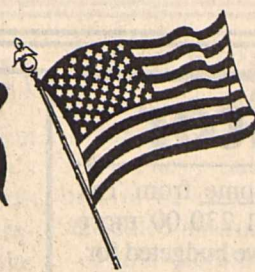


# The Brackett News



Vote Early  
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12th year, No. 7

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

## Council approves sale of property

City Manager says employees quit over envy and jealousy

The council approved the sale of lots 8-10, Lorange addition, to Ernest Valenzuela at the last regular council meeting.

The lots, located at the intersection of FM 2804 and Spring Street, were previously owned by Puffy Porter. The city purchased the property from Porter due to the encroachment of gas and water lines on the property.

Valenzuela approached Luna approximately two weeks ago and asked to store some pipes on the property directly behind his property.

"That being the lots that we purchased from Mr. Porter when we had the differences on the lines that were running through that property," said Luna.

Valenzuela subsequently asked if there was anyway the city would sell him that lot, plus the other two.

"He understands there are lines running through that property, he's willing to buy that with the clause stating he understands those lines went through there and he won't try to cause us any problems," explained Luna.

This property has been off the tax rolls since the city purchased them. The price Luna quoted to the mayor and council is for the

original purchase price plus the attorneys fees.

"I gave him the figure which it cost us to purchase those pieces of property which was \$7,449.49. That was a cost per lot of \$1,241.58. He saw no problem with that. I also stated that more than likely, my recommendation to the council would be that he pay the attorney fees and he saw no problem with that," explained Luna.

"I see no problem with the purchase of the property, I think it would be best to get them back on the tax rolls and to relieve ourselves from the liability of that line that he's willing to take care of that property," added Luna.

Councilwoman Tencha Pena asked the city manager why three city employees had resigned in the last month.

"Is there an internal problem within the city administration, we've lost two more good employees in the last week, that makes a total of four in the last six months, asked Pena, "Is it their own doing, is it something that's going on that we should be aware of?"

"I've had three people quit because they were dissatisfied, one was a baby-sitters problem the other two were not happy with the

pay in comparison to another individuals' pay and said pay me more or we quit. They went into it together and I don't have any reason for them quitting other than that," answered Luna.

According to Luna the former employees were comparing their wages to someone that was just recently been hired as a laborer and mechanic. The present mechanic is about ready to retire.

"You have a mechanic that is about to retire, who is drawing social security and I'm planning for that. Mr. Cardenas is aware

*Continued on Page 3*

## Man killed in brawl

A fight at a local bar left one man dead and another injured late Sunday evening.

Manuel "Timber" Sanchez, 44, of Brackettville has been charged with the murder of Alfonso Gomez, Jr., 30, also of Brackettville.

The altercation occurred at approximately 9:40 PM at Mario's Pub. It apparently stemmed from some past grudge between Sanchez and Gomez.

Gomez received a wound to the left arm and a stab wound to the chest. He was pronounced dead shortly after arrival at Val Verde Regional Medical Center.

Sanchez fled the scene and was

arrested at his residence by Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism and Trooper Tom Wylie at 10:06 PM. Sanchez did not attempt to resist arrest and voluntarily surrendered a knife, believed to be the murder weapon.

Sanchez has also been charged with the attempted murder of bar manager Jerry Guidry. Guidry was wounded in the right arm and abdominal area while attempting to break up the fight.

Guidry was released from the hospital Tuesday afternoon.

Sanchez is currently being held in the Kinney County Jail on bonds totaling \$75,000.

## Briefs ...

### FOLLIES 2000

The Fort Clark Dance Company and The Old Quarry Society will present the annual Variety Show, entitled "Follies 2000," on Saturday, March 25, 2000, at Post Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door only.

The first half of the show will feature the dancers in a number of outstanding costumes created by Norma Schramm. The second half of the evening will include a variety of local musicians, both vocal and instrumental.

The entire show will be on a level of professionalism frequently seen only in larger cities.

Plan now to attend "Follies 2000" on Saturday, March 25, at Post Theatre at 7:30 p.m. The audience will be seated at 7:10. Tickets will be available at the door.

### Council's gift to FCS

Community Council's gift to FCS's membership is a "Free hamburger cookout on April 1st (no fooling) at 12:00 noon at the Swim Park. It happens to be the first Saturday in April, which is also the scheduled "Cavalry Brigade's" cleanup project. You do not have to participate in the cleanup for the cookout, which is called the "Mad Hatter's Spring Fling Ding." Remember the event is a gift to the membership from the Community Council. Bring your family and enjoy this special event.

### Border Patrol Stats

Border Patrol Agents seize more than 1,900 pounds of marijuana

Del Rio, Texas- U.S. Border Patrol Agents of the Del Rio Sector seized 1,922 pounds of marijuana Monday, March 20, 2000.

Agents performing linewatch duties approximately 11 miles upriver from the Eagle Pass Port of Entry discovered 33 nylon feed sacks hidden under some brush near the Rio Grande River. The sacks contained wrapped bundles of marijuana.

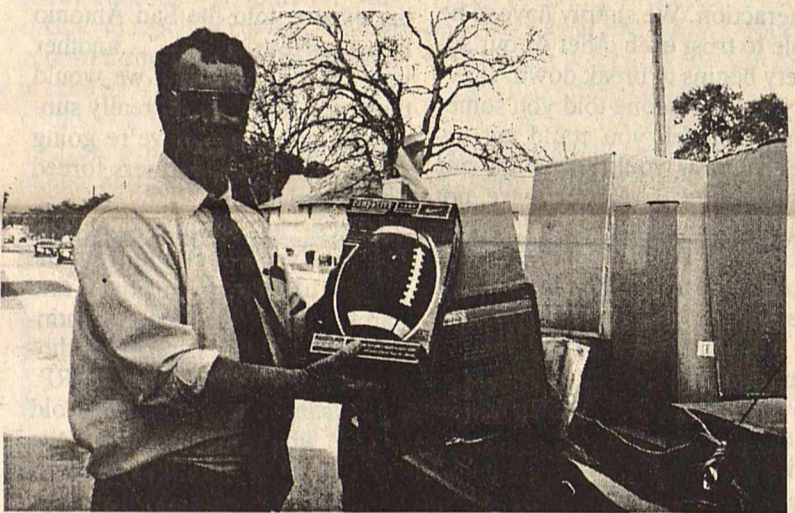
The marijuana, valued at \$1,537,600, was turned over to the Multi-Agency Drug Task Force in Eagle Pass.

### Border Patrol Stats

Del Rio, Texas- The following is a report of apprehensions by Border Patrol agents assigned to the Del Rio Sector for the period March 13-19, 2000. The information is provided by station, and includes a sector total.

Abilene-12, Brackettville-490, Carrizo Springs-706, Comstock-55, Del Rio-797, Eagle Pass-2,467, Llano-19, Rocksprings-75, San Angelo-29, Uvalde-151, Sector Total-4,801, Other than Mexicans-115.

## Nike's Brackettville discovers Brackettville



Taylor Stephenson pictured with sports equipment donated by Nike to Brackettville.

