC case

David E. Hill, 42, of Eldorado, a former employee of American Family Life Assurance Company (AFLAC), pled guilty last Thursday to one count of Wire Fraud before U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings last Thursday in federal court in Lubbock. Hill faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

The case against Hill sprang from an investigation into the Eldorado Youth Baseball League and money that was missing from its account. Hill served as the league's president and, as such, had access to its funds. As the case developed against Hill, Sheriff David Doran and Chief Deputy George Arispe learned that not only was money missing from the baseball league, other money, originating from Hudspeth Hospital in Sonora, and intended for the purchase of AFLAC insurance, and been funneled into Hill's accounts.

At that point Texas Ranger Sgt. Brooks Long was called in to assist. He proved to bring unique skills to the investigation, since he had worked as an insurance agent prior to going into law enforcement. As soon as the men felt they had a strong enough case, they turned it over to 51st District Attorney Stephen Lupton who sought and received a two-count Grand Jury indictment for Misappropriation of Funds on January 8, 2003. Hill was arrested the following day and released on \$10,000 cash bond.

Other questionable transactions involving insurance policies issued under fictitious names would require the officers to call on and receive the assistance of AFLAC. Since the company's office was in Georgia, that meant calling in the FBI and sending the remainder of the case up to federal court.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve Sucsy

took over the federal portion of the case and ultimately reached a plea bargain agreement with Hill and his attorney, R.H. Wallace, Jr. of Ft. Worth. Under the terms of the agreement, Hill admitted to obtaining lists of employees from various companies and using the lists to create insurance applications for the individuals despite the fact that they did not want an insurance policy. Hill also admitted to occasionally using the name of an individual who worked for one company and submitting an application for that individual under another company's name. The bogus applications were transmitted electronically to AFLAC's office in Columbus, GA. He also confessed to forging signatures on the false applications.

Insurance companies routinely pay commissions to their agents and AFLAC was no different. The company paid Hill

36 percent of the face value of each policy that he wrote. However, the company went a step farther, paying Hill 63 percent of the commission at the time the policy was written. The company referred to the up front payments as "first year advance commissions."

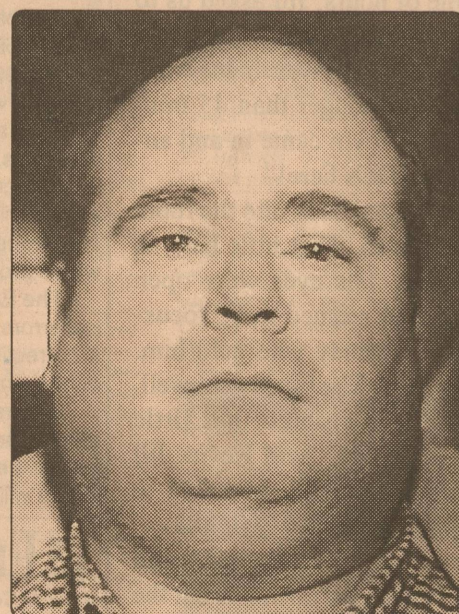
Once the company learned of the scam, Hill was confronted and he paid AFLAC \$19,340 in restitution. The company then withheld \$26,319.72 in commissions from Hill. That resulted in AFLAC recovering their entire loss of \$45,659.72. Investigators note that after the company terminated Hill's employment, it let the issue drop and did not report it to authorities.

Meanwhile, the local charges against Hill remain in place. In addition to the two counts he was indicted on in January, a separate charge of Money Laundering is remains to be settled. Authorities tell the Success that once Hill is sentenced on the federal charges, he will be brought back to Schleicher County to stand trial on the charges in State District Court.

That date is still off in the future a bit. Asst. U.S. Attorney Steve Sucsy tells the Success that Hill won't be sentenced on the federal charges for another 10-12 weeks. That gives time for the U.S. Probation Office to issue a pre-sentencing report.

Awaiting sentencing in U.S. Dist. Judge Sam Cummings court is nothing new for Hill. He appeared before the judge in 1995 and pleaded guilty to misapplying more than \$66,000 while he was a Vice President at First National Bank of Eldorado. In that case, Judge Cummings sentenced Hill to a year in a halfway house in Abilene and a fine of \$3,000. By the time his term in the halfway house began, Hill was working for AFLAC and he continued representing

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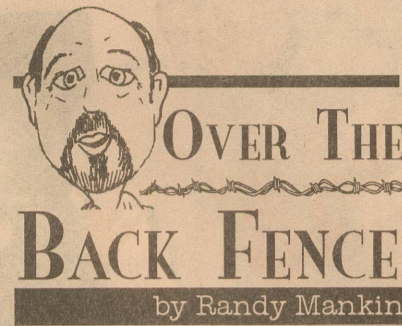


COURTESY PHOTO

Guilty Plea Entered — David E. Hill pleaded guilty last Thursday to one count of Wire Fraud in Federal District Court in Lubbock. He will be sentenced at a later date and could face as many as 5 years in jail and a fine of up to \$250,000.



Clear duct tape, what will they think of next



OVER THE BACK FENCE

by Randy Mankin

I had college roommate named Dwight who kept all of his earthly possessions from falling apart with duct tape. His car, his bicycle and his furniture (bean bag chair) were all festooned with shiny gray strips of the sticky stuff.

The apartment we shared was really a dump...it was all we could afford. Among the many things that were wrong with the place was the fact that the kitchen stove's oven door wouldn't stay shut. That may seem like no big deal these days, but in the pre-microwave era, college kids had to have a way to heat up their pizza, so out came Dwight's roll of duct tape. As the oven heated up, so did the duct tape. Amazingly, the tape would melt and turn loose just as the pizza was ready to eat. Hey, it worked! So, don't knock it until you've tried it.

Dwight used the gooey tape for all manner of things. He didn't call

it duct tape though. He called it "Thousand Mile an Hour Tape." I thought it was something Dwight had dreamed up until today, as I was researching this column. It seems that the U.S. Navy used duct tape to secure domes over the radar units in their jet planes. And, the planes routinely fly faster than 1,000 miles per hour, hence the name.

Duct tape was invented by the 3M Company primarily for sealing ammo boxes during World War II. But the stuff proved to be useful for many other things. Soon it found a multitude of uses and just as many nicknames, including the following:

- Rock and Roll Tape -- rock and roll roadies keep the music industry alive thanks to their love of the America's favorite adhesive.
- 200 MPH Tape -- pit crews across the nation's auto-racing circuit know that duct tape holds even when you're going over 200 M.P.H.
- Duck Tape -- the nickname was so common, "Duck" brand duct tape manufacturer Manco has even trademarked it
- Missile Tape -- the Aerospace industry, according to a Martin Marietta worker, used a green duct tape that they secured and routed

wiring and cables on test missiles.

- Canoeists' Companion -- few canoeists would be caught without a roll of duct tape. Why? Hit a rock, rip open the hull, you're done unless you have duct tape along.
- Wisconsin Pewter -- any Packer fan will tell you what's really keeping that cheese on their heads: duct tape.

- Minnesota Chrome -- in the land of lakes, snow, road salt, and rusty cars, they use duct tape a lot more often than they visit the auto body shop.

- Hikers' Helper -- along with a good sleeping bag, a Swiss Army knife, and dry matches, duct tape is essential for outdoor enthusiasts.

- Cleavage Tape -- pulls skin tight, lifts and separates -- ask any Miss America contestant, everyone looks better with a little bit of duct tape.

- First Aid Kit on a Roll: A great substitute for splints, bandages, tourniquets, sutures, etc.

Now comes word that the classic American fix-it tape is getting its own face lift. 3M has announced the introduction of clear duct tape. The company claims the stuff is every bit as strong as its predecessor. And, since it has better resistance to ultraviolet light, it is supposed to last six times longer.

The idea sounds good, but I'm not convinced the world is ready for clear duct tape. The old stuff worked well enough and I can't help wondering whether anyone has tested the clear tape to see if its melting point coincides with the temperature of a freshly baked pepperoni pizza.

Second special session ends on quiet note

AUSTIN — Who knows how long it will last, but something's different at the Capitol these days: The Legislature is not in session.

Not that much was going on when the second-called special session was alive, but the session ended on Aug. 26.

Gov. Rick Perry has said he intends to call a third special session to come up with a congressional redistricting plan, but has not said when that will be.

Meanwhile, if you want to visit the Capital City and see the sights, you have a reasonable chance of finding a parking place

State Capital Highlights

by Mike Cox



within a few blocks of the Capitol.

New DWI laws now in effect...

Just in time for Labor Day, Texas has some new driving while intoxicated laws.

Effective Sept. 1, being intoxicated while carrying a passenger younger than 15 is a state jail felony.

Another new law adds teeth to the existing statute allowing a po-

lice officer to collect a blood or breath sample from drivers involved in alcohol-related crashes that kill or injure someone. The new law covers operators of either motor vehicles or boats.

'Capitol' improvement projects coming

Texas, in a way, actually has 254 capitols, not just the big granite structure in downtown Austin. They're called courthouses, but they are the "capitols" of each of the state's counties.

In 1999, the Legislature created the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program to not only restore them to their original glory, but to make sure they were safe and functional. The \$145 million program is run by the Texas Historical Commission.

So far, the program has invested almost \$100 million in restoring 49 courthouses. During the regular session last spring, the Legislature authorized \$45 million in bond sales to fund the fourth round of the grant program.

County officials interested in gussying up their courthouses have until April 1, 2004 to submit applications for grant money.

Since the program began, the THC has received more than 115 courthouse master plans and 100 grant applications. Counties that did not receive funding in the three previous rounds of grants will automatically be considered in this round, the THC says.

For more information on the program, check the commission's

Web site at www.the.state.tx.us.

Texas gets funding for Allison

Texas will receive more than \$19.3 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help Houston's medical institutions continue to repair damage caused by Tropical Storm Allison in June 2001.

Gov. Perry said the FEMA grants will help fund restoration efforts for Christus St. Joseph Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine at the Texas Medical Center and will go toward demolition of damaged properties acquired by the Harris County Flood Control District through FEMA's hazard mitigation program.

Dove season starts...

Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens were out in force for the Monday beginning of dove season, which in the north and central zones continues until Oct. 30.

Something new this year is a program to study the migratory habits of dove, the harvest rate and other items of concern to conservationists by capturing them, placing a metal band on a foot and then releasing them.

If you bag a dove with a band, call the toll free number on the tag (1-800-327-2263) to report where you were hunting. Locations also can be reported via the Internet at www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl.

