

The Brackett News



Friday, Sept. 17th
Tiger Football
in Nueces Canyon
7:30 p.m.

11th year, No. 32

Serving the communities of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs, Spofford and Kinney County

1 Section, 8 Pages

County employees very unhappy

Tanya Kay McClure
Staff Writer

Kinney County Commissioners vote to approve budget, with opposition from several county employees.

With court in session and a full court room, several county employees made their presence known by displaying signs to show their disapproval toward the Commissioners decision concerning the budget.

During a public hearing held to discuss the budget, outrage was expressed by the county employees on the unequal treatment they were receiving by the commissioners court.

"No one ever answered our questions? If one person got a raise, why didn't we all get a raise," said Norma Sandoval one of the county employees in opposition of the budget.

When it came down to a final decision Herb Senne said, "My recommendation is as you see it and I will not change that."

Freddie Frerich followed by saying, "I believe in the budget how it is. I'm going to go with the judge's recommendations."

Joe Williams and Joe Montalvo voted against the proposed budget. The budget still passed with Herb Senne, Freddie Frerich and Pat Melancon voting in favor.

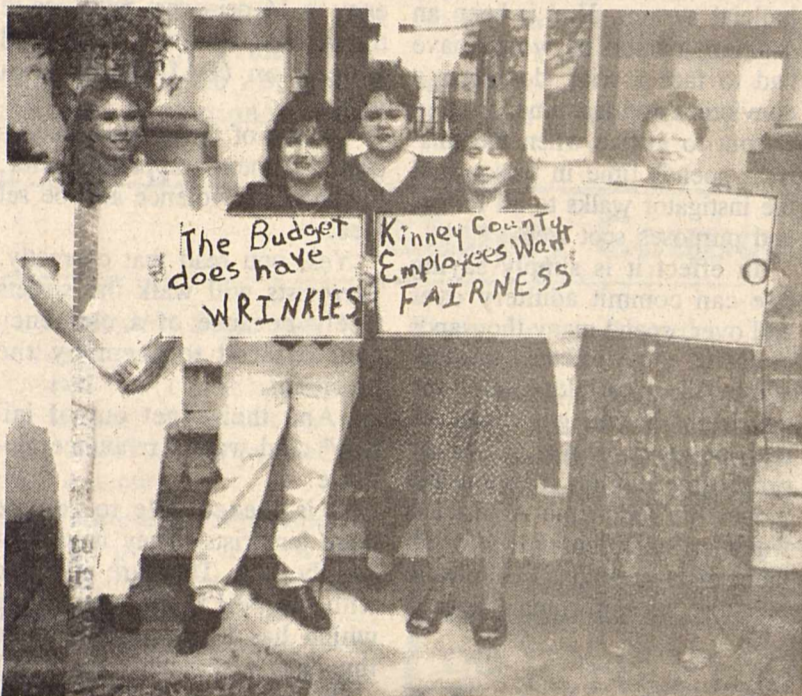
Bids were opened and read aloud on the road reconstruction project. Two bids were received, one from J.R. Hamilton Pipe Line out of Carrizo Springs for \$176,441 and the other from South Texas Aggregate out of Knippa, Texas for \$241,551.70. No decision was made on who will be awarded the contract. This item will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Bill Rustaberg with the Texas Association of Counties made a presentation to the commissioners concerning the counties health insurance program.

The counties insurance rate has gone up 9.06% for this coming fiscal year. This is a \$12,000 increase over last year. According to Rustaberg this is due to the driving rate increase across the country on prescription drug card use.

Before any decision can be made, more research will be done on other plans to see if a lower rate can be obtained. Their current provider is Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Albert Payne, who is a County Maintenance employee was presented with a certificate of appreciation from Herb Senne. The certificate reads as follows: Certificate of Appreciation Awarded to Kinney County. In recognition of your outstanding contribution to the youth of the Middle Rio Grande region. By exposing young persons to the work environment you have assured the continued growth and prosperity of this region. Your time and endeavor is greatly appreciated.



Pictured above from left to right is Cindy Stafford, Norma Sandoval, Julie Fuentes, Sylvia Gomez and Ailene Reid.
Photo by Tanya Kay McClure.

Fort Clark has new security contractor

Fort Clark Springs Association has a new security contractor. Paragon Investigative Services out of San Angelo will be taking over Security at Fort Clark Springs from Smith Security. Paragon will take over these operations as of October 1, 1999. There will be one supervisor and all other employees will be hired locally.

Paragon Investigative Services and Security presently provides security services to both business and industry. They provide client satisfaction and client retention through service. They will not propose taking on an assignment if they do not think they can do it successfully. The company philosophy is a cost effective security program to meet the client's needs. A quality security organization is only as good as its field personnel. No matter how much experience and knowledge a management team has, the security officers themselves are the only people who will carry out management's procedures and directors. It is the security officers who will either perform their duties diligently and with pride, or poorly and with an unconcerned attitude.

City officially closes Louise Street

Tanya Kay McClure
Staff Writer

Louise Street, an inactive street between South Beaumont and South Ross has officially been closed by the City of Brackettville as per a request by Pete Perez.

Perez bought property on that street and wanted to keep the area clean. There is a lot of illegal trash dumping in that area. "I'm not going to build anything on it. I just want to keep it clean," said Perez.

The Brackett News has been named the official newspaper to the City of Brackettville by the

City Council. Being that The Brackett News has been named the City's official newspaper all ordinances, resolutions and other matters will be published in said newspaper.

Chief of Police Ron Ring gave a report on golf carts in the city limits. "We have more golf carts per citizen in Kinney County than any town in the state," said Ring. "You can get it registered, a license plate, liability insurance and a slow moving vehicle placard on the back of it. We have one like that in town. She is legal and can go to Dallas on it if she wants to. We are trying

to prevent a lot of that from happening," said Ring.

Ring is in the process of doing more research at this time concerning a city ordinance on this matter.

Ring also gave his monthly report. Ring stated that in the month of August he had 36 citations, 49 violations, 15 incidents, 3 arrests and 5 ongoing investigations.

In the month of August \$3,051.75 was collected in citations.

Two people were sentenced to community service. One is still serving time at Brackett Independent School District.

What are the odds?



Cracker a four year old mare, belonging to Steve Stafford, gave birth to twin mules on September 8, 1999.

The odds are 1 in 10,000 for twins to occur. Usually, both fetuses are aborted.

The odds are much higher in this case because it was a natural birth and both survived.

The new babies one male and one female were named Cracker Jack and Cracker Jill.

Chief Appraiser position contracted out

Tanya Kay McClure
Staff Writer

The Kinney County Appraisal Board voted to contract the Chief Appraiser position this past week.

A motion was made to contract the duties of the Chief Appraiser to Mick Mikulenk for one year for the sum of \$21,000 at the last regular scheduled meeting. He will start work effective October 1st, which is the beginning of the new fiscal year.

Mick Mikulenk is from Austin, Texas. He has twenty years experience in the property tax profession and is an active registered professional appraiser Class IV. He is a registered senior property tax consultant and a registered professional assessor/collector class IV, currently in hold status until such time that he is employed as an assessor/collector.