By Taylor Stephenson  
B.I.S.D. Superintendent

I noticed it several days ago! A sign on the Nike's basketball commercial that welcomed you to "Brackettville." The idea was probably taken from march madness and the 64 team tournament bracket. Thus, the town of Brackettville was the setting for all Nike's commercials. Nike commercials are seen nationally. I saw them in Missouri. I know that Julia and Richard Terrazas saw them in South Carolina. They play regularly in Brackettville.

The story continues in that Nike was told that the town of Brackettville (Texas) really existed. An advertising group arrived in

Brackettville, Texas, to check out the real Brackettville. The first indications that these folks wanted to know more was from Tulisha Wardlaw who found the group filming at Alamo Village. She believes that Nike did not know that there was a Brackettville, USA. The advertising group was sent from San Antonio to film the real Brackettville. They had heard of Alamo Village and thought it was a great place to start filming.

These folks located Stoney Burks, school principal, and filmed him at the high school gym. They were able to film Judge Senne and then moved on to Davis Hardware. Word from the hardware store is that they came inside and filmed there also.

David Luna called the school Monday afternoon and said that 21 boxes of balls and bats had arrived at his office compliments of Nike. He said come get them and use them for the school children. David had been involved in helping let Nike know that Brackettville existed. It didn't take me long to go check out the equipment and it was really Nike (check mark and all). Curiosity directed me to the City Hall where Luna and his trusty helpers loaded the 21 boxes of sports equipment on to my truck. Looking more like Santa's Sled than a pickup, my truck (and I) arrived at the school with the Nike equipment.

That's about it. Isn't it a great story. Welcome to Brackettville Nike and Brackettville! Your kind donation to our school children is greatly appreciated. The school board and I pray that as you read this story that you will decide to make a permanent marker at our school in donating a new football scoreboard, price about \$8250. We'd be happy to give recognition to Nike for its sponsorship and endorsement of sports programs in Brackettville, Texas. We're glad you found us. We'll be using the equipment with the check marks on it for years to come. How about that scoreboard, Nike? Let's celebrate a new found friendship: Brackettville welcome to Brackettville, Texas!

## Commissioners raise Deputy Clerk's salary

policy that covers civil lawsuits. These two items were on the agenda, but were not discussed in open court.

After reconvening in open session, Commissioner Joe Williams made the motion to set the salary for Deputy Clerk Josie Meyer \$6.79 per hour.

"I move that we set salary, since it's already in the budget, for the remaining fiscal year at \$6.79. It's already there, it's already set," said Williams.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Joe Montalvo and carried unanimously.

The county's policy, for hiring employees at the 'entry level', sets a salary based on \$6.00 per hour. Employees are also on a 6 month probation period before review of job performance.

"Policy for new employees is \$6.00. Entry level is \$6," said Senne.

"The only reply I can give you, because of the confidentiality of the Executive Session is that Commissioners' Court has the prerogative to county employees, to set their salary at whatever amount they deem appropriate," added Senne.

For the past year, Senne with the assistance from TAC and the input from elected officials and department heads, have been in the process of putting on paper, job descriptions and responsibilities of every employee in the county and devising a job performance grading system. Then the commissioners could use the information in determining when and how much an employee would be entitled to

## Santinelli to give free concert next Monday



Pictured above: Silvana Suarez Santinelli, a gifted pianist, will be performing March 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cavalry Room at the Las Moras Restaurant. The concert is free to the public. Through the combined efforts of the Kinney County Arts Council and the Old Quarry Society we are very fortunate to have Ms. Santinelli here again.

## School District withholds final payment

By Dottie Cruz  
Staff Writer

The board voted unanimously to withhold the final payment of \$75,000 for the new high school building. The board is waiting until the construction work has been completed and the architect and engineer provide a certification of completion.

The architect and engineer are expected to arrive this week to inspect the building.

"Until those last three exhaust fans are in and until they can get us a certification, my recommendation is that you hold at least \$25,000 of the roughly \$75,000 of their monies we still have now," suggested Stephenson.

"I'm in favor of not paying them until they are through," added Davis.

The cabinets in the Science Room that were added on by the contractor after the bid was ac-

cepted will not be paid for by the district.

"They're still hoping we will pay some of it, we have made no deals with anybody," said Stephenson.

"To me that was a bid error on their part and that's easy for them to come back and say we made a mistake on our bid. Well, everybody else that made a bid on it, maybe didn't make that mistake. So if they made a mistake on the bidding, that's their fault," said Davis.

"To come back later and say we made a mistake we need to add some more. I'd be ashamed to do that if I was the contractor," added Davis.

The Brackett Independent School District is six months into it's fiscal year. The revenue is coming in at a higher rate than the school is spending it. Total revenue by percentage is at 58.47 percent. The total for expenditure

is 45.43 percent.

"That's where we are at and it looks all right," said Stephenson.

The three budget amendments approved added revenue in the amount of \$2,339. \$1,960 increased the Class Size Reduction Program. The Education Program received \$243 which will be used for library books. The Safe and Drug Free Schools Program gained \$136.

Dave Wilkens' Auto Mechanics' Class surprised the Superintendent by repairing a 1984 Chevy Suburban owned by the district, but hasn't been running for the last two years.

"I got a call about three weeks ago, telling me it was running, I asked 'what is running' and they said the old Suburban what do we do with it now? Now, that it's running we are going to try to sell it," said Stephenson.

The Board approved to adver-

*Continued on Page 3*

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## Letter to the Editor

Respectfully request correction to your article printed in the Thursday, March 16, 2000 issue of the Brackett News, page 3, under the headline "Appraisal District over budget on several line items."

Your article misrepresents the facts presented at the meeting and reports information in a negative context! I am specifically concerned with correcting the following:

Two items were already over budget through the fifth month of the current budget. Line items for tax Certificates were 123 percent over budget and office expenses were over budget by 13 percent.