Chances are you'll never see a band, but don't report more than 15 dove at a time. That's the bag limit.



ROLLING ALONG

WITH TUMBLEWEED SMITH

The Family Grows and Grows

I don't know if you've been in a birthing situation recently, but things have certainly changed since I saw my youngest son born 35 years ago. Back then there was a birthing room in the hospital that also served as a surgery room. The medical staff wore masks and gowns and paper overshoes.

There was growing anticipation as the time for the birth came closer. That anticipation was reflected in the way the nurses rushed around, carrying trays full of sterile instruments. Every once in awhile the doctor came by to check things over.

I got to witness that birth. I stood behind my wife's head as BZ made his first appearance into this world. It was really a special thing for a husband to get to observe his child's birth back in 1968.

Move the calendar forward to 2003. My son Kevin and his wife Jill have a new baby son named Caleb. He was born on July 14 at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. Caleb's birth was quite different from BZ's.

When we got to the hospital, Jill was bedded down in a spacious, comfortable room filled with relatives and friends. She was connected to medical devices all around the bed. I thought it was strange that all the medical stuff was in the room. It was like the things you see in an operating room.

Finally I started to get the picture. "Is the baby going to be born in this room?" I asked. The answer was yes. I thought that was strange

and bizarre, but quite convenient for everybody concerned.

Kevin and I walked down to the gift shop and bought chocolate and bubble gum cigars (blue) and a camera. I took my 12 year old grandson Jackson to get something to eat.

Back in the room, things were progressing along nicely. Jill's dilation was getting to the point where we were all getting ready for the big event. The doctor came in a couple of times to talk to Jill and look over some of the medical machinery. He wore a coat and tie and looked nothing like he was about to deliver a baby.

After being at the hospital for a couple of hours, Jill asked us to step out of the room so she could have the baby. We were in the waiting room no longer than 45 minutes when Kevin came in and announced, "He's here!"

We trooped back into the room to meet Caleb. That little baby is so curious. His eyes were open wide and he seemed to be focusing on everybody who held him.

What a baby. The birth went well. "She just grunted that little puppy right out," said Kevin. Jill had some powerful medicine to make the birth nearly painless.

Kevin stood at her side and helped during the birth. He cut the cord. He told us later that because of the strong medicine, Jill didn't look like she was having a baby.

"I looked down there and saw what was going on and I looked back at Jill's face and she was smiling," says Kevin.

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

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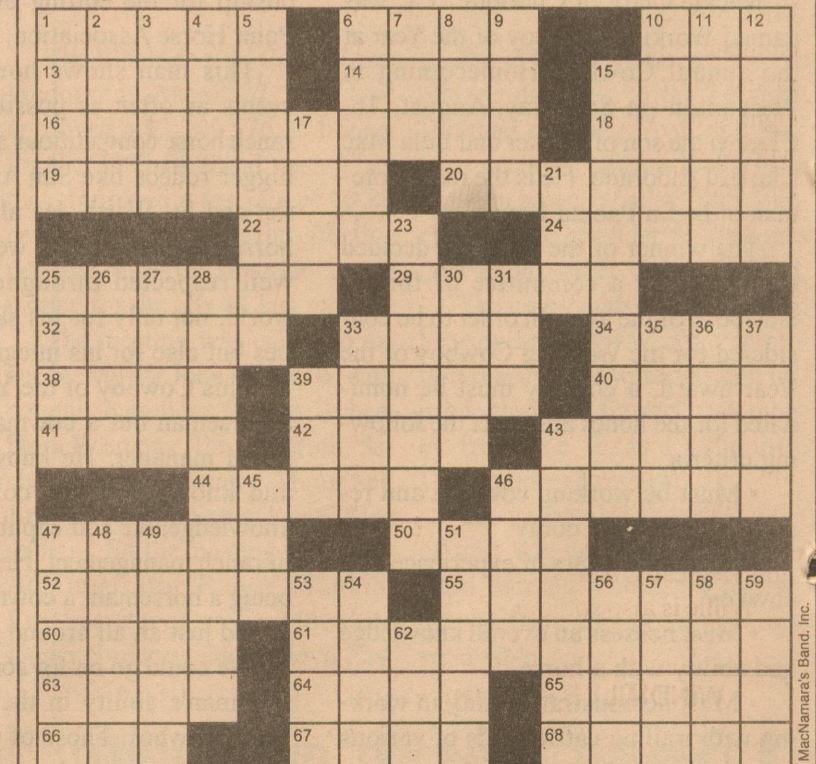


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS												
1. Pile up	52. Coroner's investigation	17. Hefty sandwich										
6. USNA freshman	55. Mogadishu's country	21. Thick ___ brick										
10. Hippie home	60. A/C units	23. Having no fixed home										
13. Herd orphan	61. "Show Boat" composer's comeback?	25. ___ War (1899-1902)										
14. Go ballistic	63. HOMES part	26. Two-tone cookie										
15. Comet ___-Bopp	64. Gen. Robert ___	27. Scandinavian capital										
16. Personnel shakeup in British nobility?	65. Like a musical staff	28. Abode of Hopalong Cassidy's portrayer?										
18. Warning sign	66. Bummed out	30. "Good work!"										
19. Overly formal	67. Letter starter	31. Take a stab at										
20. "Don't move!"	68. They flew against Fokkers	33. Ms. Brockovich										
22. Dumbbell material		35. Like the Gobi										
24. Senator's constituency		36. "Bye-bye!"										
25. Bruise, to a toddler	DOWN											
29. Ready to pour	1. Fruity drinks	39. Profs' aides										
32. Director Welles	2. Zoo barrier	43. Glossy paints										
33. Dubai dignity	3. Introduction to culture?	45. Miner's strike										
34. Pro ___ (in proportion)	4. Place for a flowerpot	46. ___ about (circa)										
38. Hard to hold on to	5. Grapefruit hunk	47. Hampton's instrument, familiarly										
39. Hatched-faced Dick	6. Madrid gallery	48. Part of IV										
40. Roth et al.	7. Office PC connection	49. Calamari										
41. Crucifix	8. They're sometimes coddled	51. Moore's TV boss										
42. Right-hand man	9. Borscht ingredient	53. TV Guide info										
43. Designer Head	10. Argentine plain	54. Prefix with gram or graph										
44. Egypt's Mubarak	11. Eskimo's cousin	56. "Take ___ from me"										
46. Sometime soon	12. Al ___ (pasta order)	57. Large green moth										
47. Baseball cap part	15. Slogan for pitcher Wilhelm's fan club?	58. Steamed up										
50. Water-towine		59. Added stipulations										
		62. "Still Crazy" star Stephen										

Brooklynese 101

See solution on Page 7



American Profile/Hometown Content

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This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:

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OBITUARIES

Allen J. Kuykendall



ELDORADO — Allen J. Kuykendall went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2003, in a local nursing home.

Allen was born to Eva and Madie Bell Kuykendall on Jan. 12, 1928, in Big Lake, Texas. He married Audrey Jean Robinson on Dec. 30, 1952. They had one child, Rennond.

Allen had a master's degree in

education. He taught sixth grade at Eldorado Elementary School and then became principal at Salado Elementary. He later left teaching to pursue a career in the oilfield until his retirement in 1995.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Audrey Jean; his parents; and six brothers, Cody, Arvil, E.O. "Ozzie," Clifford, Lonnie and Verel.

He is survived by his son, Rennond and wife, Cathy, of Eldorado; brothers, James and wife, Norma, of Miles and Ray and wife, Glenda, of Barnhart; and many nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorials to Hospice of San Angelo, Alzheimer's Association or a charity of choice.

Service for Allen was held Saturday, Aug. 30, at Community Baptist Church with Masonic graveside service following in Eldorado Cemetery.

Will Wilson Kessler Jr.

Will Wilson Kessler Jr. went to be with the Lord on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2003. Will was born August 19, 1924 in Blyth California to Winnie Davis Laxton Kessler and Will Wilson Kessler Sr. Will went by many names; Daddy, Bobber, Granddaddy, (Good) Guy, Googaddy Will and Will Jr.

He was raised in Barnhart where he met and married Janie Lou Jeffers in 1946.

He worked on many ranches including the 20 Foot Ranch near Big Lake and the James R. Duncan Ranch near Eldorado. He also worked in the oilfield as a driller and later running his own company, Kessler Construction. After which he "retired" to just running his backhoe.

Will was also a member of the US Marine Corp and served in the Pacific front in World War II.

After the death of Janie, Will married Shirley Joiner Stewart in 1976. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Violet Cato, brother Fred Kessler, and nephew Joe Kessler.

Willie Abalos

ROBERT LEE — Willie Abalos passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2003. He was born June 25, 1930, in Rankin, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Margarita Abalos; one son, Michael Ray Abalos; and three sisters, Manuela Rodriguez, Juanita Robles and Emilia Gonzalez.

Willie is survived by his wife, Mickey Abalos of Robert Lee; two daughters, Susie Ramirez of Sonora and Mariann Bagley of Odessa; eight sons, Willie Abalos Jr. and wife, Wendy, of Midland, Tony Abalos and wife, Wuanice, of Amarillo, Rudy Abalos of Houston, Poly Abalos and wife, Gloria, of Midland, Jorge Abalos and wife, Delvia, of Artesia, N.M., Danny Abalos of Sonora, Ernest Abalos of Robert Lee and Gilbert Abalos and wife, Tawny, of Bristol; two very special son-in-laws, Fidencio Ramirez of Sonora and Jimmy Bagley of Odessa; 23 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Willie is also survived by three

brothers, John Abalos of Sweetwater, Joe Abalos of Winnie, Texas, and Selso Abalos of Winnie; five sisters, Maggie Jacobo of San Angelo, Lita Gonzalez of Robert Lee, Maria Gonzalez of El Paso, Ann Purcell of Lancaster, Ohio, and Aurora Stephens of Odessa; and numerous nieces and nephews.

His children and grandchildren will always cherish all the wonderful memories left behind. His grandchildren will especially cherish how much their grandfather loved them and life.

Service was Aug. 21, at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Robert Lee, Texas. Burial followed in the Robert Lee Cemetery.

Willie was laid to rest by his sons acting as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were his grandsons, Juan Ramirez, Michael Ramirez, WR Abalos, Jorge Abalos, Tyler Abalos, Andres Abalos, Justin Bagley, Michael Abalos, Ricky Abalos and Poly Abalos Jr.

The asks that memorials be sent to VistaCare or Hospice of San Angelo.