"I spoke to Tim this afternoon. I asked to speak to him about what the specific arrangements are. I don't know what their intent or visualization is on how the office would run. I

would be foolish not to ask for a job description or job title which I have not been provided with to date. I was hired as the clerk and I have kind of just by simulation referred to myself as the office manager to give myself some dignity. At this point if I'm to be supervised by someone else I need a job description and to know what my duties are so that I do not overstep my responsibilities," said Bill Haenn.

"Bill has done a tremendous job in the office. Right now he does not have the experience behind him to be the Chief Appraiser. Maybe in the future," said Mike Holley, Board member.

Mikulenk will assist in-house staff in appraising property located within the district's boundaries. Assisting the district at ARB hearing. Attending Board of Directors meetings as needed. Help staff to define appraisal task to be done. Assist with questions staff may have concerning collections or appraisal. Work with taxpayers on their concerns. And will be onsite at the Kinney County

Appraisal District one day a week.

"It remains to be seen how remote management will work," said Haenn.

"We wanted Mick Mikulenk on a contract bases to help get things done in the office," said Holley.

"Basically Mikulenk will be available everyday of the week for consultation. We hired him to get ourself out of a bind. Our office staff is new and lacks experience," said Tim Ward, Board President.

"The hiring of Mikulenk is a cost savings to the district," said Ward. Only two of the applicants that applied were certified appraisers and wanted at least \$30,000 a year.

"On top of that, with retirement, and fringe benefits the district would be paying around \$40,000 a year," said Ward.

Mikulenk is a tax appraiser instructor for the state and will be training Haenn.

"The plan is to train Bill in the overall aspect of appraisal work. We hope Bill will move right along," said Ward.

School considers unlimited "S Days"

Tanya Kay McClure
Staff Writer

The Brackett Independent School District Board of Directors met and approved the proposed tax rate set at \$1.2119. This rate is three cents lower than last years.

Several local parents, community leaders and coaches were in attendance at the meeting to hear the discussion on the consideration of a new policy for "S days" and extracurricular activities.

One of the highly publicized features of the 1984 Public Education Reform Act was "no pass - no play," intended to strengthen the focus on academic achievement by linking eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities to student performance in the classroom.

Pursuant to this requirement, the State Board of Education adopted a provision that came to be called the "Ten-Day Rule," limiting to ten the number of absences a student could be allowed in a school year for extracurricular activities.

Prompted by requests from districts whose students travel long distances for interscholastic competition and from smaller schools whose students participate in multiple activities, the 76th Legislature adopted HB 3573.

In addition to other changes unrelated to absences, the bill adds Education Code 33.0811, authorizing school districts to adopt local policy

"establishing the number of

times a student who is otherwise eligible to participate...may be absent from class to participate in an extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the District or the University Interscholastic League (UIL) or by an organization sanctioned by resolution of the Board of Trustees of the District."

What it comes down to is this. The Board of Directors now have the option to set the amount of "S" days that each student is allowed. The Board is proposing, after hearing the sides of many individuals giving the students an unlimited number of "S" days, as long as their grades meet the minimum passing standards set by UIL rules.

Many of the students at BISD need more "S" days due to the number of extracurricular activities they are involved in.

A decision will be made at the next regular scheduled Board meeting.

As of September 3, 1999 the total enrollment for the district is 683 students. Jones Elementary has 390, Middle School, 94, High School, 190, and Alternative School, 9.

The Board of Directors elected to have an "Open House," for the new High School on Friday, October 1st, at 5:00 p.m. There will be a guest speaker, and refreshments will be served. After the presentation the building will be opened to the public for viewing.

Friday, October 1st is Homecoming Day. The Brackett Tigers will be playing LaPryor

here at 7:30 and Homecoming Court will precede the Football game.

The Board of Directors urge all Brackett Ex's to attend the "Open House," along with family and friends. Because this is Homecoming Day, the Board of Directors hope that you will contact every Brackett Ex that you know and invite them to the Open House and Homecoming.

INSIDE

■ Demand enforcement

It's high time Americans wake up and demand enforcement of laws with all criminals. Not just the unfortunate few.
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■ Free Wildlife Expo

The 1999 Texas Wildlife Expo is a free, family-orientated event produced by Texas Parks and Wildlife in partnership with industry and conservation groups.
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■ Cross-Country meet

Volleyball will play Comstock here Friday afternoon. Brackettville will host the Brackett Invitational Cross-Country meet here this Saturday morning.
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Literacy volunteers to help Brackettville children



Pictured above left to right: Cordelia Barlow, JoMelinda Monroy, Lloyd Davis, Anita Smith, Mary Meeks, Susan Davis, Rose Hembree, Maria Stewart, Don Smith, Diana Flores and Robert Aguirre. Volunteers not in the picture are Lucille Fuentes, Mary Jane Garcia and Lorenza Gutierrez. See story on page 3.

Letters to the Editor

Won't stop at anything to stay in control

I'm so glad to know there is someone else in our community that understands what the liberals are trying to do to our country. That is to get positive control over every last person, and they won't stop at anything to do so.

First came Social Security so that they could control a vast section of the voting population, once the recipients got hooked on the system of getting free money.

And don't tell me we paid for it, my Grandfather paid \$100.00 into the system, I don't know how much he collected in benefits before he died at age 80, but I do know my Grandmother collected \$80.00 a month until she died at nearly age 100.

Then they got God removed from the schools and any other place they had control of. Also they took control of the school system so they could dictate what was taught in schools.