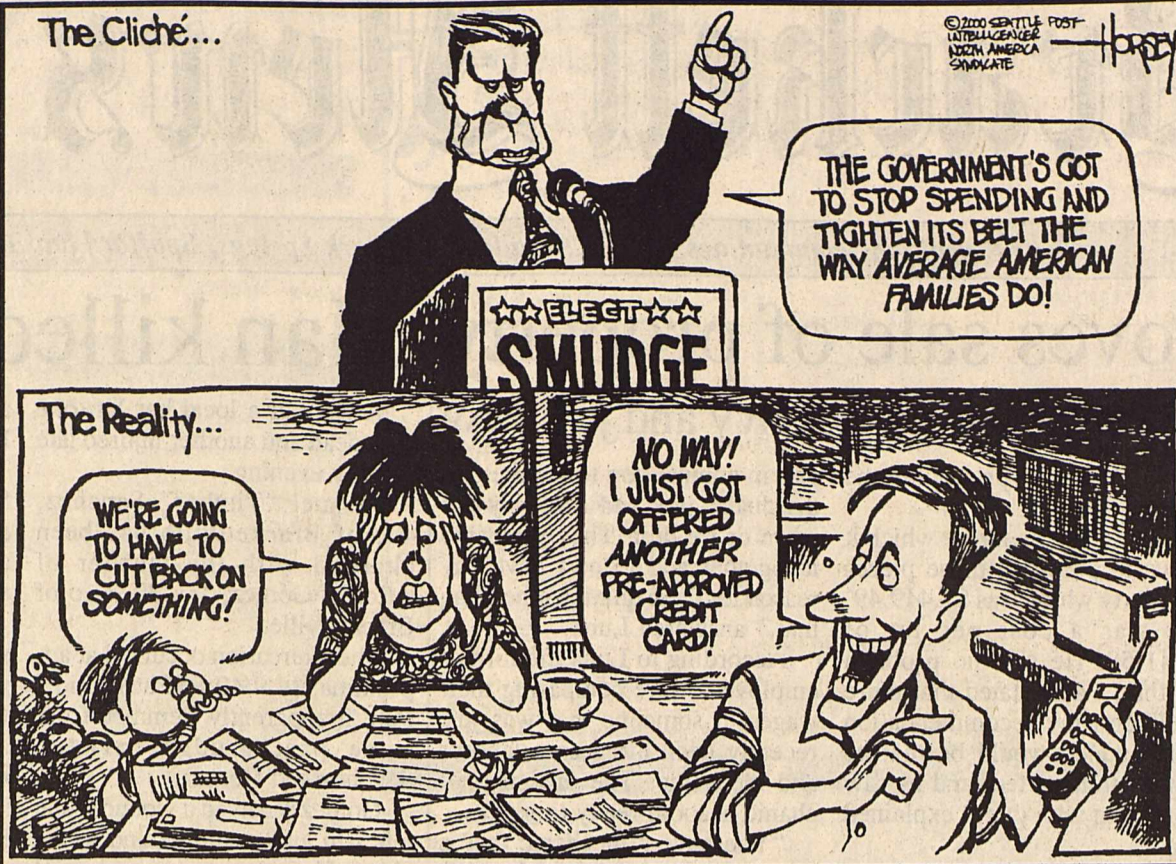
The budget report presented (and accepted) to the board reflects the income Line for Tax Certificates at 223.0% as a % of

Budget. (our income from Tax Certificates is \$1,230.00 more year to date than we budgeted for, this is a positive number). Only one expense line of forty-six line items in the FY 2000 budget (2% of the lines) is currently over budget by \$404.01. Overall budget performance, year to date, is excellent. Your reporter's "gloom and doom" perspective is unfortunate considering the encouraging progress the Appraisal District has made in the past year.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this request.

William F. Haenn  
Chief Appraiser

■ Editor's Note: We did fail to report that Tax Certificates are a revenue line item.



## Ruining Peter to pay Paul

Submitted By  
U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

About \$1.8 trillion will be spent by the government this year. Congress has to approve the ways the money is spent, to make sure it's being used in the best ways possible. Otherwise, problems occur - problems like the one that's just been exposed at the United States Department of Agriculture. Here's what happened.

Maybe they were tired of having to explain how it wanted to spend your money, maybe they were afraid Congress would never go for the program, but the USDA set up a boondoggle called the Urban Resources Partnership (URP) behind Congress' back. For six years, more than twenty million dollars was taken from other programs at the USDA, and used to fund the URP. Checks were written to pay for, among other things, Sierra Club members' outings, wall murals, and urban habitat classrooms. Checks were even written to pay the salaries of people working for the URP - a program that legally was not supposed to exist.

According to a report recently released by the USDA Inspector General's office, "the Department did not select cities/areas...on a competitive basis." In fact, the report said two of the main criteria used to decide whether a city would get URP money were "political support" and the "strength of Congressional delegation."

By the spring of 1999, Texas farmers were in the middle of what would turn out to be the driest year in more than four decades. Carl Anderson, a Texas cotton marketing expert, told the San Antonio Express-News it was, "...another year on the edge, and we would think that unless some really substantial help comes, we're going to see some more farmers forced out of agriculture."

Even as farmers across America were buckling from the strain of cheap imports and parched land, the USDA continued to rob congressionally authorized programs to fund the URP. At the same time, the USDA told anyone who would listen that the agency did not have enough money to pay its employees' salaries, or loan farmers money they desperately needed to plant crops. In April, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman said he had to use money meant to be used for salaries to shore up the account used for loan assistance. However, he lamented that, if Congress did not give the USDA more money quickly, "...we will be looking at office closings and furloughs."

Some of the grants handed out by the URP were no doubt worthwhile. But there are reasons agencies are not handed blank checks with no explanation required. The USDA should have ensured it could pay the bills it had before looking for new places to spend your money.

### Your Representatives

**U.S. Senator**  
The Honorable Phil Gramm  
370 Russell Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**U.S. Senator**  
The Honorable  
Kay Bailey Hutchison  
283 Russell Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Congressman 23rd District**  
The Honorable Henry Bonilla  
110 E. Broadway  
Del Rio, Texas 78840  
1-830-774-6547

**Governor**  
The Honorable George W. Bush  
Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711  
1-800-252-9600

**State Senator District 19**  
The Honorable Frank Madla  
Texas Senate  
P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
1-512-463-0121

**State Representative District 74**  
The Honorable Pete P. Gallego  
1110 W. 10th Street  
Del Rio, Texas 78840  
1-830-774-0800

## 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 refuse or 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!



Share a burden with a friend.  
Two heads can  
often be better than one  
in finding solutions.

## The Brackett News

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Jewel Robinson, Publisher; Dimple Henry, Office Manager; Dottie Cruz, Staff Writer; Steve Lamascus, Outdoor Writer.

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## Honesty, the Continuing Saga

The Way I See It  
By Steven R. LaMascus

I have written several times on honesty. I think that a person who does not strive to be honest is less than a person, and while all of us slip occasionally, I feel that the vast majority of the population is basically honest. So, if we accept this premise, why do we all accept so much open dishonesty in our society?

Our government wouldn't recognize honesty if it were a rattlesnake and bit them on the whatever. We accept and expect that our government, which is supposed to be a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," will tell bald-faced lies to us, The People, on a regular basis, using state security as a blanket excuse for their dishonesty. Why do we accept this?

We accept and expect that people in business and advertising will tell us thinly disguised lies every day in an attempt to coerce us into purchasing their products. We all know this. Why do we allow it?

If someone asks us a question and we are uncomfortable with the truth, we tell them a little white lie to protect our measly psyches. The Lord forbid that we should tell the truth and have someone upset with us. No, no it is much better to lie and be safe, and se-

cure, and happy, and dishonest.

The media is the worst of all. They tell us lies and really expect us to swallow them as unvarnished truth. They think that it is all how you perceive the truth. The truth is subjective. If you perceive something as the truth then it is the truth no matter what the facts are. They take our Christian beliefs, add a little sarcasm, a pinch of cynicism, a dab of fact and cook up the "truth" that all we are is hateful, bigoted, intolerant, cruel, and close-minded. They take Bill Clinton's perjury and other criminal acts, stir and spin well, and say that it is only about a personal, private relationship, and that it is none of our business what the President of the United States does in MY Whitehouse. Wrong! He just lives there. It belongs to me and I don't like adulterous, lying, criminal, blasphemers in MY house.