Beta Sigma Phi Report

by Barbara Jackson

The final business meeting of the year was held in the home of Flora Hubble on May 13, with five members and two pledges present. Plans were finalized for Schleicher County Days June 7, and members were reminded to take cookies to First National Bank for Project Graduation where bank President Hyman Sauer was in charge of accepting them.

Members voted to give this year's scholarships to Luis Munoz and Jesse Guadarrama. This scholarship was begun many years ago and is based on both need and goals as stated in the senior student's letter of application.

Dorothy and Monroe Dacy hosted the couples end of the year back yard party in May. There were hot dogs, hamburgers, and all the trimmings as members met and enjoyed a night of swimming, eating and visiting.

In June most of us worked at our Silent Auction booth during Schleicher County Days. Our

members either obtained donated gifts or donated items for auction. Our profits will go toward our scholarship award in May 2004.

We served meals to members Dorothy Clark and Barbara Jackson who had surgery this summer. Dorothy had heart surgery and is still mending, but we hope she will be back to good health before the year is finished.

Dorothy Dacy held our planning meeting the first of August and once more Monroe and Dorothy held a back yard party the last of August to kickoff the year. Because of wonderful rain the party moved to the carport, but this failed to dampen the spirit of the men and women attending. Rain is always welcomed in Eldorado. Monroe cooked up some fittin' brisket, Dorothy made a pot of beans and members furnished salad, bread and desserts.

Kim-et Nelson, Dorothy Dacy and Barbara Jackson are spending time this summer working on year books they hope to have ready by September's first meeting.

David Hill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the insurance company as he served out his sentence reportedly winning some sales awards along the way.

Judge Cummings may not be so lenient this time. Sucsy explained that new federal sentencing guidelines will likely result in Hill doing some time in prison. The maximum sentence Hill can receive will be 5 years in prison, with a supervised release of at least 2 years but not more than 3 years. Also, a fine of as much as \$250,000 and an additional mandatory assessment of \$100.

Sucsy's boss, U.S. Attorney Jane Boyle announced this week that she was pleased with the outcome in Hill's case. She went on to praise the investigative efforts of the FBI, Texas Ranger Sgt. Brooks Long, Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran and Chief Deputy George Arispe.

MONUMENTS & PRE-NEED FUNERAL PLANS
CALL
JOHN WILSON KERBOW FUNERAL HOME
853-3043

BIRTHDAY LIST

SEPTEMBER
4th Yadira Iglesias, Sandra Clark, Magdalena Martinez
5th Alvin Estep
6th Matthew Hill, Melisa Marie Mejia, Ram Jr. Buitron, Jaime Jenkins, Staci Key Jenkins
7th Buddy Greer, Sherry Lux, Estella Guzman, Connie Wells
8th Dan Jenkins, Melissa Lloyd, April K. Ramos, Katelyn Tidwell, Lori Stricklan
9th Scott Cawley, Lee Dacy, Kelli Hubble, Joey Jones
10th Nathanael Wolfe, Tom Dean, Sylvia Sanchez, Claudia Stephens
11th Darla Jenkins, Debby Griffin, Pauline Gamez, Richard Jacobs

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Eldorado Forecast

Thu 9/4	Fri 9/5	Sat 9/6	Sun 9/7	Mon 9/8
88/63 Plentiful sunshine. High 88F. Winds NNE at 5 to 10 mph.	86/61 Slight chance of a thunderstorm.	86/61 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	88/61 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	86/61 More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.

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Eagles run over, under and through Christoval

The Eldorado Eagles relied on big plays last Friday night to defeat the Christoval Cougars 20-13 in the 2003 season opener for both teams.

Frankie Arispe started things off with a bank for the Eagles by returning the opening kickoff 97 yards for a touchdown. Arispe fielded the ball, headed right and appeared to be boxed in on the Cougars sideline. But appearances don't count in football and Arispe ricocheted off several Christoval defenders before spinning free and cutting back to his left. A well timed cutback placed Arispe ahead of and out of reach of the last Cougar defender as he sprinted to the end zone. Simon Duran added the PAT to give the Warbirds a 7-0 lead with a mere 24 seconds gone off the game clock.

Christoval would answer quickly as Jaime Hernandez found the end zone from 2 yards out. The extra point was good and the game was knotted at 7 with 7:36 left in the first quarter.

Moments into the second period, Terrell Boysaw hauled in a Trey Chavez pass and sprinted to pay dirt. The 2-point conversion attempt failed, and the Eagles led 13-7 with 11:07 remaining in the 2nd quarter.

The Cougars would tie the game with 3:25 left to play in the half when Scan Stewart ran the ball

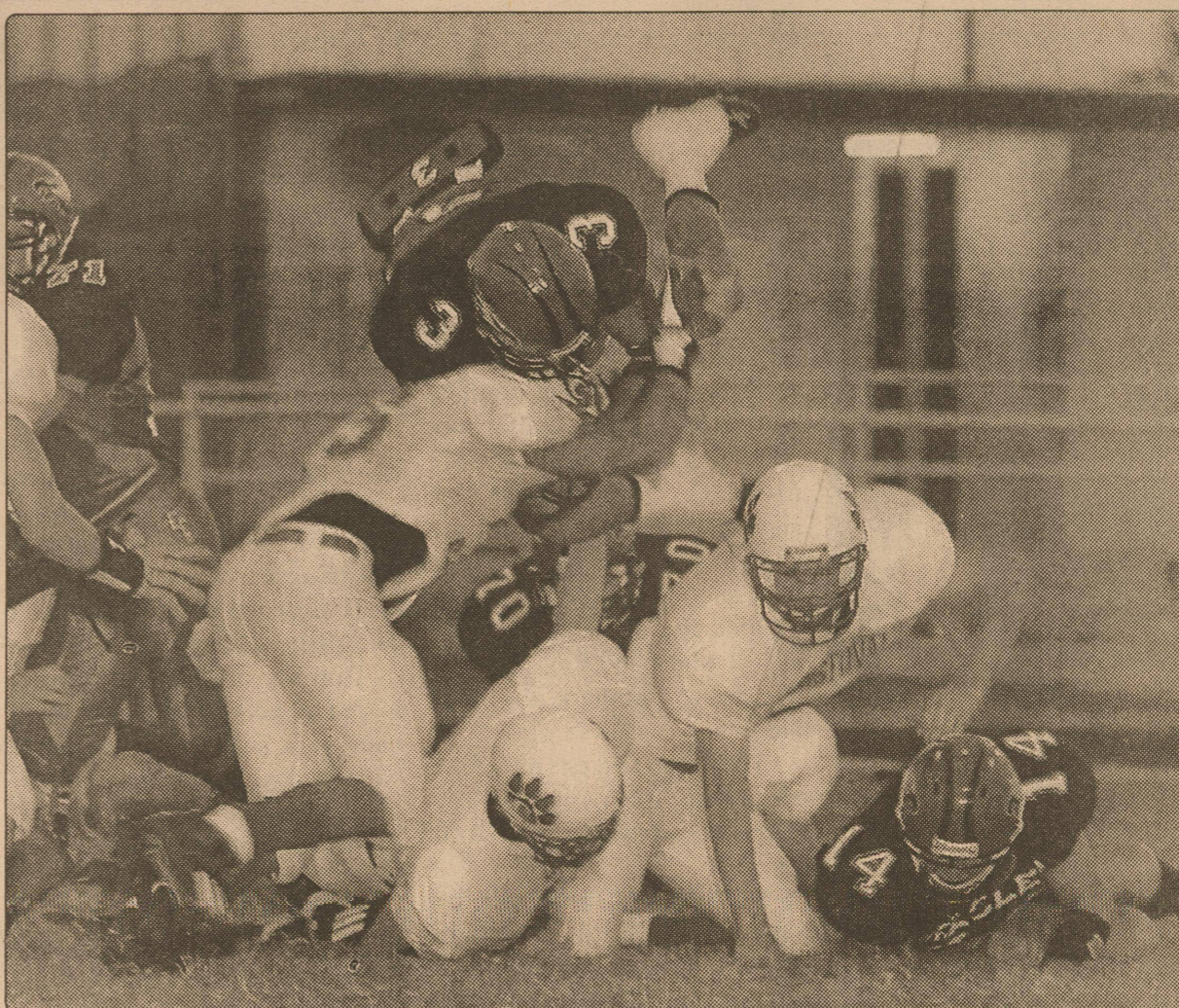


PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Up and over — Eagles running back Andy Mejia took to the air Friday night as he fought for extra yardage against the Christoval Cougars defense. In addition to the airborne cartwheel, Mejia gained five yards on the play.

in from 12 yards out. The extra-point kick failed.

The Eagles would find the end-zone one last time when Trey Chavez connected with Terrell Boysaw on a 27-yard TD pass. Again, Simon Duran booted through the extra-point and the Eagles took a 20-13 lead with 1:02 left to play in the first half.

The lead would prove to be enough for the Warbirds as neither team could muster a sustained drive in the second period. Defensive play dominated the second half and the Eagles defenders had their share of big hits. Alan Dykstra led the team in tackles with 13. He tallied 3 QB sacks, 2 pressures and 2 take-aways. Cole Wilkerson also game up big on defense. He counted for 10 tackles, 1 pressure and 1 take-away for the Warbirds.

In all, the Eagles took the ball away from the Cougars six times while turning the ball over only twice.

While the Cougars were content to grind the ball out on the ground, the Eagles offense looked to the air. In fact, Eldorado managed only 4 first downs in the game. Christoval tallied 79 rushing yards to the Eagles' 22. The story was exactly opposite for the passing game with the Warbirds totaling 90 yards through the air.

The Cougars managed only 30 yards passing.

"I thought our defense played an outstanding game," Coach Gary Grubbs said after the game. "Our offensive played well, too."

The coach noted that the Eagles experienced some problems in the offensive backfield. "We're working on those this week and we should be better against Mason."

One characteristic of a Grubbs team seems to be few penalties and that proved true again Friday night. The Eagles were flagged only three times for 15 yards while Christoval was penalized 8 times for 57 yards.

Grubbs said that overall he was pleased with his team's performance Friday night. "We still have a way to go but we're ahead of where we were this time last year," Grubbs said. "I expect us to keep improving."

The Eagles will need to improve as the season only get tougher from here. On Friday night they travel to Mason to take on the

Punchers, who last week handed San Saba 46-0 drubbing last week.

"We match up pretty well with Mason," Grubbs told the Success this week. "Athletically we match up and at the skill positions we do even better."

Grubbs said that containing the Punchers big Tight End Kyle Epler will be key for the Eagles. "We'll have to watch him, that's for sure," he said.