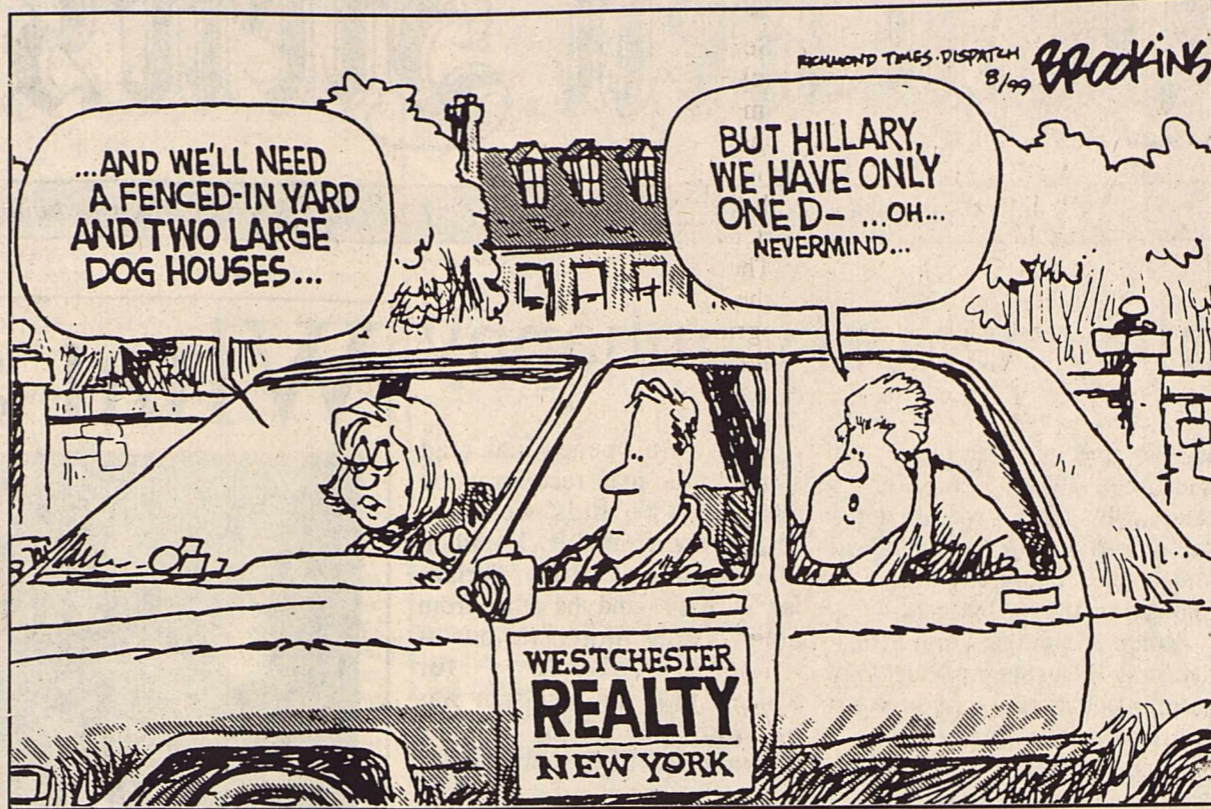
Then came welfare so they could control a larger section of the voting population.

I'm not sure where it fits in but making abortion legal has brought votes from a large section of women voters that see this as something they like.

Now comes Governor. Bush who is looking like a strong candidate for the next presidential election and even before he has a chance at the nomination, all kinds of lies and rumors are being thrown around in the liberal media. Like I said, they won't stop at anything to stay in control.

Most of you youngsters won't remember that this was how Hitler got control.

Roland Boysen



Demand enforcement

Between Us
Joe Townsend

Justice in today's system is many times not based on the crime but who is the criminal. The white washing of Bill Clinton is a star example. Too many times in today's world the true law is what you can get by with, not what the law really says.

Now, comes an even more glaring example with Henry Cisneros. Here is a man who during his high profile life as a politician had several mistresses. He finally left his wife to live with his latest paramour. When the heat became too high he deserted his mistress and went back to his wife. He then made exuberant promises to his

mistress and eventually gave her vast sums of money. In the end she spends 3 years plus in prison because of the way she spent the money.

In the meantime Cisneros reveals more of his true character by deliberately lying to the FBI to try to help his starry eyed dreams of political heights. After many months and many millions of taxpayers dollars he was indicted by a federal Grand Jury on 18 counts. The evidence was prima facie. He hired one of the slickest lawyers on the national scene. Whatever the cost it was money well spent. The day before the trial started a plea bargain made a hero out of a scoundrel. It's hard to imagine 18 felony indictments reduced to one misdemeanor. Not only

that but no jail time and no period of probation.

This makes a mockery of the judicial system. Had it been an ordinary person he would have had to face a trial, doubtless a conviction and jail time. It is an affront to justice when the mistress spends time in prison and the instigator walks to all intents and purposes scot free.

In effect it is simply saying one can commit adultery over and over, spend many thousands of dollars to try to cover up, violate in 18 cases felony laws and its alright if you get a smooth high powered lawyer, a wimpy prosecutor and an irresponsible judge. It's high time Americans wake up and demand enforcement of laws with all criminals. Not just the unfortunate few.

When the bow breaks

Submitted by
Henry Bonilla

In the United States we live under a canopy of protections. There are fundamental pillars of our democracy that if ever broken, or even cracked, jeopardize the future of our country. One of these key pillars is our justice system, and, more specifically, how our nation deals with terrorists.

Up until recently, it was very clear-cut. The United States has a firm record of dealing with terrorists - swiftly, boldly and without compromise.

When it comes to terrorism, we do not negotiate and we do not give in.

If terrorists choose to wage campaigns of fear, destruction and the killing of innocent Americans, those terrorists suffer the wrath of Uncle Sam.

But President Clinton bent that key pillar of our democracy recently when he offered clemency to 16 prisoners with ties to the Armed Forces of National Liberation (AFNL) terrorist group.

Twelve of those terrorists accepted Clinton's appalling offer, to renounce violence and be set free.

Yes, you read that correctly. Terrorists will walk the streets freely because of a clemency deal offered to them by the president.

And their "get out of jail free" card was to renounce violence.

It is inexcusable to release these terrorists. They have broken the law. They are affiliated with the AFNL terrorist group which has killed and maimed innocent Americans.

They are responsible for at least 130 bombings in this country, in the 1970's and 80's. They have destroyed countless lives. They belong in jail.

Despite the fact that the FBI, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and two United States Attorneys advised the president not to let these terrorists go free, the president moved forward with his clemency deal.

What would be the reason? Why them? Even the First Lady, who is eyeing a Senate seat in New York, opposes her husband's actions.

Congress passed a resolution criticizing the president's clemency offer.

The resolution, which I cosponsored, passed overwhelmingly.

The vote was 311 to 41. We agree there must be no leniency with terrorists.

Our nation must remain unwavering in the war on terror. We cannot allow that key pillar of our democracy to be bent any further.

We must re-straighten that pillar so the bow does not break.

Your Representatives

- | | |
|--|--|
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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters published and columnist's viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Big Mama Sez!

The modern idea of roughing it is to have a black and white TV in a camper rather than color.

The Brackett News

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The Wrath of God Part II

The Way I see It
Steven R. LaMascus

New York City is fighting an epidemic of encephalitis. Also in New York there have been nearly 500 cases of E.Coli reported. The last estimate I saw said that there were 24 million people world wide that were infected with the HIV virus; nearly one fourth of the population in Africa is now infected. Cancer, over 100 different kinds, kills approximately 5 million people a year. Deadly new strains of Cholera, Malaria, Tuberculosis, and who knows what else have suddenly appeared, which are immune to all known antibiotics.

By the end of 1990's it is estimated that over 100 million people will die of starvation - famine. This in a world where there is more of everything than ever before; where the developed countries throw away enough food to feed the rest of the world.

There have been more major earthquakes, in more diverse places, in the last half-century, than in the rest of recorded history. The weather is doing things that have all the scientists guessing. El Nino first caused floods in areas that seldom see rain and drought in areas that are usually well watered; then La Nina brought hurricanes. The hurricane on the East Coast that was supposed to just graze the

Carolinas and then wander harmlessly out to sea instead refused to go away. Instead of turning east and leaving it went stationary, dumped a couple of feet of rain on the coastal areas, and then drifted inland. It was the uninvited guest that refused to leave. The meteorologists just couldn't understand why it was behaving the way it was.