Honesty is one of the most important aspects of our lives. When someone speaks of another person he will almost invariably include in the description whether or not he thinks that person is honest. Even in this jaded time we respect and value honesty and integrity. We don't get to see enough of it these days, but we still value it nonetheless. How many times have you heard, "Yeah, he's not the most loveable

guy I ever met, but you can take what he tells you to the bank?" That is a glowing recommendation as far as I am concerned. I would like to think I am somewhat loveable, or at least likeable, well, tolerable anyway, but if I can't have that, I will be very happy with honest.

Now don't get me wrong. I will, like any other human, occasionally tell a lie because I don't want to admit the truth. I catch myself at it and it distresses me. I don't want to, but like the Apostle Paul says, sometimes "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do." That is, unfortunately, human.

Honesty is the basis of human interaction. We simply have to be able to trust each other or our society begins to break down. If every time someone told you something you felt you could not believe it, you would spend all your time being sure you were not cheated and nothing would ever get done. Trust is necessary, and honesty is necessary for trust to develop.

I want my friends to like me. But more importantly, I want them to trust me. If I lost their trust I would lose their respect and their friendship and we would no longer be friends, but just acquaintances. And you can take that to the bank!

## Texans identify world hot-spot priorities

Submitted by  
U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison

The former Soviet Union and Europe should remain the primary focus of America's foreign policy, according to those readers who replied to my annual questionnaires, which your newspaper published this past December and January.

The question I asked was, "The U.S. is the world's last remaining superpower. We are capable of deploying troops to almost every crisis in the world. But if we are not careful, we could overextend our troops and weaken our ability to respond to the big crises that demand a superpower's attention. Please rank the importance of the following regions, with "10" being the most important and "1" being the least important region:"

Europe - Our 50-year involvement in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and our historic ties to Western Europe.

Asia - Our long-standing treaties with allies Japan and South Korea, our special commitment to Taiwan and the rise of a more powerful China.

Russia - Helping Russia's transition from a communism to democracy and a free market and trying to contain the proliferation of its nuclear arsenal.

Latin America - Anti-drug assistance to Mexico and Columbia and ensuring security of the Panama Canal.

Middle East - Our longtime commitment to Arab-Israeli peace and our protection of Persian Gulf oil supplies.

Your answers were definitive, with 34 percent of you identifying Russia as your most impor-

tant foreign policy concern, followed by Europe, 19 percent, Asia, 17 percent, Latin America 16 percent and the Middle East, 14 percent. Here are some of your comments:

From Bryan - "We have to keep an eye on Russia but work to make sure it becomes a firm member of Europe, not an enemy."

McKinney - "The jury is still out on whether Russia is truly stable, and if China is willing to stay inside its own borders."

Wadsworth - "I am concerned that Russia has become more sympathetic to China and the Middle East countries that opposed us."

Angleton - "The stability of Russia ought to be a top concern."

Greenville - "This is a no-brainer. China is building up its military, shooting rockets at Japan, and Russia still has its nuclear missiles. Until this changes, it is our major challenge."

Austin - "Whatever we do, we have to cooperate with Western Europe. For all our differences, their values are the closest to ours."

Perrin - "China is far and away the most dangerous and daring."

Corpus Christi - "Our trading with China and letting them into the White House was wrong, and we will eventually pay a price."

Childress - "We should pay less attention to the Middle East, and concentrate on developing our own oil supply."

San Antonio - "I'm still worried about Iraq. I don't think we've heard the last from Saddam Hussein."

Yorktown - "We need to build our relationships with Europe, England and Japan, but on an equal partnership basis with

them."

Kerrville - "My main worry is small-time dictators with long range nuclear weapons."

A significant number of you raised concerns about the Chinese government's activities in the Panama Canal zone. We must watch that situation very closely and be ready to respond - with military force if necessary - to make sure the world knows that it is a vital security interest of the United States that the Panama Canal remain open to the world's shipping.

Your response show that Texans understand our superpower commitment to maintain stability in many important spots on the globe. My priority in the Senate has been to focus our foreign policy and defense resources on those areas where our direct involvement is critical - in Asia, where the Chinese must understand our resolve; in NATO, our strongest defense alliance; in Russia to establish relations and prevent nuclear proliferation; to be a stabilizing force in the Mideast; and to try to establish trade within our hemisphere. It's good knowing, as I press this message in Congress, that the people of Texas see it about the same way.

Stop moping  
around!  
Get rid of those  
unwanted items.



Place your ad in  
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Classifieds,  
And get results fast!!!

## City to register collection site as transfer station

*Continued from Page 1*  
of it and so is the individual that I hired," said Luna.

According to Luna both former employees had been sent to school for Animal Control and were unable to pass the required tests at a cost of approximately \$300 to the city.

"I see a bit of jealousy, a little bit of envy when you decide to do those types of things. I think if you are qualified to do something, you should get paid that amount. I don't think you should get paid the minimum wage if you are worth more and I don't think you should get more if you don't pro-

duce. Regardless of how long you have been there," said Luna.

A complaint was filed with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) about the tires that were growing in number at the Citizen's Collection Site on Highway 90 West. The city has paid over \$6,000 to date for disposing of the problem.

"On the day they showed up we were already removing the tires. The law states you can't have over 500 tires on the ground at one time and we are allowed up to 499," said Luna.

To date, six trailer loads of tires have been removed from the Col-

lection Site by the firm of Safe Tire Disposal Corporation of Texas from San Antonio. Copies of the receipts were faxed to Salvador Cardenas and a correspondence was mailed March 1st to Henry Karnei, Jr., of TNRCC.

"They complained about the fact this easement was their biggest problem. The inspector looked at the operation and said it was a clean operation. However, because we have grown and we have people bringing stuff to the 'Gobbler' we should be considered a transfer station and they wanted us to apply for a permit," explained Luna.

The request for an application to register the present Citizen's Collection Site as a Transfer Station was included in the correspondence to Karnei and the TNRCC.

Bertha Reschman will be the presiding Election Judge and Zulema Wilson will serve as her assistant in the upcoming City General Election to be held May 6th. The election will be for position of Mayor and 3 council seats.

## Jones Elementary has record enrollment

*Continued from Page 1*  
tise for bids for the sale of the 1984 Chevy Suburban with the bids to be reported at the next scheduled meeting on April 10th.

Paula Renken, Principal of Jones Elementary School reported there were 400 student enrolled with two more expected by the first of April. This number is a record for the number of students enrolled at Jones Elementary.

The Landscaping for the new

High School and annex is almost complete.

"The benches look good, the sidewalks and pad is finished out in front of the Annex. Real pleased with the way the kids like it, in fact they write us letters, thanking us for it. They are really proud of it," said Stephenson.

The Fire Marshall approved the proposed plans to cut out new entrances to the Tiger Gym and the construction of a room under the bleachers. Plans include re-surfacing and painting the gym floor. Installing indoor/outdoor carpet in the walkways of the shower area.