The Eagles should be in pretty good shape in the injury department. Tony Chavez and Seth Taylor are both still questionable but each of them will be assessed by the trainer this week.

Grubbs said that Koda Lozano got a stinger from a hard hit last week and Andy Mejia is suffering from turf toe but he expects both of them to play.

"This should be a good test for us," Grubbs added.

Kickoff is slated for 7:30 p.m. in Punter Stadium in Mason. Everyone is encouraged to make the trip to support the Eagles. Remember, Wear Your Green!

STATISTICS				
	Eagles	Cougars		
First Downs	11	4		
Rushing Yards	18-22	35-79		
Passing Yards	90	30		
Total yards	112	109		
Comp-Air-Int	6-12-1	3-12-1		
Fumbles-lost	4-1	8-5		
Punts-avg.	4-33	6-33		
Penalties-yards	3-15	8-57		
SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Eldorado	7	13	0	20
Christoval	7	6	0	13
SCORING SUMMARY				
First Quarter				
Eldorado	- 11:36 remaining, Frankie Arispe 91 run (Simon Duran kick)			
Christoval	- 7:36, Jaime Hernandez 2 run (kick good)			
Second Quarter				
Eldorado	- 11:07, Terrell Boysaw 12 reception from Trey Chavez (PAT fail)			
Christoval	- 3:25, Scan Stewart 12 yard fumble return (kick fail)			
Eldorado	- 1:02, Boysaw 27 reception from Chavez (Duran kick)			



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Say what — The officials called pass interference on Eagles receiver Terrell Boysaw Friday night despite the fact that he was going to the ball, the defender's back was turned and the Christoval player wasn't even looking at the ball. The Eagles managed to defeat the Cougars and the Zebras, 20-13.



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JV Green upends Hornets

The Eldorado Eagles Green JV team came out on top of a close game versus the Irion County Hornets JV 16-12 at Eagle Stadium. The game was back and forth with two 2pt. conversions making the difference.

Freshman quarterback David Hernandez threw the ball extremely well for the JV Eagles and notched up over 100 yards passing. Included in that total was a 40-yard TD pass to Caleb Nixon. Both 2-point conversions came on pass plays, one going to Tico Robles and the other going to Michael Ballew.

Ballew snagged three other catches on the night, with two of those qualifying for the end-of-the-year highlight reel. In all, Ballew had 40 yards receiving. Artie Montalvo also had an important reception for 15 yards that set up an Eagles TD.

There was plenty of good hard running, with Sammy Estrada, Luis Hernandez, Norberto Moya and Nestor Hernandez taking turns in the backfield. Luis Hernandez scored the Eagles other TD on a 7 yard run over the left side.

Irion County's scores came on a 50-yard fumble return and a 65-yard punt return.

Some great blocking was handled up front by Marcus Hinojosa, Diego Barrera, Raul Rios and Joel Esparza. And, some good defensive work was turned in by Nestor Hernandez, Artie Montalvo, and Luis Hernandez.

Brence Minor single-handedly stalled a Hornet drive with two quarterback sacks on back-to-back plays. Also contributing on the defensive side of the ball were Norberto Moya, who had three fumble recoveries, Nestor Hernandez, who forced two fumbles and Michael Ballew, who caused the Hornets to put the ball on the ground a third time.

There was a lot of cramping on both teams with the early season game in very humid weather but no serious injuries. All in all, it was a good outing for the JV Green squad.

The green team will host the Mason Punchers JV this week in Eagle Stadium. Game time is slated for 6:30 p.m.



I'll meet ya' at the quarterback — Eagles JV Green defenders #63 Brence Minor and #44 Artie Montalvo zeroed in on Irion County's quarterback during JV action here last Thursday. The Eagles JV Green squad won the game 16-12.

Eagles JV White squad falls to Christoval Cougars JV

Eldorado's JV White team traveled to Christoval on Thursday evening to play Christoval's JV. After an extremely hard fought contest the Cougars defeated the Eagles 20-12. It was an exciting game with a lot of big plays.

Eldorado QB's Ryan Cathey and Logan Jones led the Eagles with Cathey going 3 of 7 and Jones completing 2 passes. One of Ryan Cathey's passes went for 25 yards to brother Russell and another 25 completion to Juan Garcia who made a great catch on a 4th down play. The 3rd completion was to Neal Higgins for a 15 yard gain.

Russell Cathey had a good game on both sides of the ball as he ran in for a TD and a 2-point conversion, made 2 receptions and had an interception on defense.

Epolo Herrera was invaluable to the White team as he had to play several different positions due to injuries and cramping. He also ran back a kick-off 74 yards for a score.

Fullback Ricky Mercado also ran well for the Eagles. More good offensive play and blocking was turned in by Adam Dominguez and Luis Almazon.

There was plenty of spirited defensive played by many of the Eagles including Jr. Estrada, LB Cash Lane, Chino Rodriguez, Mark Bybee, Byron Hibbs and Josue Chavez.

There was only one injury on the Eagles side of the ball with Epolo Hererra suffering a foot injury. He is questionable for the White team's next game which will be at McCamey on Thursday, Sept. 5 at 8:00 pm.

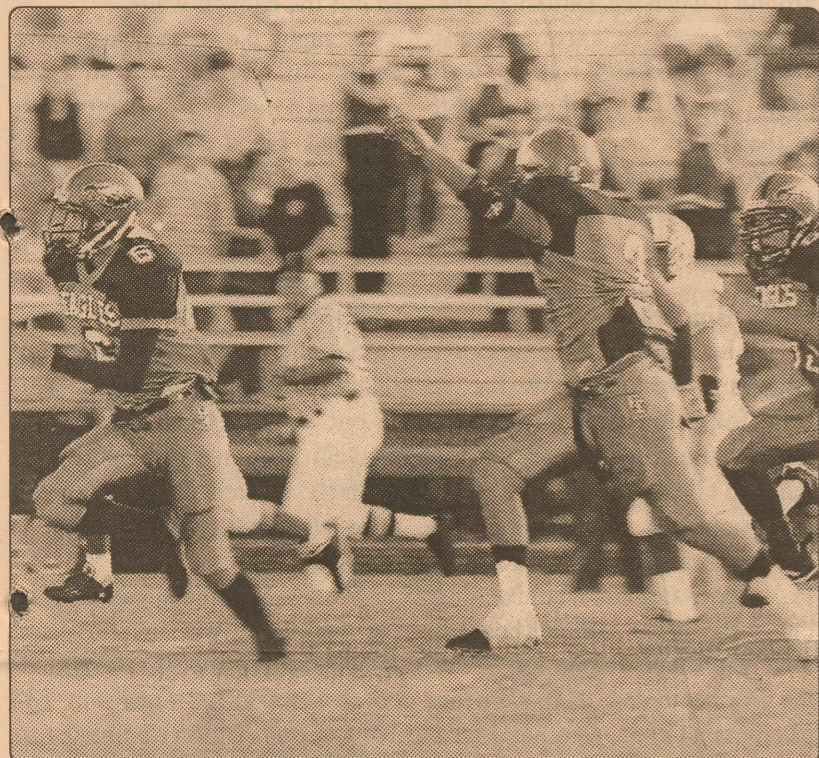


PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Off to the races — Frankie Arispe, #6, returned the opening kick off 97 yards last Friday to give the Eagles the early lead over the Christoval Cougars. Here, Andy Mejia, #3, lifts his hand in triumph as he escorts Arispe down the field. The Eagles won the game 20-13.

2003 Eldorado Eagles Varsity Football Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Place	Score
Aug. 29	7:30 p.m.	Christoval	Here	20-13
Sept. 5	7:30 p.m.	Mason	There	
Sept. 12	7:30 p.m.	Menard	There	
Sept. 19	7:30 p.m.	Rankin	Here	
Sept. 26		Open		
Oct. 3	7:30 p.m.	Iraan	There	
Oct. 10	7:30 p.m.	Grape Creek	Here	
Oct. 17	7:30 p.m.	Sonora	There	
Oct. 24	7:30 p.m.	Reagan County	Here	
Oct. 31	7:30 p.m.	Wall	Here	
Nov. 7	7:30 p.m.	Ozona	There	

2003 Eldorado Eagles Jr. Varsity Football Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Place	Score
Aug. 28	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Irion Co.	Here	16-12
Aug. 28	6:30 p.m.	JV White Christoval	There	12-20
Sept. 4	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Mason	Here	
	8:00 p.m.	JV White McCamey	There	
Sept. 11	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Menard	Here	
	8:00 p.m.	JV White McCamey	Here	
Sept. 18	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Rankin	There	
Sept. 25	7:30 p.m.	JV White Ozona	Here	
Oct. 2	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Iraan	Here	
	7:30 p.m.	JV White Crane	There	
Oct. 9	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Grape Creek	There	
Oct. 16	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Sonora	Here	
	5:00 p.m.	JV White Sonora	Here	
Oct. 23	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Reagan Co.	There	
	7:30 p.m.	JV White Crane	Here	
	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Wall	There	
	5:00 p.m.	JV White Wall	There	
Nov. 6	6:30 p.m.	JV Green Ozona	Here	
	5:00 p.m.	JV White Ozona	Here	

Dates and Times are subject to change

School Menu

Milk & Bread Offered
Menus Subject To Change
Breakfast
 ½ pt. Milk & 4 oz. Juice offered w/each breakfast

Monday, September 8
 Biscuits/Sausage, Orange Juice, Peach Cups, Milk

Tuesday, September 9
 Cinnamon Rolls, Apple Juice, Milk
Wednesday, September 10
 Breakfast Pizza, Choice of Juice, Milk

Thursday, September 11
 Scrambled Eggs, Buttered Toast/Jelly, Mixed Fruit, Orange Juice, Milk

Friday, September 12
 Blueberry Muffins, Cereal, Applesauce, Choice of Juice, Milk

Cafeteria Line
Monday, September 8
 Pork Chops/Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Broccoli/Cheese Sauce, Hot Rolls, Lemon Pudding/Topping

Tuesday, September 9
 Cowboy Beans, Potato Salad, Corn Bread, Pineapple Tidbits

Wednesday, September 10
 Lasagna/Hot Rolls, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, White Cake/Chocolate Icing

Thursday, September 11
 Fish Patty/Tartar Sauce, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Pear Halves

Friday, September 12
 Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Potato Chips, Sandwich Salad, Orange Halves

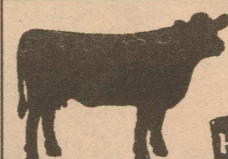
Fast Food Line
Monday, September 8
 Chicken Burger, French Fries, Lettuce, Peaches, Lemon Pudding/Topping

Tuesday, September 9
 Grilled Cheese Sandwich, French Fries, Potato Salad, Pineapple Tidbits

Wednesday, September 10
 Pepperoni Pizza/Stix, Tossed Salad, Applesauce, White Cake/Chocolate Icing

Thursday, September 11
 Corn Dogs, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Pear Halves

Friday, September 12
 Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Potato Chips, Sandwich Salad, Orange Halves



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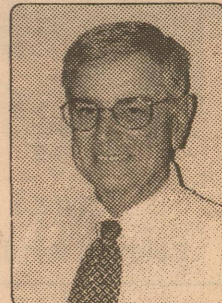
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Majestic view — While a flash flood had washed out the path to the mouth of Santa Elena Canyon, the view was still impressive on the west side of Big Bend.