It is estimated that the death toll from war since, but not including, World War II has now topped 23 million. In 1993 alone, 29 major wars were fought. Many of these were wars of ethnicity. The bible says that, "nation will rise against nation." The biblical use of the word nation did not mean the same then as it does now. The biblical connotation is more precisely tribe against tribe - ethnic group against ethnic group. Kosovo is a perfect example of a tribal war.

The total sum of human knowledge is doubling every 8 years. 80% of all the scientists who ever lived are on earth today. When Apollo 13 was in danger it took computers an hour and a half to figure a solution. It is estimated that it would have taken a scientist working with pencil and paper over a million years to do the same calculations. Our knowledge is increasing, and logically it would seem that our contentment and happiness would increase

equally. So why is it that we are turning out more and more confused, ignorant, and violent children than ever before?

It took George Washington 8 days to travel to his inauguration. He covered about 200 miles. Today, in an automobile, the same trip would take about three hours, and only minutes in an airplane. The remarkable thing about this is that, centuries before the first president of the United States found it necessary to travel to New York, it would have taken Alexander the Great the same 8 days it took Washington to cover the same 200 miles. Today, only 200 years later, we travel more than ever before and do so immensely faster. More than 200 million people travel outside their own countries every year. Spending on tourism worldwide is in the trillions of dollars every year.

2500 years ago Daniel was told by God; "Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." (Italics added)

In Matthew 24, when asked about signs of the end of the age, Jesus says: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains." Think about it! But don't take too long.

It was the best three years of my life

But I Could be Wrong
Chuck Hall

I was talking to a friend the other day. Her daughter is currently in the fourth grade. That's a great time in a young person's life. The fourth grade has got to be the most enjoyable time in everyone's life. Well, not everyone.

I hated the fourth grade. I had a wonderful teacher. She was kind, sweet and very knowledgeable. She wasn't the problem.

The problem was the building. For the first three weeks of school I had the pleasure of going to the old two-story brick building. It has long since been torn down. It is just a memory lingering in the minds of only a few deranged souls I'm one of those.

The most magnificent feature of that grand old school was the fire escape slides. They were at least a mile long, well over 200 feet high and had a shine that could easily be seen from the moon. The kids that had attained

the fourth grade level used those slides during fire drills.

I paid my dues. I studied hard. I waited like a life sentenced prisoner, marking off the years, until I could reach the fourth grade and leave the building in style.

But it never happened. We moved into the new building before there was even one fire drill. I felt cheated. Those of you who have been wondering exactly what my deep-rooted problems stem from, now you know. But I could be wrong.

Unsung Hero

Joe Townsend

There is a young lady here who is outstanding beyond words to adequately describe. Her heritage is ranching on both her Father's and Mother's side.

In many ways she is like her Grandfather in her personal characteristics and accomplishments. She is little short of a genius in promotion.

She was largely responsible for the greatest Labor Day weekend ever this year at Alamo Village.

She is outstanding as a speaker and emcee. She is hard to beat at behind the scenes planning and promotion.

She is a lovely person, friendly and warm hearted. She has a fine husband and beautiful daughter. Anyone richer for knowing her.

Surely Lashawn McEvior, daughter of Hadley and Fulisha Wardlaw and Granddaughter of Happy and Virginia Shahan is an Unsung Hero.

Cross-Country meet to be held here Saturday

Literacy volunteers to help children

Making A Difference
Taylor Stephenson

Welcome aboard John Redwine, new 6th grade teacher! John was employed by the school board Monday night and began work on Tuesday.

He recently completed his degree in San Angelo. All are excited about Mr. Redwine joining the staff at BISD!

Friday, October 1 at 5:00 p.m., the School Board will host an Open House to show off Brackett High School. There will be short ceremony before the open house begins.

All residents and especially ex-students are invited to attend. Local residents can help us tell the out-of-town folks about this Open House.

What about that Tiger Football team? It was a great night for Tiger fans. We're 2 and 0 at this point.

This Friday, we'll travel to Nueces Canyon for a great game at 7:30 p.m. Come support the Tigers.

Volleyball will play Comstock here Friday afternoon. Brackettville will host the Brackett Invitational Cross-

Country meet here this Saturday morning. We'll have Middle School football here Thursday night at 5 and Ms. Volleyball at Del Rio Monday night at 5. Tuesday night, we'll have the first district volleyball game at Dilley.

Ag Day for the Kindergarten through 6th grades will be held in Brackettville Tuesday. It's a day to acquaint our young folks with Agriculture and its importance to our world.

We have 8 memorial benches and the order will be made this week. We can also use donations for trees and landscaping at the new high school.

If you are inclined to help, call the superintendent's office 563-2491, extension 1.

That's about it for this week. We've had a more positive week than usual. Folks seem to be more upbeat about the future and less concerned about their own problems.

Maybe it's the rain! In the past two weeks, we've had more than two inches of rain in some parts of the county.

Keep it up. We'll take what we can get!

Have a great week!

September is National Literacy month and volunteers from St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church intend to help some school children together with their families to get a good start in school.

The program is a component of the St. Henry deOsso Family Program. The volunteers will provide in home tutoring for first grade children who are referred by the teachers at Jones Elementary School. The tutoring will be carried out through the fall semester.

Submitted by
Ella Chambers

James Heath, General Manager of Fort Clark Springs introduced David Palmer, Assistant District Governor of District 5840, as the guest speaker at the September 9, 1999 Rotary luncheon. Palmer explained the "Cooking Up Solutions to Hunger" program of Rotary International, whose worldwide network clubs offer an ideal network for obtaining and distributing food to feed the hungry of the world. Matching funds are available to assist Rotary Clubs

Dr. Don Smith and Dr. Anita Smith are coordinating the project. The Smiths were both professional educators before retirement and were previously involved in the project where it first started in Uvalde.

"We believe that literacy is one of our greatest needs not only in Brackettville but throughout the country. This project is designed to not only help the children but to assist the parents in learning to be more directly involved in their children's school work. We

have met with the elementary Principal, Mrs. Renken and with the first grade teachers. They are as excited as we are to see the program get off the ground," said the Smiths.

The St. Henry deOsso Family Project is the vision of Sr. Hortencia Coloma a nun of the Teresan Order who has been working in the Uvalde area for a number of years.

She began the program in Uvalde with only four or five volunteers. It has grown to 35 volunteers and hundreds of

families reaping the benefits of the program.

Many parents are now serving as volunteers and have been inspired to upgrade their own education.

In Brackettville, the project will focus on the tutoring for the fall, and a parent training program will be implemented in the spring.

All the services are free. It is possible that a professional counselor intern may be available for individual and family counseling in a month or so.

Cooking up solutions to hunger

involved in this program.

Over the past fifteen years, Rotarians from Lubbock have been active in alleviating hunger and establishing the South Plains Food Bank. Funds were donated to develop an apple orchard from which fresh and dehydrated apples are now being made available to feed the hungry. At full maturity, the orchard is expected to produce over 500,000 pounds of apples.