Under the direction of Taylor Stephenson and assisted by Hector Jimenez, the Tiger Band will be going to John Jay High School in San Antonio on April the 5th to compete in a UIL Concert Competition that requires three musical scores the band knows and a sight reading to be performed for the judges.

"They'll be fine and they're going to have fun. They're working hard and I push them pretty hard and they are doing well," concluded Stephenson.

## Kinney County Sheriff's Report .....

**Tuesday, March 14**

9:06 a.m., Maverick County Sheriffs Department reported receiving a cellular call that an 18 wheeler had jackknifed on 277 North. Advised Trooper Ashley of the accident. Ashley called Del Rio DPS and requested they send a unit to the location.

**Wednesday, March 15**

9:00 a.m., Fort Clark Security called and requested a trapper come to remove a raccoon. No trapper was around. Security asked if they could shoot the animal with permission from Sheriff Burgess. Burgess gave them the OK to go ahead and shoot it themselves.

2:09 p.m., A local woman requested a deputy go to a house on East Veltman and remove some beer on a fence. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter took care of it.

**Thursday, March 16**

10:34 a.m., Trooper Slubar reported 4 cows loose on Hwy 90 and FM 1572. The cows had an identifying brand belonged to a local rancher. Dispatcher was unable to reach the owner. Slubar reported they herded the cows to a nearby ranch and the owner could pick them up there.

5:58 p.m., A local resident called and reported doors were

opened at a local business and the place closes at 5 p.m. Manager was called and advised of the situation.

**Friday, March 17**

1:45 a.m., Fort Clark Security reported two individuals passed out by the Red Bridge. Deputy Bobby Guidry took care of problem.

12:20 p.m., Local bar owner called and reported a local woman was "Driving like a bat out of hell". Deputy Guidry and Police Chief Ron Ring were advised of the situation.

5:26 p.m., A Spofford resident reported his trailer was broken into while he was out. Deputy Guidry investigated. Guidry upon arriving found someone (possibly illegal's) had broken in through the door on the West side of the house to gain entry. Two pair of pants were taken and their's were left behind. Intruders had also eaten lunch while they were there. Nothing of value was missing.

8:45 p.m., EMS from Val Verde called and reported a fire on Hwy 90 and FM 3008. Deputy Karl Chism went to scene and reported fire under control.

9:34 p.m., A local man called and reported kids breaking bottles on North Pafford Street. Deputy

Chism went to investigate.

**Saturday, March 18**

9:40 a.m., A local rancher reported 3 dogs on his property and a few minutes later he found one of his Registered Ewe's dead. The Ewe was valued at \$500. Deputy Guidry and Police Chief Ring spoke to the owner of the dogs. Advised the owner her dogs could be responsible for the damage and the rancher has the right to protect his stock from roving dogs on private property.

**Sunday, March 19**

9:59 a.m., A local man reported a dead cow on Highway 90 East two miles out of town. A local rancher was called. He said it wasn't his, but since the highway department doesn't have a site to bury the cow it could be buried on his property.

9:41 p.m., An unidentified caller reported EMS and a deputy was needed at Mario's Pub. Someone had been knifed. Deputy Chism along with Trooper Wylie went to the location to investigate.

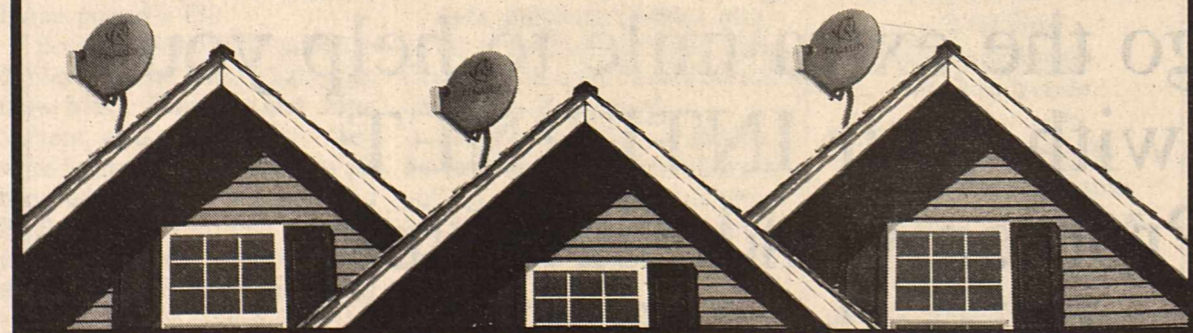
10:06 p.m., Manuel Dimas Sanchez, 44 from Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Chism for murder and attempted murder. Sanchez is being held at the Kinney County Jail.

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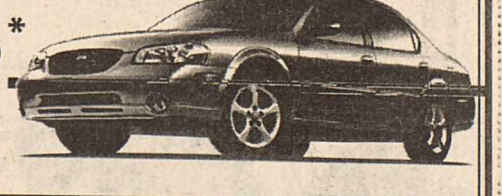


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## DPS Narcotics makes largest Ecstasy bust in Texas history

DPS Narcotics officers seized enough chemicals Monday and Tuesday from three Texas locations to manufacture more than 300 pounds of Ecstasy.

"My initial impression is that this appears to be one of the most significant clandestine laboratory seizures for Ecstasy in Texas history," said Lt. Patrick O'Burke of the DPS Narcotics Service in Corpus Christi.

The first search warrant was served Monday at a ranch in northeast Frio County, approximately 30 miles south of San Antonio. Officers searched a large,

well-organized clandestine laboratory that was geared primarily toward the production of Ecstasy. The lab also was producing small amounts of methamphetamine.

Investigators said that the laboratory had been booby-trapped using flash-bang grenades that had the pins pulled out. The grenades were set next to containers of flammable liquids. Also recovered at the lab in Frio County were:

- \* Chemical laboratory apparatuses
- \* 300,000 empty gel capsules
- \* Enough chemicals to produce at least 100 pounds of Ecstasy.

### Water educational campaign

The Texas Agriculture Extension Service in Kinney County is launching an educational campaign to help residents understand and make informed decisions on issues relating to water announced Robert Elledge County Extension Agent in Kinney County. The educational campaign known as Water 2000 Plus, has been tailored to address this county's water needs, whether related to water quality, supply, conservation or planning said Robert Elledge.

In Kinney County, the program will focus on water resources, conservation and selling, which was the #1 issue identified in the Texas Community Futures Forum (TCFF).

"Water continues to be a critical issue in all areas of Texas, particularly in areas of low rainfall such as Southwest Texas," said Dr. Chester Fehlis, deputy director of the Extension Service. "The Texas Community Futures Forum showed that water was identified as a key issue in almost every county in the state. Water 2000 Plus is responding to that by heightening an awareness of water issues in our communities."

The population growth underway in most areas of Texas is com-

pounding the water challenges being faced across the state. The Texas population is expected to increase from 19 million in 1998 to more than 30 million by 2050; however, while demand for water will increase, water supply will remain the same. This potential shortage creates challenges for community leaders as they plan future water use in municipal and agricultural areas.