A Look Back at a Summer of Journeying

by Mark Campbell

The day before we were headed out to our first trip of the summer, the cruise control on the truck went out. Most of the 3,972 miles we traveled from June 6 through Aug. 9 could've used that cruise control.

It wasn't as dramatic as the time our air conditioner conked out in our van one August, the day before we were to leave for Red River, New Mexico. We decided to go ahead and leave, knowing it would be cool at our final destination. But, before we reached the 60 degrees of the mountains, we passed through Childress when it was 113 degrees.

And this wasn't 113 bank degrees (is anything more inaccurate than a bank clock?) but the actual temperature according to the radio station (which *could've* been located inside the bank, maybe). We dunked towels in ice water and draped them around our necks and we motored across Texas.

That New Mexican 60 degrees was the best 60 degrees that ever was.

Anyway, whenever we tell this story to our kids, they, of course, are not impressed. They usually say, "Quit telling that story. It makes it sound like we're poor white trash."

"We are not that poor," I remind them.

This year, our shortest drive was to Glen Rose (131) while our longest was to Big Bend (1,341). Here's some of what went on at each stop:

Purtis Creek SP/Fishery

A friend recommended this park, saying it was family friendly. And it was. There's also a thief somewhere there.

We lost a camera lens that cost around \$350, one that we *really* need for indoor sports photography; it was especially good for

basketball. But I either left it in the state park headquarters bathroom or atop the truck. Either way, if someone found it, they didn't bother to turn it in.

Of course, I could be falsely accusing someone. A possum could've come upon it in a bar ditch. But even possums know that it would only fit a Minolta camera and they usually use Nikons.

We weren't that impressed with Purtis Creek. It seems strange to charge \$5 daily to put any floating object on the lake. Seems kind of anti-swimming. The access to the small lake from camping sites was also poor in many of the walk-in primitive areas.

But the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens was an eye-opener. We got there on Kid Fish Day and the place was packed, but the crowds were no problem because the place was so big.

It proved to be a great place to see lots of fish up close and personal, especially the paddlefish, some big black bass, and plenty of evil-looking gar. Kids loved this place and so did we, especially the dive show. That's a place we'd like to return to.

The night before the Fisheries, we spent the night in a nice bed and breakfast. They weren't actually open but let us stay in the "Bird's Nest" that night. We thanked them by accidentally stealing the room key. (We mailed it to them.)

We bought a Texas Conservation Passport for \$50 at Purtis Creek SP and didn't have to worry about SP entry fees anymore. This leg covered 454 miles.

Pedernales Falls State Park

All the way south, we debated which park to stop at. I was ready to go tubing before the summer crowds packed the rivers. I was eyeing Guadalupe River State Park, where we'd end up in the season finale.

This time, we made it as far as Johnson City and decided to stop to get something to drink. A guy there told us they were finishing filming *The Alamo* down at Pedernales Falls so we chose that place.

It was a good choice. The place wasn't too crowded and there was terrific access to the falls area. The river is sealed off near the falls. You have to drive down to the other end to get into the Pedernales.

But that water felt fine after spending an hour scampering over the solid-rock riverbed.

We hiked around to Twin Falls and violated the rules about not going down to it. A nice lookout had been built. But it was not only hard to get a good look at the falls; you also couldn't see the impressive ferns without venturing beyond the platform.

It was steep with roots and rocks blocking the way. From the look of trees whose bark had been smoothed through years of use, it

was obvious we weren't the first ones to do this. We don't recommend this...we did it for journalistic reasons only, Judge, sir.

This journey: 542 miles.

Huntsville SP/ Sam Houston Statue

The state park was not memorable except for that incredible forest. That meant the hiking was exceptional. A trek through the entire region would certainly be worth it — in cooler times, not in June. The park itself was in some disrepair, it seemed. Even Lake Raven looked kinda funky — bland and murky.

We got a picture of a raccoon here but missed the best one — he was peeking out a raised litter can like Oscar the Grouch, looking like the masked thief he was.

The Big Giant Sam Houston Statue is just freaky. This monstrous thing looms above Interstate 45 and many passersby have stories of being horrified by its sudden albino appearance.

People are fascinated by it. Foreign visitors were congregating around it when we were there, jabbering away in astonishment. There's just enough room to walk back toward I-45 and get a photo of the Raven.

We combined this trip with one to Galveston that ran later; total miles: 760.

Fossil Rim/Dinosaur Valley SP

We had some serious time constraints in week four. We had no time for a lengthy journey. We pointed the truck southwest and reached Glen Rose.

I was really worried about going to Fossil Rim Wildlife Park. How many animals would venture out in the Texas summer heat?

The answer was "a lot." From the very beginning, there were tons of animals to see. And hand feeding the zebras, ostriches, and giraffes was a one-of-a-kind treat. This is a great family stop.

We had been to Dinosaur Valley SP several times before. It's kinda the Turner Falls park of Texas — not the cleanest around or filled with the most elite of clientele, but filled with people happy to have found a place to cool off in June.

At 131 miles, this was our shortest jaunt.

Big Bend

This was our favorite trip. This was "vacation" in that we had a week to fiddle around. We had not been to Big Bend before. In the 1,341 miles, we stopped at Fort McKavett/Caverns of Sonora on the way down and Monahans Sandhills SP on the way back.

We passed through Brady, which says it's The Heart of Texas but considering its location, that seems impossible! It's way over there on the map!

As we always do, we drove southwest without any kind of res-

ervations with July 4 looming. Still, we lucked out (as we usually do) and got a cottage in the Chisos Basin. (We had a spider and ants in our bed; I didn't sleep too well at Big Bend...hmm.) We know now that the motel-like rooms are better — their view of The Window is superior (plus it's cheaper and closer to the restaurant).

Big Bend was filled with critters. We saw a roadrunner, a snake in a tree, coyotes, rabbits, a black squirrel, javelinas (always rooting around the paved roadways at dawn and dusk) and, as pointed out by a Fort Worth couple we met there, a deer placidly grazing on a far hillside.

It was also loud — thanks to the cicadas. They never shut up!

I jogged a mile in the desert just so I could say I did. It was hot off Maverick Road. The poor air quality at Big Bend means you need to get up early to take photos. Some snazzy photographs of me running among ocotillos with Santa Elena Canyon in the background just didn't pan out because the air fuzzed out the canyon walls.

At night, the air was clearer. We went out about 11 p.m. and watched a moon so full that it cast shadows. Good thing, it helped us dodge a scorpion that was tooling around.

The only place we got a cell-phone signal in Big Bend was on Old Maverick Road. When we finally got clear of that washboard road, a truck headlight had vibrated out. When I tried to fix it at a souvenir stop in Terlingua, I accidentally socked my wife in the nose when my hand slipped. It slipped, I say!

We ate at a place called "The Hungry Javelina," a converted 1950's travel trailer (I was reminded of Lucy's and Desi's in *The Long, Long Trailer*) painted turquoise, pink, and green. We couldn't see the cook; you placed your order on one end and a voice accepted it. Then the food was slid from the hole when you name was bellowed. Hey, we ate it and it was pretty good.

Some guy a couple of tables over pecked away at a laptop. We had to wonder what he could possibly be writing about in this dusty, searing part of the world.

Galveston SP

I love this place and was a bit disappointed to see that the beaches are no longer swept clean of seaweed. (They still are in town.) But that didn't stop scores of families from pouring in every day.

We ventured across the roadway to the part of the park we never went to. There were numerous water birds, many wading around in the shallow sloughs that eventually led to Galveston Bay. We tried to get close to a tree that housed some bright pink birds. But dusk was falling fast. Fighting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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Ahhh, a relaxing spot — A journey down the Guadalupe River begins when you toss your tube into the water beneath giant shade trees.

Moore and Mittel lead local Round-Up for Rehab effort

Texas rehabilitation Center celebrates its 50th anniversary of service to children and adults with disabilities, local ranchers are carrying on their own tradition: Participating in Rehab's 44th Annual Round-Up for Rehab.

Heading up the Schleicher County round-up program are Ronnie Mittel and Mike Moore. Joining them in seeking donations of livestock and cash is Red Steagall, well-known cowboy singer/poet/rancher, who is this year's honorary chairman for Round-Up for Rehab. Others with key roles in the 2003 program are general chairmen Mike Alexander and Randy Carson of Abilene, Jody Frey of San Angelo and Bob Helmers of Christoval.

The message being delivered by all of these volunteers is important and simple: Let's help rehab meet the outpatient rehabilitation needs of all who turn to the Center for assistance in overcoming the disabling effects of illness or injury. Ways ranchers can help include:

- Donating livestock—cattle, sheep, goats or horses—to be sold at one of the special auctions this fall
- Making a cash gift to Rehab if this is the wrong time of year to cut out an animal to donate

- Joining the bidding on livestock or novelty items at one of the special sales

- Notifying Rehab or a local chairman now of an intent to have an auction house cut a check to Rehab for one or more animals sold later in the year.

Though the first sale is still more than a month away, five corporate friends of Rehab have stepped forward to sponsor this unique fund-raiser. They include Federal Land Bank Association, First Ag Credit, Patterson-UTI Energy, Wrangler, and Strong Point/Pied Piper Pet & Wildlife.

"The commitment of local volunteers, the involvement of Red Steagall, and the early support of five highly-respected businesses ensure that this year's Round-Up for Rehab will get off to a great start," said WTRC President Woody Gilliland. "All of these friends typify the reason this organization can look to the future with confidence and pride."

For more information about the Rehab Center, Round-Up sale dates or arrangements for hauling donated animals, call a local chairman or WTRC-Abilene at 325-793-3507; WTRC-San Angelo at 325-223-6300; or WTRC-Ozona at 325-392-9872.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Youthful procession — Cross Bearer Hagen Porras and Altar Servers Timothy Cuevas and Hervey Sois lead the procession out of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church beneath the raised swords of the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard at the end of the installation service for Father Joseph Vathalloor, the new church pastor.