The Breedlove Dehydration plant is a charitable processing plant in Lubbock, Texas utilizing donated produce and other ingredients to provide economic

cal food to the hungry. Buildings and grounds where Breedlove Dehydration Plant of Lubbock is housed was donated by Rotarian J.T. Talkington and his partner, H.A. Sessions. Rotarian Howard Mercer donated more than a year of service to establish a marketing program.

The dehydration process retains the quality, taste and nutritional value of the fresh produce. Dehydration removes moisture, not nutrients, to provide a safe, easy-to-store food. When necessary, Breedlove Dehydrated Foods blends a textured vegetable protein to enhance the nutritional impact for severely malnourished and undernourished populations. The one pound of dehydrated soup

yields 25 or more servings at a cost of less than 3 1/2 cents per serving.

Dehydration allows for food to be shipped anywhere in the world for only a penny more per serving. One 40-foot overseas cargo container of dehydrated soup or vegetables holds roughly one million servings. One truckload of dehydrated soup is the equivalent of seven truckloads of fresh or canned food. Dehydration also requires no special refrigeration or storage. Most can be prepared by adding water and heating. However, when heat is not available, some use a cold water process. Products are packaged for feeding of large groups and for family and individuals.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Tuesday, September 7
12:50 p.m. A local woman reported that a man had hit her car causing some damage and then denied hitting her car and left the scene.

Wednesday, September 8
12:03 p.m. A local woman reported that there was an accident at the school. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter responded to the scene. Fritter reported that there was no vehicles in front of the new school.

12:00 p.m. Border Patrol check point called and stated that there was a train derailment east of Brackettville at Cline. The Texas Department of Transportation was advised of the matter so that detours could be set up.

Thursday, September 9
3:26 p.m. A dispatcher from the Val Verde Sheriffs Office called and stated that a local man was concerned about his wife because she had grabbed a shotgun and wanted to use it on herself and him. Sheriff Buddy Burgess stated that he would check it out. Everything was reported ok.

9:34 p.m. A man staying on a nearby ranch called from his cell phone and was asking for assistance. He had locked his keys in his truck and asked if a deputy could help him. Deputy Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene.

Friday, September 10
3:31 p.m. Manuel Pena with Wildlife Services reported that he found a dead billy goat next to the fence on Hwy 131. After investigating further he could tell that it had been shot in the head, probably at night. The matter was reported to the Kinney County Game Warden.

9:17 p.m. Fort Clark Security called and reported that a local Fort Clark Springs woman had stated that her husband had beaten her up and that her husband had drove off the Fort. Deputy Guidry responded to the call.

Joseph Shoffner, age 49 from Sacramento, California was arrested for interference with railroad property. He was arrested by railroad police officer Ernest

Flores. He was released on September 13th.

Sunday, September 12
10:30 p.m. A woman called and stated that she was trying to

reach a man at the airfield in Spofford but there was no answer. She asked if a unit could go up there and locate him. The man was later located.

Monday, September 13
Seven Schroeder, age 28 from Del Rio was arrested for a DPS Warrant by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie.

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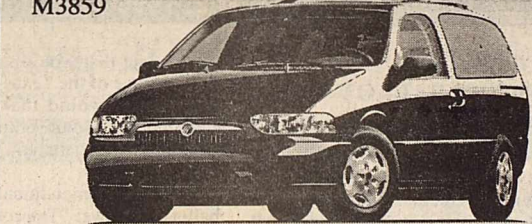


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What gauge do I need?

Gunsmoke and Campfires
Steven R. LaMascus

One of the questions I get asked a lot is; "What gauge shotgun do I need for _____?" You fill in the blank.

It seems that most hunters and shooters think there is some rule about having a specific shotgun for a certain sport or game animal. And I guess there are a few unwritten rules that, generally, apply to specific aspects of the shooting sports. For instance, I don't think you should go to a trap competition with a .410 skeet gun. You could shoot it in the match. There are no rules to disallow it. But I will bet dollars to cow pies that you wouldn't win anything. Trap is a game that calls for a 12-gauge gun. However, if you wanted to do something different you might instigate a match that was limited to only .410s. That would be fair and fun, if not somewhat frustrating.

Around this time of year I start to see stacks of shotgun shells in the discount store isles. Wally World must buy shotgun shells by the megaton.

Most of them will be high velocity, heavy loads, with a pound of shot and a ton of kick. Dove hunters buy them by the gross for hunting a bird that weighs all of a few ounces. You do not need an ounce and a

quarter of sixes for a dove. One of my favorite 12-gauge loads is 1 ounce of 7s. That's right, not 7 1/2 - sevens. I also shoot an even lighter load of 7/8 ounce of 7 or 7 1/2 shot in the 12-gauge. This is the normal load for a 20 - gauge. In the larger 12-gauge gun it is deadly and ultra-pleasant to shoot. There is a reason the lighter loads perform well in the larger bore, but we'll go into that another time.

One of the most pleasant dove guns I ever had was a 28-gauge. It was light, kicked almost not at all, and was deadly out to about 40 yards. And I will go on record here by stating that the average 50-yard shot at a dove is probably only 35, or, maybe, 40. It is a rare occurrence indeed when a dove is brought down by a hunter at over 45 yards. Yes, some doves are actually killed at 60 or 70 yards; and Billy Dixon once shot an Indian at 7/8 of a mile.

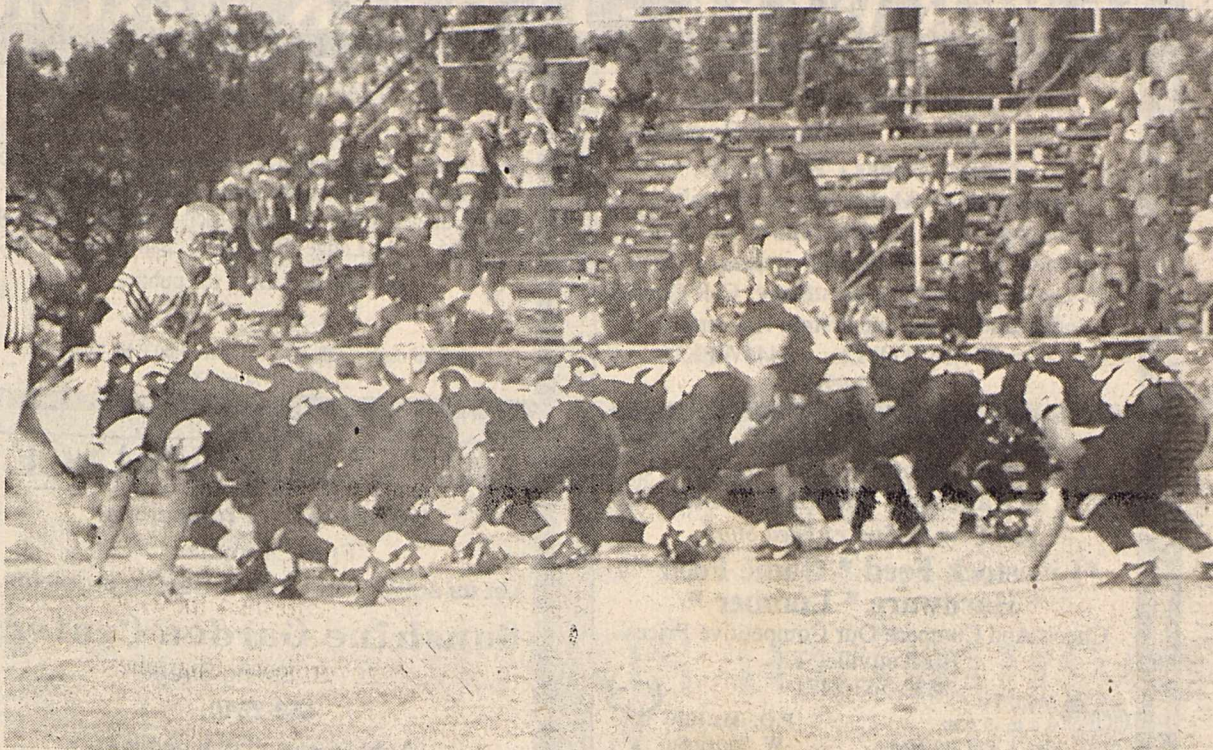
When hunting over a hot stock tank or a really active field I will often opt for a .410. I shoot almost exclusively 3" shells in the little gun. The .410 is the only one of the common shotgun "gauges" (.410 is really a caliber, not a gauge, but we won't split hairs here.) where a heavier load is needed. With the 3" shell you get nearly 3/4 ounce of shot. That is the standard load