"I think water conservation is a must. Clearly there will be shortages in the future. We must take steps now to protect our water supply and educate people about our water resources," said Dr. Bill Harris, associate director of the Extension Service. "Water in the future will be even more limited as our population increases. It behooves all of us to learn about and protect our water quality and water supply."

For more information about the Water 2000 Plus educational campaign, contact Robert Elledge, County Extension Agent at 830-563-2442.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

There were indications that much more than that had already been produced.

In a search warrant served Tuesday at a rental storage facility in Houston, investigators seized:

- \* 200 pounds of liquid safrol, a precursor chemical for manufacturing ecstasy
- \* 180 pounds of liquid toluene
- \* Anhydrous ammonia
- \* Hydrogen bromide gas.
- \* Investigators said there were enough chemicals to make 100 pounds of Ecstasy.

In a third search warrant served at a storage unit in San Antonio, officers seized 304 pounds of liquid safrol, 55 gallons of toluene, a cylinder of anhydrous ammonia and 600 pounds of hydrogen bromide gas. Investigators believe that more than 100 pounds of Ecstasy could be produced with these chemicals.

The criminal investigation continues into the laboratory and the range of distribution for the drugs.

## Young visitors impressed with Brackettville

By Dottie Cruz  
Staff Writer

Chris Payne, age 10, from Odessa was visiting his grandmother Julia Payne this week while on "Spring Break" along with his friend Alexander Aguilar, age 11, from Del Rio.

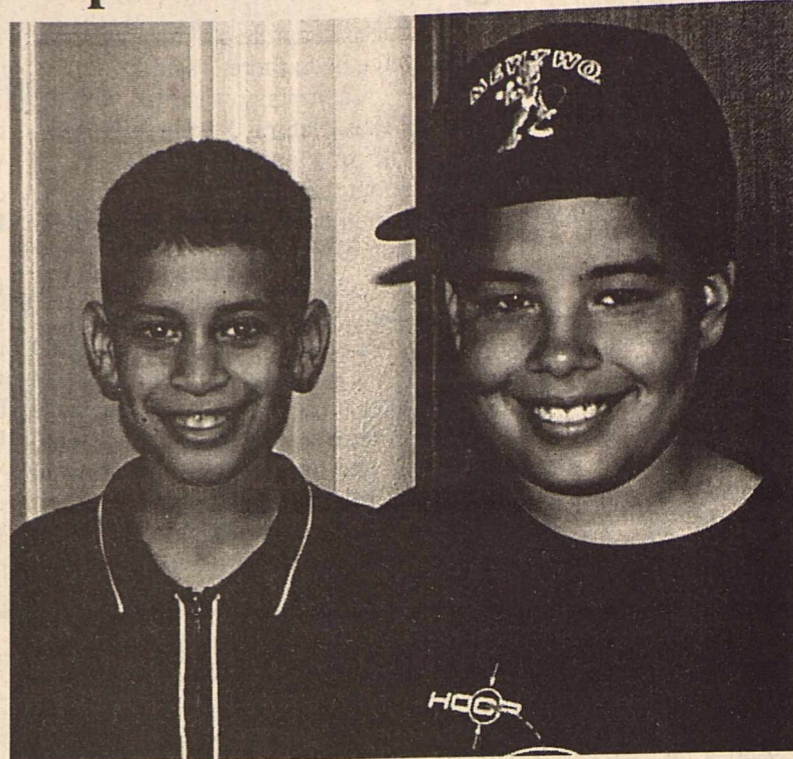
Chris' dad Nelson Payne of San Angelo became friends with Alexander's uncle Joe Aguilar and they introduced the two boys who have become 'Bestfriends'.

"His uncle is one my dad's friends and they live in San Angelo. I was with my Dad for Spring Break and there's a golf tournament here this weekend and they're in the golf tournament," said Chris.

The boys are enjoying their break with the freedom of being able to get out and run around Brackett and Fort Clark Springs.

"It's a nice town, we can go anywhere we want. In San Angelo, it's like where people don't trust other people. We're so happy here," Chris added.

Alexander who lives in Del Rio doesn't get over to Brackett as



Pictured above: (left) Chris Payne age 10 and friend Alexander Aguilar, age 11 visiting local resident Julia Payne for their 'Spring Break' from school.

much as he would like to, it's just when Chris visits his grandmother.

"When I come with him

(Chris), I like the store, Super S. Just walk up from his grandmother's house and buy something," said Alexander.

## Outdoors

### Budweiser Share A Luncker Program

#### Gets Two More West Texas Entries Del Rio Man Catches 13 Pounder

A little on the Wildlife side  
By Henry Lutz

ATHENS, Texas — In a flip-flop from the norm, West Texas fisheries have produced more entries in this year's Budweiser ShareLunker program than their Pineywoods counterparts. Six of the 10 trophy bass collected thus far in the program — all caught in February — have come from lakes west of Interstate 35, including three from Lake O.H. Ivey.

The latest luncker is a 13.26-pound largemouth bass caught

Feb. 27 from White River Lake. Charles Russell Collings from Lubbock caught his luncker in 8-10 feet of water on a crankbait near the dam. The fish measured 26.25 inches in length with a 22.25-inch girth.

Budweiser ShareLunker number 9 is a 13.05-pounder that was also caught Feb. 27 from Lake Amistad. Thomas Kish from Del Rio caught his luncker in 4 feet of water on a brush hog. The fish measured 26 inches in length with a 19-inch girth.

Anglers participating in the

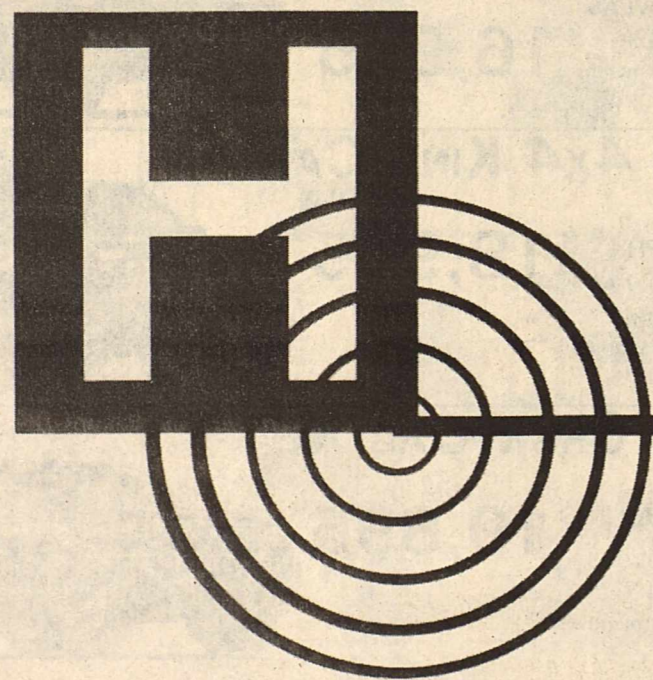
Budweiser ShareLunker program are offered the option of permanently donating their luncker catches to the program for research and hatchery production.