Catholics gather to install Father Joseph Vathalloor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mertzon, I recognize my duties as to love you, cherish you and serve you," the priest said. "Because I love my Lord Jesus and I am convinced that He is my master, leader and guide."

Father Vathalloor then told how he left his family and parents in India at the age of 16 to learn about the Lord and after 14 years of discernment finally accepted his call to become a priest. After 25 years of serving the Lord in India he felt the calling to serve in an unknown land, the United States of America. Interestingly, upon arriving in the U.S., his first pastor was Father Joe Vasquez, now Bishop Vasquez.

Next, gifts of flowers, incense, candles, fruit, the Bible, bread and wine were given as a reminder and a testament to the solemnity of the occasion by families of the three congregations.

Concluding the ceremony Bishop Vasquez, Msgr. Larry Droll, Deacon Mike Kahlig, Deacon Dan Pina and Father Vathalloor accepted the gifts before proceeding with Holy Communion.

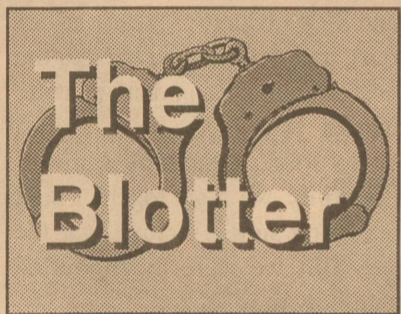
Father Vathalloor, and outgoing pastor, Father George Var-

kukala, who served the three parishes for 5 years, stood side by side, offering Holy Communion to the congregation.

Among those taking part in the ceremony were 4th Degree Knights of Columbus who served as the Honor Guard. They included John Talley, Frankie Aguire, Marcus Balders, Pat Lowery, Tony Chilo, Rudy Barron and Albert Torres. Also taking part in the program were Cross Bearer Hagen Porras and Altar Servers Hervey Sois and Timothy Cuevas.

Altar Server Bianca Baeza from St. Joseph's in San Angelo assisted with the Oath of Fidelity and Profession of Faith ceremony.

Following the elaborate ceremony the congregation was invited to a reception at the Memorial Building.



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

August 27 • Jordan, Jeffrey Austin, male age 21, held for affidavit to release/surety.

August 27 • Sanchez, Vivian, female age 57, offense Theft by Check. Released on \$500.00 Surety Bond.

August 28 • Rodriguez, Juan R. male age 28, offense Motion To Revoke/Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle.

August 30 • Patel, Rajuorbhikhu Jashvantli, male age 21, offense Possession of Marijuana (less than 2 ounces.)

August 30 • Martia, Zana Shurley, female age 28, offense Possession of Marijuana (less than 2 ounces).

INCIDENT REPORTS

August 26 • 4:00 p.m. Hospital called to advise Sheriff Office they would be having a practice fire drill.

• 3:55 p.m. Complainant at local

store reported an elderly man had fallen outside the business. Officer arrived and no ambulance was needed.

• 7:30 p.m. Complainant on Depot Street reported they would be having a controlled burn.

August 27 • 2:00 a.m. Subject requested a welfare check on an elderly female. Officer responded.

• 4:53 p.m. Complainant requested Sheriff Office call Sutton County's Sheriff Office and report a tan SUV traveling towards Sonora and driving recklessly.

August 28 • 8:16 p.m. Complainant reported juveniles playing on tanks at fuel lock. Officers responded, and juveniles had left.

• 5:15 p.m. Complainant reported a large bee hive on Del Rio Street. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department responded.

• 7:36 p.m. Complainant requested an ambulance for a male having difficulty breathing. Officers and EMS responded.

• 8:34 p.m. Complainant on North Divide requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.

August 29 • 5:45 p.m. Minor accident on private property. Blue forms were issued to both drivers.

August 30 • Complainant reported a utility pole on fire on Hwy. 277 South. Officer and Fire Department responded.

August 31 • Hospital requested an ambulance for a transfer to San Angelo. EMS 1 responded.

September 2 • 1:30 p.m. Complainant on Bluebonnet reported someone had taken their son's bicycle a 20 inch boys bike.

Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, September 8
Bar-B-Que Beef Sandwich, Baked French Fries, Baby Carrots, Bun, Coleslaw, Peaches w/Whipped Topping, Milk

Tuesday, September 9
Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Wheat Bread, Macaroni Salad, Cubed Canteloupe, Milk

Wednesday, September 10
Beef & Noodles w/ Gravy, Peas, Dinner Rolls, Tossed Salad w/3 Tomato Slices, Banana Pudding, Milk

Thursday, September 11
Chicken Fajita w/Onion & Green Pepper, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans & Cheese, Flour Tortillas, Fruited Gelatin, Milk

Friday, September 12
Baked Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Sliced Beets, Dinner Rolls, Strawberry, Banana Mix, Bread Pudding w/Raisins, Milk

Solution to puzzle on Page 2

Brooklynean 101

A	M	A	S	S	P	L	E	B	P	A	D					
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S	A	D				D	E	A	R			S	P	A	D	S

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Live Music By "Los Unicos" of Uvalde
"Plateau Playboys" of Rocksprings
"The Reyes Brothers" of Kerrville
Queen Coronation at 4:00 p.m.

Ballet Folklorico Raices de Tejas, Uvalde Texas

2nd Annual Team Roping

Books Open at 4:00

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
Washer Pitching Contest
Games - Bingos - Food Booths

Dance at 9:00 p.m.
Music by "Estilo Band" of Ozona

For More Information
Contact Edward 683-6177
or Juan 683-4410

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Scripture

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all.
1 Chronicles 29:11

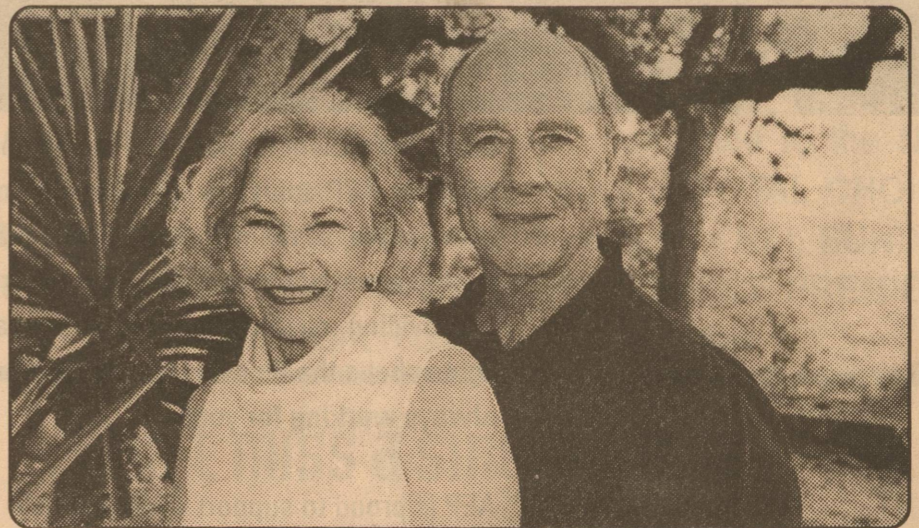
Happy Birthday

Big 50

Michelle
Gara
Maggie "Head Cook"

Jose
Fraby
Rodriguez
Juanita
Tony

Rennond



Harris and Jacqueline Napier

Married Sept. 5, 1953

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

MOM AND DAD

WE LOVE YOU WITH ALL OUR HEARTS

Love, Denise, Bob, Kelley, and Bobby; Buddy, Julie, Lauren and Harris; Beckett, Amie, Hannah, and Maddie; Ben, Andi and Zach

A memorable summer filled with travel

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

mosquitoes – you *always* need that coastal breeze at Galveston SP – we tarried at the boardwalk and later at the observation deck to get a sunset picture over the bay. But we were disappointed with how they looked.

In town for supper, we waited on the seawall for our table at Casey's to come available; even at 9 p.m. you had to wait. In prior years, I had run many a mile on that seawall and had played with children, now grown, in the surf. The sea breeze smelled like the past and I stood there inhaling all I could. The weather was perfect and the wind gentle. Boat lights twinkled in the night and the waves patted the shore. I was over-

come with waves of nostalgia as I stood facing oceanward on that June night.

The story came out right when a tropical depression blasted the Galveston area.

Monahans Sandhills SP

We hit this place as our "vacation" ended. We were a bit weary after getting shut out trying to stay at Fort Davis SP (especially Indian Lodge) and Balmorhea where the famed pool is. Sold out. We also had to pass on the McDonald Observatory even though there was a Star Party planned and that sounded fun. And we missed out on those mysterious Marfa lights.

We barely found a room in Monahans. Our digs weren't the classiest – a rodeo in town (*every* town seemed to holding a rodeo) had locked up the "nice" rooms – but we were happy to just find a bed.

We had gone out to the state park the night before and admired the sunset. That night it began raining and it was still sprinkling when we reached the park again.

That made the sandhills better

for surfing. After one dune-de-stroying tumble, I noticed some squiggly worms lived in the sand. Thought of *Dune*, I must say.

This stop, and Fossil Rim, were the biggest surprises of the summer. We really liked this place.

I got mail from the park a week later. I had left my driver's license there (the deposit for the surfboard).

Turner Falls

This story got a lot of feedback. Many folks have been to Turner Falls in Oklahoma. The plan for the series was to stay in Texas but so many people had mentioned the place that we had to visit it.