for the 28-gauge. I have had some fantastic shoots using the .410, and have even used it on pheasants, under controlled conditions, with complete success. If the shots are kept inside 35 yards it is as deadly as the larger guns.

So the answer to the question is; it depends. Obviously the 12-gauge is the most efficient at harvesting game birds. When I am serious about bringing home the bacon, or birds, I will shoot a 12. I also think that, for the average shooter, a 20-gauge is almost as good. And for the experienced shooter a 28-gauge is pretty efficient in its own right. I have made some pretty impressive shots with the little 28. I have also made some even more impressive misses.

The .410 is a gun for kids to learn with or for experts to have fun with. It is a serious handicap for the hunter intent on filling his limit. It requires steady nerves to turn down a shot that is just a little too far for the .410 when it would be pretty simple with a 12-gauge. If you are not a better than average shotgunner leave the .410 at home.

In reality, the best gauge is the one you have in your hands when the birds start to fly. After all, you are not out there to feed your family, but to have fun. And shooting is the fun part. Good hunting.



Tigers bury Cowboys 61-0

Jacob Hughes
Sports Writer

BRACKETT- In front of 1,000 fans Friday night, The Brackett Tigers buried the D'Hanis Cowboys 61-0. The Tigers held the Cowboys to only 26 yards rushing and 78 yards passing. The Tigers lead at the half.

"When a team is picked to win the game, the better team goes out and does it. That's exactly what we did Friday night."-Coach Yeager

Coty Williams set the pace for the Tiger's defense by scoring off of a 37 yard interception early into the first quarter of the game.

Defensively, the Tigers had no problems handling the Cowboys offensive scheme. The Cowboys only gained 5 first downs the entire night. D'Hanis also had only 105 total offensive yards.

"They had one big play Fri-

day night. Our defense did a great job by buckling and making them fumble inside of the red zone."-Coach Thomas

The Cowboys lost 3 of 5 fumbles to Brackett's defense. Jaime Ortiz lead the Tigers in interceptions by picking off 2 in Fridays show down.

"Turnovers are always key points in a game. I think that we did a great job of getting to the football and it paid off for us, by recovering some fumbles."-Coach Yeager

Brackett's offensive game last Friday was fundamentally sound in all aspects. The Tiger's backs ran for 384 yards and passed for 16.

"Coaches have called and told me that we had more talent last year, but that we execute our plays more efficiently this year. And that is accredited to players. They have been out here busting it to bring home some big wins during this season."-Coach Yeager

The Tigers averaged 11.2 yards per carry. Schiller Hill threw the ball once for a 16 yard completion to Jesse Hidalgo. The Tigers scored on big plays (25+) 6 times. Including runs of 37, 39, 56, 27, 44, and 45 yard touchdowns.

Individual rushing was lead by Jesse Hidalgo who had 12 carries for 130 yards and averaged a first down for every carry. Brandon Moore went for 10/102 on the ground and averaged a first down for every carry as well. Junior quarterback Schiller Hill had 5/36. Tommy Sandoval had 1 carry for 44 yards. While Damian Toms had 3 carries and rolled up 62 yards. Freshman Jared Hobbs had his first rushing yards in a varsity game Friday night, he had 3 carries for 10 yards. The Tigers will be facing the Nueces Canyon Panthers this coming Friday. Kickoff is at 7:30 be there to support your Tigers!

Annual Texas Wildlife Expo

A Little on the Wildlife Side
Henry Lutz

AUSTIN, Texas -- in keeping with tradition, the eighth annual Texas Wildlife Expo will feature expanded versions of many popular activities to its thousands of visitors.

This year the camping and outdoor skills area has evolved into fully-gear campsites with manufacturers on hand to answer questions, along with a variety of seminars and workshops on camping basics such as cooking and safety. The ever-popular "Wet Zone" will also feature a variety of watercraft from bass boats to canoes.

This two-day event features a variety of attractions, many of which are designed for children and young people. That is why Expo is known as Texas' largest hunting, fishing, rock climbing, birding, mountain biking, conservation, sporting dog, marine life, game calling, law enforcement, boating safety, wild game cooking, fly fishing, international, educational, family, outdoor consumer show.

The 1999 Texas Wildlife Expo is a free, family-orientated event produced by Texas Parks and Wildlife in partnership with industry and conservation groups. Last year about 40,000 visitors attended Expo. Free shuttle service from Reagan High School/Nelson Field, along with limited on-site parking, are available at no charge. The event is scheduled for Oct. 2-3 1999, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at TPW headquarters, located at 4200 Smith School Road in southeast Austin. The 35-acre site is transformed into a busy fairground where visitors can catch fish, shoot sporting clays, view birds of prey in flight, learn about wildlife and much more. A va-

riety of activities, demonstrations and workshops take place throughout the day. The focus is on fun and hands-on learning experiences that acquaint visitors with outdoor recreational opportunities while educating them about responsible use of the outdoors. "This is a unique event where parents and children enjoy a variety of outdoor opportunities," said Andrew Sansom, TPW executive director. "I think it's significant that many children at Expo try an outdoor activity for the first time. For instance, last year nearly 500 children caught their first fish here. Our hope is that after Expo their parents recog-

nize that enthusiasm for fishing and spend time to develop that as a family activity."

The archery demonstration area this year will feature bowhunter Albert "Bubba" Schmidt, sharp shooter Frank Addington, Jr. and crossbow expert Riley Foster. The wildlife area will also be expanded with a live-butterfly tent. The Texas Zoo and John Karger's Bird of Prey Show are some of the many highlights returning to Expo this year.