In exchange, the ShareLunker program provides anglers fiberglass replicas of their fish. This year, the program offers additional incentives to participating anglers. Texas residents who donate or lend their catch to the program will receive a \$600 Lifetime Resident Fishing License and recognition at the annual awards banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fish-

eries Center. Non-resident anglers will have \$600 donated in their names to the Parks and Wildlife Foundation's ShareLunker endowment fund.

Anyone catching a 13-plus-pound largemouth bass is eligible to participate by calling (903) 670-784-0600 weekdays or by paging (888) 784-0600 weekends and evenings. The ShareLunker season runs through April 30. For more information on the Budweiser ShareLunker program, call the ShareLunker staff at (903) 676-BASS.

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## Class of 2000 celebrate their right to party at Fiesta Texas

By Dottie Cruz  
Staff Writer

The Senior Class of 2000 will be celebrating their right to party at Fiesta Texas a week before graduation.

The usual place where they go for celebrating graduation will not be open before the end of the school year.

Vice President Tara Eckenrod, seniors James Burks and Jaime Bader and sponsor/teacher Dee Curry asked the board if they could have the traditional celebration a week earlier than usual.

"We would like to make this trip the week before graduation. For the fact that school's letting out so early and that all the Parks' are closed until the actual day of graduation. If we go earlier we can get into Fiesta Texas," said Senior James Burks.

Their plans are to leave early Friday morning May 19th for Fiesta Texas and spend all day there. They will then stay overnight in San Antonio and return to Brackett by midday Saturday.

The seniors have raised the money themselves, starting when they were Freshmen.

The cost was broken down into

estimates for each item. \$16 per ticket at a group rate, the total would be \$750 to get into the park. Food is approximated at \$1,800 and lodging was estimated to be \$1,000. That makes the estimated total \$3,550.

"We have raised \$3,551.65, so we are still under our limit right now. We still have the hamburger fry that we always do. We can easily make a thousand dollars off of that. Money wise isn't a problem," explained Burks.

Usually the seniors are allowed the last two days of school to celebrate and includes the celebration out of town.

This year since the seniors will only be gone one school day they still have the traditional day of graduation May 26th excused.

This applies to students who have competed all their final exams and who won't have to make up excessive absence's.

"They have been a good class. It would be my recommendation that we allow them to do it, I don't think they are using anymore time than usual," said Superintendent Taylor Stephenson.

"You all have a good time and represent our school well," said Board President Lloyd Davis.

# March Madness is a fun time

Making a Difference  
By Taylor Stephenson

It's great to be back in school after Spring Break! Many of the students, staff and administrators actually expressed their feelings to me that they were ready to get back to school. I was able to see six inches of snow in St. Louis which shut down travel into the TWA Hub of St. Louis. It was quite a change going from the 90s of Brackettville to a high of 35 in Missouri. The weather did improve there, and the trip was fun.

The calendar shows the first day of Spring to be Monday, March 20. That's the day of the Vernal Equinox. Vernal means Spring and Equinox means equal night (and day). We had a full moon on the first day of Spring; so Easter will be late this year. Easter is always the Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. So, the full moon falls on April 18 and Easter is the next Sunday, April 23.

The March Madness is a fun time for most of America. It's a nice break for many of us who have "too steady a diet of " So You Want to Be a Millionaire. Many of the great teams are already out of the bracket: Ken-

tucky, Missouri, Arizona, Connecticut, Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas. There are some fun young teams to watch. My prediction for the finals is Duke versus Michigan State.

We're all excited to see who our new board members at Fort Clark Springs will be. The annual meeting is set for this next Saturday morning. This board and its management are vital to the economic and recreational interests of this community. I pray for a time when peace returns between members and the board. Working together is the only way that it will work. Even if you're right all of the time, it's time to work with some of those who are less perfect. How about it???

School activities are so full this time of the year. We're in the middle of UIL events, plays, band contest and academics. Also, golf, tennis, baseball, softball, track and tennis. Interspersed through it all is the academic program of the schools. My advice is to get the academics first and then give all you have left to the school activity. Parents should not have much trouble keeping their children busy this time of the year.

Condolences are extended to Juanita Lopez in the loss of her

mom and to Mary R. Hernandez in the passing of her dad. Dixie Brown's cousin's son (from San Marcos) died in a tragic mountain climbing accident in Utah. Life is full of stories like these.

Help us to refocus on families, life and supporting our fellow man.

The Voices of Fort Clark sang a great concert this past Saturday night. Lynn McNew did a great job putting the program together and Cathy Conrey is a very able pianist. Kubie Kurtz was recognized for 25 years of singing with the Voices. Way to go! Have a great week!

## Tigerettes pick up district win over Trojans

The Brackett Tigerettes Softball Team was very busy over the Spring Break. The Girls picked up district wins over the Charlotte Trojans 20 to 7.

Also they beat the Pre-Season District favorites, Jourdanon Squaws 4 to 3 in eight innings at their home field.

The Tigerettes now stand in second place, with one game remaining in the first round on Tuesday vs the D'Hanis Cowgirls.

Last Saturday the Tigerettes hosted the eighth annual Tigerette varsity tournament. The girls had a great tournament, they won 2

out of three games and were beaten by 4A Uvalde team 9 to 2 for the Championship.

Named to the all-tournament team for the Tigerettes team were Pitcher Erika Garcia, Third Basemen- Mayra Aguirre, Center Fielder- Jamie Bader. The Tigerettes now stand at 11 wins and 7 losses for the season, and 3 wins and 1 loss in district play.

The Tigerettes play here on Friday the 24th against the Charlotte Trojans, at 6:30. Please come out and support the Girls in their run for the State Playoffs, Coach Nowlin.

## Las Moras Invitational deemed success

By Tom McNew  
Contributing Writer

The Las Moras Invitational Fort Clark Springs golf tournament held the weekend of March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> was a success. Eighty-two teams of golfers from all over south Texas competed for the rich prize money. The interested gallery observed 300 yard drives, deadly accurate iron shots and spectacular putting on the well manicured greens.

The pro's say, "These guys are good," as evidenced by the scores posted. Taking the Championship Flight was the team of Edward Trevino and Ruben Alcorta at 114 for the two days. In second place the team of Scott and Adams shot 117. First Flight winners were the team of Weatherly and Bixby at 122, followed by Stone and Hurt at 123. Second Flight leaders were Carvajal and Quintella also at 122 and in second place Shaw and Farias posted a 125.

Your reporter had the privilege to play with the Third Flight winners Mark Johnson and John Stavelly, who posted a 127. They were followed by a three-way tie between the teams of Danny and Phillip Pena, Tim and Gordon Lundquist and the Salyer/Alexson team. Fourth Flight was lead by

Fierro and Monclova in first place followed by Alejandro and Cardoza. Fifth Flight saw Saucedo and Flores post the winning score, with Trevino and Rodriguez in second place.