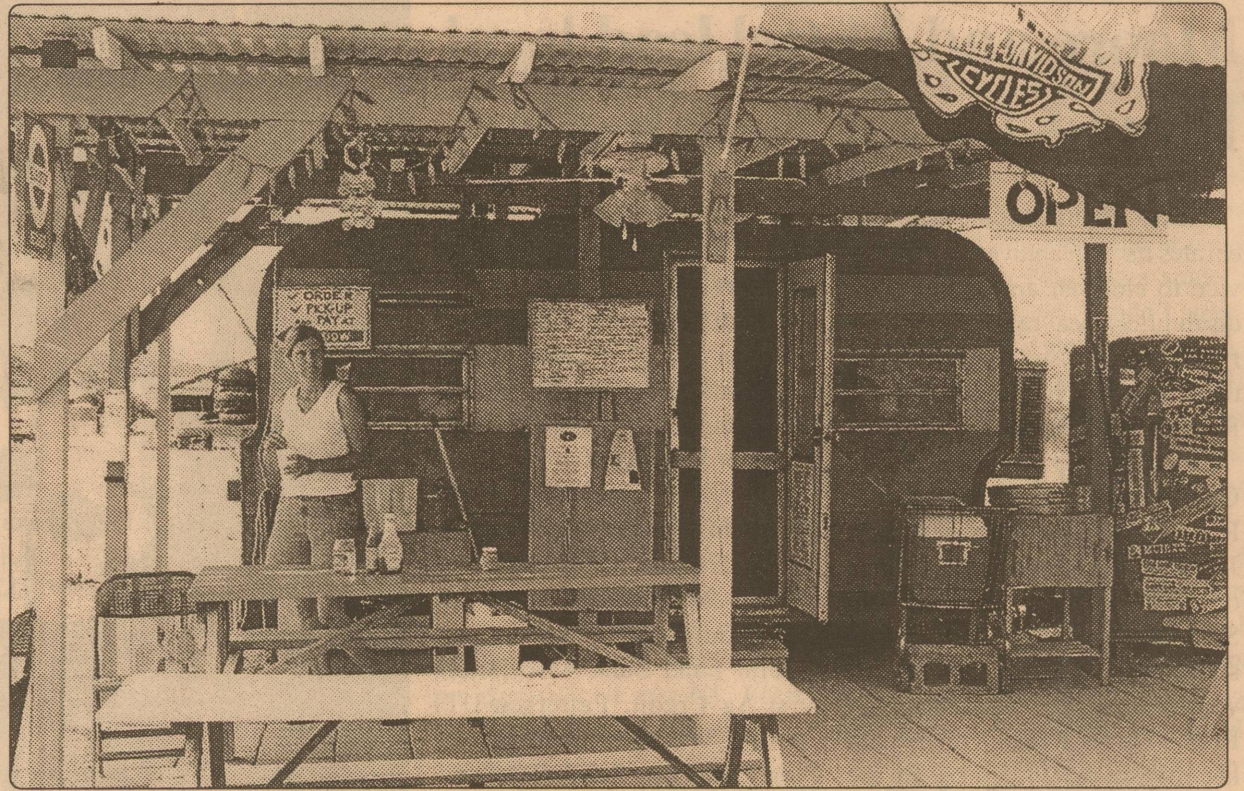
The park was packed, but it was also huge. However, the backside of the park was almost deserted. Church groups and baseball teams had claimed sections of the campgrounds but the most remote ones were barren of visitors.

An adult friend recalled his childhood days at Turner Falls when you could just strike out amongst the trees and explore at your own volition – stumbling upon caves, springs and animals. It's fenced now.

We had a great meal in Davis, the best food all summer: fried catfish, real French fries and great red beans. That itself was worth the 284 mile round trip.

Caverns of Sonora/Fort McKavett

On the way to Big Bend, we stopped at the fort. It was like every other one we'd been to in Texas – hot, lonely, and a little eerie. The view from the ruins was nice, overlooking the San Saba River



Need a bite to eat? This is the Hungry Javelina, home of the unseen cook, in Terlingua just outside the western entrance to Big Bend.

Valley.

The spring also was a nice find as was the green ecosystem it created on the scorching day.

My wife had been to the Caverns of Sonora, but I had not. At the hotel where we stayed in town, we met three guys from Amarillo who were working to clean up a recent gas explosion in town. They were Rangers fans and we chatted about the team, whiling away the evening in the swimming pool.

The Caverns were a throwback to the 60's. The place had such a retro feel to it. Once inside, it could easily be 1963.

From here, we got on I-10 for a while and tried to keep up the 75 mph speed limit without cruise control. We eventually veered off and ended up in Sanderson en route to Big Bend.

Guadalupe River

The state park was nice here, especially the area down by the river. Everyone was pleasant and in a good mood. The water was nice, too.

We scrounged for a room in

Boerne. All the places on the Interstate were booked (a wedding and, yes, a rodeo). We finally found an Italian inn of some sort and got rooms that were not exactly new. But they did the job.

Five hours of tubing followed the next day. The water felt terrific and the entire trip was fun. Whenever you're on the river, you always wonder why you don't float it more often. I found myself lagging behind while in the tube, trying to milk every minute I could out of the afternoon.

It was 542 miles before we got back home for the final time.

Next?

So an adventurous summer is over. It's no surprise that the folks in Texas are friendly. So were the Okies. Every state park warden but one was pleasant. The workers at Big Bend, a national park, were too. So was the waiter we had at

the Chisos Basin restaurant who answered every request with "No worries."

Texas state parks are clean but we were amazed at how pristine the national park was.

We had no worries on the trip. Yeah, the cruise control went out and a headlight popped free. We lost a camera lens. Paula fell down a sand dune.

It was a memorable summer. What's next? We missed out on several places we had in mind – Guadalupe Peak (the highest in Texas), a trip through the Texas Independence sites, Matagorda Island SP (you have to be ferried out to it), and we've never been to the most popular state park in the state, Garner.

So lots of options remain. Hopefully, we'll get together next summer. A sunset picture over the bay. But we were disappointed with how they looked.



Crawling with the creepy crawlies — The light goes quickly when you enter a cave like one at Turner Falls. A camera flash-strobe helped keep daddy longlegs at bay — for a while.

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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. September 8, 2003, when such bids will be opened in the Commissioner's Courtroom for the purchase of:

- One Transport Load of Diesel Fuel
- Price shall include all taxes applicable

The Commissioners Court has the right to accept or reject any and all bids submitted.
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County & District Clerk
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Eldorado: Anyone that is commuting to A.S.U. this fall and is interested in car-pooling, Please Call: 325-853-2830.35p

DISHES, DISHES, LOTS OF DISHES: Please pick up serving dishes you have brought to First Baptist Church for fellowship meals or funerals. Dishes may be picked up in Fellowship Hall. 36b

Autos

For Sale: 94' Sedan Deville Cadillac- White 146k Very Good Condition, A Real Buy @ \$3,500. Cell 277-4094 or Pager 278-1901. 35-36p

For Sale: 1997 Chevy Extended Cab, 350 Vortec, High Miles, Loaded. Call:325-853-3150. 36p

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Address: 2409 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6605
State District Offices

Texas State Senator: SENATE DISTRICT 28 - SENATOR ROBERT L. DUNCAN
Capitol Office: CAP 3E.12
Capitol Phone: (512) 463-0128
District Address: 1001 Main Street, Suite 608
Lubbock, TX 79401
District Phone: (806) 762-1122

Texas State Representatives HOUSE DISTRICT 53 - REPRESENTATIVE HARVEY HILDERBRAN
Capitol Office: CAP 4S.03
Capitol Phone: (512) 463-0536
District Address: 125 Lehmann Drive
Kerrville, TX 78028
District Phone: (830) 257-2333
Texas State Board of Education Members SBOE DISTRICT 1 - MR. RENE NUNEZ
District Address: P.O. BOX 23206
EL PASO TX 79932
District Phone: (915) 584-5644

GARAGE SALES, YARD SALES & BAKE SALES

ELDORADO-YARD SALE: 201 South West Street; Saturday, September 6; 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Across from Funeral Home.

ELDORADO-BIG BARN GARAGE SALE - 311 Main-Friday-Saturday, September 6; 8:00 AM. Lots of items.

Intel Pentium II loaded \$300, recliners, dining tables, maple double bed, antique iron bed, bassinet, couches, 5 antique oak high back chairs, 8 dining chairs (aqua and chrome) lots more. Great selection Plus Sizes and back to school clothing. Due to increased volume, we will be taking clothing Mondays Wednesdays only. **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

Carolyn and I wish to say "Thank you" to everyone for your calls, cards, food and especially your prayers, while I was recently in the hospital. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. It is great to live in a small town like Eldorado.
Thank you again,
Raymond and Carolyn Mittel

I'd like to thank everyone who encouraged and supported me during my running for Miss Sutton County. Kim, thanks so much for your support and understanding while I was away.

To my sponsors, thanks for your hard work. I really appreciated it. Sam, you were great! Thanks so much for your support! To my parents, I really appreciated all for your hard work and support while I was gone. Meme, thanks for the words of encouragement. It meant alot. I love you.
And finally, to the community of Junction, thanks so much for supporting the rodeo and all of the Miss Sutton County Queen Contestants.



Thia Dawn McKissack
1st Runner Up for Miss Sutton County

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Sacred Heart of Mary To Hold Parish Festival

Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church is planning its *Annual Diez y Seis Parish Festival* to be held on Saturday, September 13th at the Edwards County Fairgrounds in Rocksprings.

A parade will kick-off the festivities at 10:30 a.m.. Olga Lydia Reyes, of Rocksprings, will be this year's parade marshal. Game and food booths will begin immediately following the parade. There will be lots of good food to eat. A washer pitching contest is scheduled throughout the day. A 3-on-3 basketball tournament is scheduled Saturday morning.

Entertainment for the day will begin with "Los Unicos" of Uvalde. The "Plateau Playboys" of Rocksprings featuring our locals Levi Jackson and Ned Dunbar will also perform. Last band performing will be the "The Reyes Brothers" of Kerrville.

The queen coronation will begin at 4:00 p.m.. This year's queen candidates are JoAnna Ibarra of Rocksprings and Susanna Cabrera of Leakey. Performing during the coronation will be *Ballet Folklorico Raices de Tejas* of Uvalde.

In conjunction with the festival the church will sponsor the 2nd Annual Team Roping Competition. The books will open at 4 and the roping will begin at 5 p.m.. First place winners will receive a buckle and cash. Second, third and fourth places will receive cash.

The drawing will be held for the one-thousand-dollar cash give away during the dance along with other prizes.

The Church would like to remind all who are attending that there will be no coolers allowed at the fairgrounds. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy a day full of festivities throughout the whole day!

For more information please call 683-6177 or 683-4410. For information regarding the parade contact Rosa Ramirez at 683-5142 or Adella Spurlock at 683-2384.

Eldorado Spotlight



This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on SCMC Activity Director Annie Arispe and Rita McWhorter. Annie donated \$50 she won in the Count the Bulls Contest at Running of the Bull to the Bingo Fund at the Nursing Home. Rita routinely helps out with Bingo and many other activities in the Nursing Home.

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DO YOU WANT TO BE SAVED?

Only one time, in the entire Bible, is the question asked. "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30). In the next verse (Acts 16:31) the question is answered, "**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**"

Remember:

Hell's Hot
Life's Short
Death's Sure
Eternity's Long
and, "There Ain't No Exits In Hell."