For more information about Texas Wildlife Expo, call (800) 792-1112 or visit TPW's website at www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

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New V-6 OptiMax Outboards

American Outdoors News Features
A new member has been added to the lineups of the Mercury outboard lineups: the revolutionary OptiMax models. New in the line for '99 is the 2.5 litre V-6 115 hp OptiMax.

These technologically advanced outboards offer dependable turnkey starts, smoke-free operation, smooth-running qualities and an astounding 45 percent better-than-average fuel economy, all without compromising performance.

Merc's OptiMax a 10 percent advantage in fuel economy over any other direct injected outboard on the market translating into big savings. Mercury V-6 OptiMax outboards are also available in 225, 300, 150, and 135-hp.

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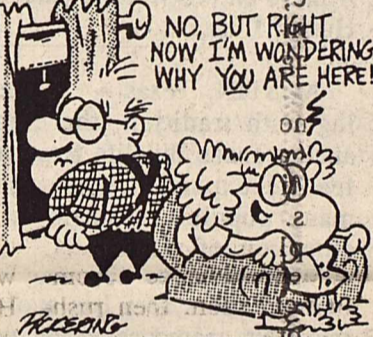
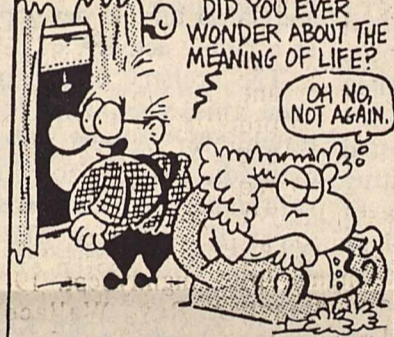
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MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT

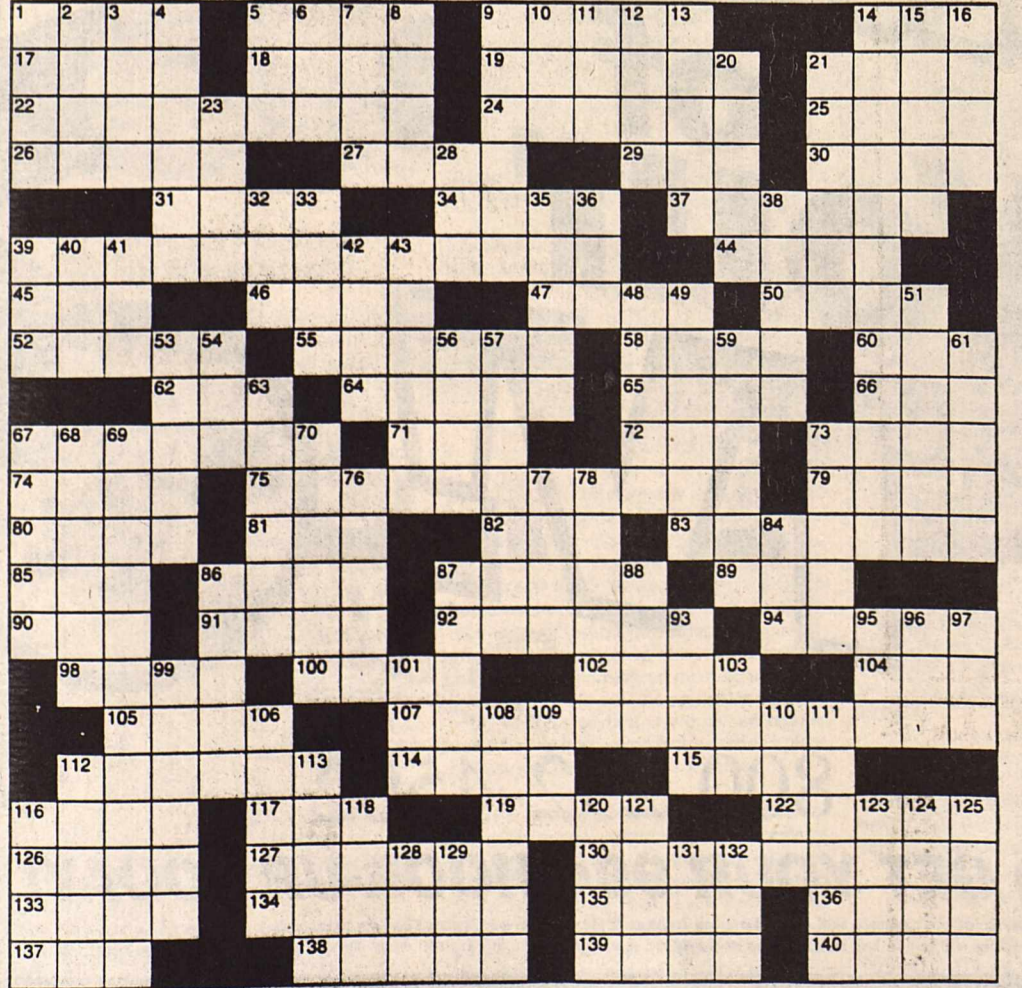


THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING



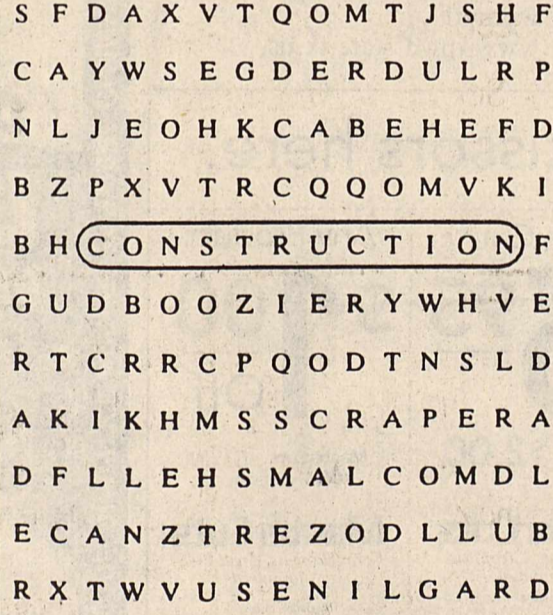
Super Crossword

- ACROSS
 1 Soybean product
 5 Bismarck or Hahn
 9 Luau dances
 14 '70 Jackson
 5 hit
 17 Neat as —
 18 Benedict of "The A-Team"
 19 Model Kim
 21 Banish bacteria
 22 "Your Show of Shows" regular
 24 Apex
 25 Mellows
 26 Capsizes, with "over"
 27 Summon electronically
 29 Reggae relative
 30 Jeff's companion
 31 He gave us a lift
 34 Actor Lincoln
 37 Put the cuffs on
 39 "Louisiana Story" score writer
 44 Weill or Waldheim
 45 Boise's st.
 46 Actor Dullea
 47 Hardy heroine
 50 Novelist
 52 Club creed
 55 Prosperity
 58 Greet the
 64 Tends the sauce
 65 Aware of
 66 Bread spread
 67 Irascible sort
 71 Inventor
 72 "The — Daba Honeymoon"
 73 Mediocre
 74 Pat on the buns?
 75 '80 Olympic boxing medalist
 79 Atkins or Huntley
 80 Swampland
 81 Khan opener?
 82 Bad beginning?
 83 TV's "Judd, for the —"
 85 Leading lady? snake
 86 Leading man?
 87 Bit of parsley
 89 Bear's lair
 90 Kyoto coin
 91 Floor model
 92 Complaints
 94 Hope's "The Prisoner of —"
 98 Swindle
 100 Concerning
 102 Spring flower
 104 Noun suffix
 105 Touch up
 107 New York Tribune founder
 112 '87 Warren
 114 Artistic output
 115 — Scotia
 116 Poker stake
 117 Milne creature
 119 Salt serving
 122 Flynn of films
 126 Trauma aftermath
 127 Disney rabbit
 130 '61 Grammy-winning pianist
 133 Domesticated
 134 Home on the range?
 135 Inland sea
 136 Israeli diplomat
 137 Venomous
 138 Hook's look
 139 Monkee Peter
 140 Chip's chum
 DOWN
 1 Chore
 2 Mayberry
 3 Bona —
 4 Use a plunger
 5 Keats composition
 6 — the season ...
 7 Pitfall
 8 Creole veggie
 9 Birch-family trees
 10 Suffix with "glob"
 11 Ford of football
 12 Geometry term
 13 New Archangel, now
 14 "The Smiling Woman" painter
 15 Actor Jeremy
 16 — la vie"
 20 Remora's host
 21 Item for Avedon
 23 — Spumante
 28 Tiffany treasure
 32 Sort
 33 Prepare prunes
 35 They love to chew the rag
 36 "Wild —"
 ('60 hit)
 38 Rene of "Get Shorty"
 39 Vigor's partner
 40 Bachelor's last words
 41 Inform
 42 Hastens
 43 Speaks one's piece
 48 Shallow area
 49 Seafaring storyteller
 51 Reints
 53 Resort lake
 54 Trams
 56 Leslie Caron role
 57 Victory
 59 Hung around
 61 Ham up
 63 Pretense
 67 Comfortable
 68 Spanish export
 69 "The Collector" star
 70 Vasco the voyageur
 73 Tintinnum
 76 Aegean island
 77 Darjeeling dress
 78 Healing place
 84 Red cap
 86 Come clean
 87 Fly like a falcon
 88 Richard of "Sommersby"
 93 Omen
 95 Zilch
 96 Female goat
 97 "Ask — Girl" ('59 film)
 99 Stick fast
 101 Even if, informally
 103 Smash letters
 106 Card for Carmen
 108 Airplane feature
 109 Botanist Gray
 110 "I — I Would Leave You" ('60 song)
 111 Deserved
 112 Pizarro's victims
 113 Valentine's Day gift
 118 Writer Wister
 120 Petty clash?
 121 Leander's love
 122 Melodious McEntire
 124 Evangelist Roberts
 125 Un-dress accompanied
 128 Gibbon or gorilla
 129 Poe's "Annabel —"
 131 Smoke component
 132 Lodge brother



MAGIC MAZE

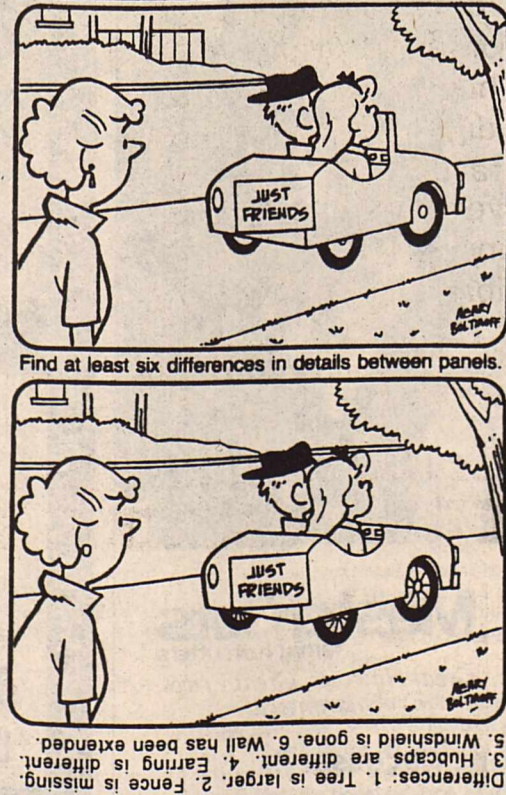
EARTH MOVING



Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Backhoe
 Blade
 Bulldozer
 Clamshell Construction
 Draglines
 Dredges
 Dump truck
 Equipment
 Loader
 Scoop
 Scraper
 Shovels
 Tractor

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Tree is larger. 2. Fence is missing. 3. Hindshield is gone. 4. Earring is different. 5. Windshield is gone. 6. Wall has been extended.

Your Horoscope by Natasha

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) In business, only meet with the associates you know best, for their questions are most predictable. If many answers come to mind, choose the first one - it's as safe a guess as any.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) There is much to be learned from the people around you, whether they are near to your heart or far removed. You need new ideas and fresh viewpoints right now.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Keep your own counsel and do not initiate any projects for the time being. Examine your motivations closely, as they may be questioned by others.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Think in terms of "we" instead of "I." Now is the time when teamwork and cooperation could take you to the next level.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) You feel drained of energy and willpower. Be cautious of potential manipulators trying to get their way with you.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Life looks as bright as a technician happy ending. Everywhere you look, someone wants to give you a hug or a pat on the back.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Survey your surroundings carefully before making any adjustments. When redecorating, remember that the most subtle touches often are the most enjoyable.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You are so cordial and congenial, you even surprise yourself. It's so obvious that you have an inside track; people find it pointless to argue.



SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Take yourself on a little retreat from the pressures of day-to-day life. However, this retreat should include more education than recreation.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Get out on the catwalk and show 'em what you've got. The cameras are clicking and the reporters are ready - not to mention the fan club.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A tidal wave of emotion may sweep through your mind, leaving you soaked and bewildered. Get to the highlands as fast as you can.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Love and romance make it impossible for you to think about business matters. Take a few deep breaths and let your head clear.
YOU BORN THIS WEEK: Peculiarities and puzzles delight you, and there are few mysteries that you will not try to solve. You understand that the universe holds much more than we can comprehend at this time, but that knowledge only encourages you to invent new things and explore new places.
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sept. 16..... Jonathan Pinales
 Sept. 17..... Karen Crumley
 Sept. 17..... Rosane Dalton
 Sept. 18..... Marge Batchelor
 Sept. 18..... Gladys Burkepile
 Sept. 18..... Martha Martinez
 Sept. 18..... Gracie Morin
 Sept. 18... Maria Reschman
 Sept. 20..... Will Shahan
 Sept. 21.... Cecilia Arroyos
 Sept. 21. Caroline Longoria
 Sept. 21.... Brian Towfiscend
 Sept. 22..... Lance LaMarcus
 Sept. 22..... Frank Taylor