NO MAN KNOWS, HOW SOON IT IS TOO LATE

"Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain." Exodus 20:7

Any way that you use God's Name, the Lord's Name, Jesus' Name, other than in a Holy manner, is taking His Name in vain.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Acts 2:21 and Romans 10:13 indicate that, "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." In the next verse, Romans 10:14 it says, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?" Believing precedes calling upon The name of the Lord. Jesus Himself said in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**" God reaffirms this truth in 1 Timothy 2:5 saying "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." When someone says "repeat this prayer after me to be saved" it is making people feel like they have to "do" something to be saved, other than **believing**. If someone is asked to say a prayer to be saved, the person who says the prayer is still on his way to hell, after repeating the prayer, if he hasn't believed in his heart. Nowhere in the Bible is it found that a person has to pray a prayer to be saved. God does not hear a prayer unless you go to God in the name of Jesus Christ, **The Only Mediator between God and man**. Jesus Christ is not your Mediator unless he is your Lord and Savior. So according to God, the steps are, first, you **believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior**. By **believing** as Acts 16:31 indicates, you are **saved!** Acts 16:30,31 is the only time in the Bible where the question is asked, "what must I **do** to be saved?" God answering through Paul said, "**Believe** on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." By being saved, Jesus Christ is your Lord, Savior, and Mediator between God and yourself. Now you can pray to God, because you have the Mediator, Jesus Christ.

I believe that when a person "prays" to God, without being saved, his prayer goes no higher than the ceiling, and God probably says, "Who do you think you are, to think that you can come to Me, without coming to Me in the only possible way that I have set out in My Word? For you come to Me, through My Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the One and Only Mediator between you and Me." You don't just pull Jesus Christ out of the air, and say today I want You to get me to God, be my go-between for God! It doesn't work that way. Jesus Christ is either your Lord and Savior, making Him your Mediator, or, if Jesus Christ is not your Lord and Savior, He is not your Mediator. I believe it is very important to stress that you are saved by **believing only**. John 3:16, probably the most quoted verse in the Bible, says that, "whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Again, this passage clearly prescribes believing, not repeating a prayer. In John 3:4, Nicodemus asks Jesus, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?" He was asking this in regard to Jesus' statement in John 3:3, that a man needs to be born again. Jesus' answer in John 3:5 and following is "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Nowhere does Jesus say, pray to be saved, it is **always believe**.

Years ago, I heard Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse say "I'm deeply offended when I hear a prayer that does not end with the idea that God must be approached only through the Name and the Being of the Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 1:13 says "In whom (Christ) ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye **believed**, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." Romans 10:9 tells us "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe** in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." "For with the heart man **believeth** (first) unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession (next) is made unto salvation." How many people have gone to hell or are going to hell by putting their trust in the ungodly "pray the sinners prayer" or "repeat this prayer after me", instead of **believing**. John 3:36: "He that **believeth** on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Luke 23:39-43 tells us "And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. ⁴⁰ But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. ⁴² And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. ⁴³ And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." In these verses in Luke, we see that a man was saved by believing only. The malefactor did not, and was not instructed by Jesus, to pray, to receive salvation. He said unto Jesus, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. ⁴³ And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise." **You don't fool Jesus**. Jesus **knew** that this man **believed** in Him; that this man **believed** that this Jesus that he was talking with was the Lord, The Messiah, the Only Begotten Son of God, the Savior, and in believing, the man was saved. Now if you think that you have to pray first, repeat first, or **anything** first, before believing, why did Jesus tell him "today thou shalt be with Me in paradise?" OR if there is a need to do for anything to go along with **believing**, why didn't Jesus tell him what that was? Jesus doesn't make mistakes! God's Word is true. You don't (really you can't), add to or take away from God's Word, and it be true. Just leave His Word alone, and do what God said, **believe**. Psalm 119:89 "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven." Revelations 22:18,19 "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹ And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." Take your Bible and check the references that we contained herein— nothing added to and nothing taken away; and when you hear "the plan of salvation" from anyone, get your Bible out and see if it is God speaking or "someone's" idea. I can't see "ten steps" to salvation, I can see only one step: **believe**. The malefactor on the cross had but one step, and he took it. You, I, we all have "one step," **believe**. Please take it, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation.

¹ All Scripture references are from The King James Version, (Cambridge: Cambridge) 1769.

Home decoration project earns funds for FBC youth

It all began with an idea from Syllas Politte, the youth minister at First Baptist Church that consisted of a couple of "what if's."

"What if we did a Trading Spaces/While You Were Out Kind of Thing?" Syllas asked Jan Fuessel - Youth Sunday School teacher and, oh yeah, licensed interior designer.

He then asked "what if" Jan and FBC deacon Herman Walker, who just happens to be a building contractor, would consider doing a 48-hour \$1,500 total room make-over so the church's youth group could earn money to camp at Glorietta, N.M.

And, that's how it all began...a 'what if' idea turned reality. The only thing needed was a winner, so the FBC youth group sold raffle tickets for a chance at a one-room make-over.

Scotty and Kim Johnson claimed the prize. They live in the Mary Davis Coupe ranch house on County Rd. 117.

After looking the project over, Jan Fuessel selected the dining room for remodeling since it occupied a central part of the home.

Labor Day weekend was then chosen as the date for the project and the Johnsons...Scott, Kim and their children Kaden and Kiely vacated left their home and handed its fate over to scores of teenagers, a youth director who could read video tape and eat pizza at the same time, a frantic interior decorator and one level-headed master carpenter.

It was a huge undertaking for Herman Walker, with a short time to build shelving and place new beams on a previously beam-less ceiling, all the while dodging the arms and legs of teenagers armed with paint brushes.

The room in question was a pretty nice room to begin with. It had pretty burgundy walls, nice inset cabinet, a lovely table and chairs and big huge window.

Kim Johnson told Jan Fuessel before the project began that if she could change anything she wished for new chairs.

Then came the remodeling...a nightmare with heavy rain falling outside. Still the army of volun-

teers weren't deterred. They attacked the project with paint brushes in hand. After two coats of deep gold Venetian plaster the room began to acquire the warm look of suede. Then the beams went up, one after another, followed by a coat of skip troweled joint compound on the ceiling.

A new old world chandelier was hung in the center of the room and several students tackled the inset cabinet, burnishing the inside with gold leaf. Next came granite and decorative tiles on the cabinet's serving area and new metal handles.

A custom designed diamond cut cowhide runner now graces the dining room table along with mosaic glass candle holders designed by Heather Homer and Jennifer Robertson. New shelving and an abstract oil painting by Blake Bishop of San Antonio now adorns one wall.

And...Kim got her wish! Under the dining table where four new straight-backed chairs, accented with metal work and two new soft golden leather end-chairs. To complete the grand new look were two tall candle sticks which were spiced up with a bit of gold leaf and painted candles.

The picture window wasn't neglected, either. It received a "professional" leaded look courtesy of several of the teenagers. A black lacquered table accented with brightly painted flowers was added and burgundy curtains expertly sewn and hung by Lorine Fuessel, Jan's mother-in-law.

The finishing touch came with the placement of a sisal rug which received a custom paint application to bring as Jan's creation to what she calls an "Elegant Rustic" finish!

The project was finished by 5:00 p.m. Sunday and the owners were due back Monday at 5:00 p.m.

An apprehensive Jan Fuessel waited the last moments pondering whether the Johnsons would like the make-over. She explained that here clients usually have input in their redecorating projects. This was different, however, and after several months of planning



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
BEFORE — The Johnson's dining room as it looked before the major renovation

and purchasing objects for the remodeling, not knowing how the owners would respond was a bit unnerving.

Jan expected several of her remodeling team to arrive before the Johnsons to video tape their response. Jennifer Robertson, Heather Homer and Kristen Mittel arrived none to soon, they were delayed a bit by a rattlesnake they ran over on the way to the house. The girls excitement over the dead snake seemed to break the tension.

Then, at 5:30 p.m. Johnsons arrive. As they stood stunned, looking at the remodeled room, Scotty's first response was "Can you do the whole house?"

In Hollywood, similar remodeling project don't always turn out so well. But the Schleicher County version fared much better. The Johnsons were totally satisfied and Jan Fuessel's fears were laid to rest.

Heather Homer video taped the whole thing as Kim went through the room. She said her favorite parts were the leaded picture window and the burgundy curtains.

Does this story have a happy ending? Well, ask Scotty. He notes that the project may end up costing him more than the \$1,500 prize the family won.

Jan explained that the project could not have worked without the

help of two of her close friends who came to Eldorado for two days to help out. They were Tony Akin and Bridgett Runion. The bulk of the work, of course, would not have been completed without the youth of First Baptist and other churches. They volunteer workers included Jaaron Crawford, Kolby and Tyler Dombroski, Brenc Minor, Chris Minor, J.P. Joiner, Shay Parker, Jessica Robertson, Kristen Mittel, Heather Homer, Taylor Baker, Chandra and Amanda Wanoreck, Alison Sproul, Emily Newman and Lauren Brown.

Rick Fuessel, Shea and Syllas Politte also helped do whatever was needed - everything from running errands, loading and unloading to plastering walls. It was a total combined effort that went like clockwork. And of course expertise of Herman Walker and Jan Fuessel goes without saying. The completed room speaks volumes about their skill.

All things considered, it was a wonderful weekend, and the room turned out beautifully. The winners, the Johnson family, were very happy and will be enjoying the room for years to come. The finished room is both elegant and rustic and is a perfect combination of the two and a fitting match for the grand old ranch house.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
AFTER — The Johnson family gets their first look at their newly renovated dining room

City adopts \$2 million budget

The Eldorado City Council met Wednesday, August 27, 2003, and approved a \$2,001,676.10 budget for the 2003-04 fiscal year. They then approved a tax rate of 89.86 cents. That represents the effective rate and raises the same amount of money for the city as last year.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Nikolauk with council members Robert Bybee, Dora Bosmans, Toni Sudduth, Richard Mendez Tommy Minor and Juquin Rojas in attendance. Also on hand for the meeting were City Administrator Randy Mankin, City Secretary Carolyn Mayo and Utility Superintendent Floyd Fay.

David Lloyd appeared briefly to discuss damages to the Finnigan Building on Gillis Ave. that may have occurred when a water main broke in a nearby alley. The council agreed to consider the damages once an insurance claim is settled.

The council also held a public hearing and approved a completion report for a water system upgrade that was funded with money from the Texas Community Development Program.

The group also reviewed a list of past due accounts and authorized they be written off and removed from the city's accounts receivable.

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