The tournament committee headed by Jack Simpson, President of Fort Clark Men's Golf Association, worked hard and put on a great tournament. The committee members include: Choppy Ambler, Allen McCord, Roger Kurz, Bob Williamson, Art Shaw, Jack Simpson, Blake Hinton, Ruben Martinez, Larry Walker, Bill Larson, Dick Ebert, and Carl Green

Also helping in many ways were members of The Ladies Golf Association. Bob Walker and his crew had the course in the best condition it has been all year. Bill Mitchell, Rochelle Melon and Tom McNew in the pro shop gave necessary assistance with carts and tee times. Thank you all.

Area suppliers donated many of the refreshments: Miller Lite, Coors, Budweiser, Coca-Cola and others. We thank them.

The tournament was successful because of the high caliber of golfers, the competent volunteers and the many willing sponsors. A tip of the tam-o-shanter to all of you.

## Tigers over Javelinas by 2 runs

The Brackett Tigers played the Crystal City Javelinas on Saturday, March 11th in Crystal City. The Tigers jumped off to a two to one lead in the first inning on a John Wylie RBI single. The Tigers scored three more runs in the second inning on a Zach Davis single. The Tigers took a 9-6 lead in the bottom of the fourth inning. In the top of the fifth inning the Tigers took a 12-6 lead with the bottom of the fifth being the last inning.

The Javelinas made a comeback in the bottom of the fifth, they came up with 6 runs and took the game to an extra inning. In the top of the sixth, the Tigers lead off with a John Wylie double and a winning hit by Brandon Moore, and that was followed by a Javier DeLeon homerun. The Javelinas scored 1 in the bottom of the sixth to make the final score Brackett 15, Javelinas 13. Winning pitcher was John Wylie.

## Tigers battled the Yellowjackets

The Brackett Tigers battled the Sabinal Yellowjackets at Tiger Field on Tuesday, March 14th. The Tigers pitcher Tommy Sandoval held the Jackets scoreless in the top of the first inning with two flyballs and one strike out. The Tigers scored 7 runs in the first inning to take a commanding lead. Alex DeLeon started it off with a single, John Wylie followed it up with a RBI double, Zach Davis continued the inning with a RBI single, and Jaime Ortiz finished the inning with a homerun. Sabinal did not score until the top of the fourth inning

on a RBI single by Torres. The Tigers scored three more runs from the second to the bottom of the sixth inning, and one of those runs was a homerun by John Wylie. The Yellowjackets scored two more runs in the fifth inning to make the final score Tigers 10, Yellowjackets 3. The winning pitcher was Tommy Sandoval. The Tigers record is 4W 7L.


Submitted by Coach Ricky Creel



### A day late, \$100 richer

Jeff Wurn from San Antonio records his first hole-in-one during competition. At the Las Moras Invitational a hole-in-one on the first day would have netted Jeff Wurn \$10,000 dollars on the 201 yard second hole. Playing from the blue tees, Jeff used a 4 iron Sunday to ace the difficult number two at Fort Clark Springs. The Fort Clark Springs Men's club voted to award Jeff \$100 dollars although the ace was one day late.

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**BISD**  
**Activity Calendar**  
**March 23-29, 2000**  
**Thursday, March 23**  
Tennis in Hondo  
**Friday, March 24**  
Varsity Baseball District in Jourdanon (T) 4:00 p.m.  
Tennis in Hondo  
**Saturday, March 25**  
JV Girls Softball Tournament Home (TBA)  
JV Baseball Sonora (T) 12:00/2:00 PM  
Tennis in Hondo  
Track in Uvalde  
**Tuesday, March 28**  
Varsity Baseball Game Home against Comfort at 7:30 p.m.  
High School Boys Golf District against Comfort (A)  
Girls Golf-District against Comfort (A)  
Varsity Girls Softball District against Dilley (A) 4:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 22**  
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75							76					77

**ACROSS**

- Move slowly
- Relish
- October gemstone
- "Whatever \_\_\_ Wants"
- Holmes's street
- Museo offering
- Make hermetic
- Golfer concern
- Disintegrates
- Mayflower Compact signer
- Getz of jazz
- More, to Duran
- Row of stitches
- Interrupt a silent night
- Fond treatment: abbr.
- Mucho
- They're still Rolling
- Pleased cry
- Worked at diligently
- Seafarer
- Picnicker's entertainment
- Creator of Perry and Della
- Pentateuch scroll
- Carinae (seventh-magnitude star)
- Merchant
- Antimissile missile
- Dead \_\_\_ against
- Logan and Raines

**DOWN**

- She asked Sam to play it again
- Holiday song
- Out of one's birthday suit
- Drugs
- Shavian monogram
- Detroit labor gp.
- Slender runners
- Shelters for sleeping bags
- Keyboard instruments
- Rowing device
- Square-dance marches
- \_\_\_ way to go!
- Not as much
- Certain tides

56. Father of Enos  
58. Relative  
60. Scratchier's target  
62. Inebriated  
66. Skittish  
68. Squirrel  
71. Words of warning to a tot  
72. CSA's Robert  
73. Gaffe  
74. Sullen  
75. Ciytemnestra's mother  
76. Sounding like a woodwind  
77. Egg on

23. "It's \_\_\_ for Me to Say"  
26. "\_\_\_ Ever Need Is You" (2 wds.)  
27. Clammy  
29. Revolutionary  
Luxemburg  
30. Lugs  
31. "M" actor  
32. Threw down the gauntlet  
34. Wyoming peak  
36. Monaco habitues, perhaps  
37. Summer ermine  
40. Golden Notebook author Lessing  
43. Singer Carter  
44. Womanizer  
45. Butler at Tara  
50. Yale Bowl regular  
51. "I'd \_\_\_ be in Philadelphia" (W.C. Fields)  
55. 20 years  
57. Caste member, often  
58. Place for ballast  
59. Otiose  
61. Race loser in a fable  
63. \_\_\_ as a church mouse  
64. A little too tight  
65. Ancient times  
67. Supportive voice vote  
69. Hoodlum's "heater"  
70. Wipe

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**HOROSCOPES**

**Aries March 21- April 20**  
Adventurous may describe your recent outlook on life. Maybe it's time you do something about it. Take a trip somewhere you have wanted to go to for a long time. Don't forget a date that's very important to a close friend or relative.

**Taurus April 21-May 21**  
A comfortable relationship won't stay that way for long. Take some time to rethink an important decision. Your spring plans should include an attitude adjustment. You're not winning friends.

**Gemini May 22-June 21**  
Problems surround you, but don't give up hope. Talk things out at home before they get any worse. Use an idea at work to help resolve a bad predicament. Expect to hear from a long-lost friend or lover within the next few weeks.

**Cancer June 22-July 22**  
Your independent streak is coming through loud and clear-not a good idea considering the situation at work. It will strain a tenuous relationship. Look to a new source for the answer to the problem. You may be surprised by the help you get.

**Leo July 23-August 23**  
An interesting week awaits you. Face it head on. Lending money to a friend is not a good idea. It tends to ruin good relationships, and yours is not the exception. Look for the positive in a situation concerning some family members.

**Virgo August 24-Sept. 22**  
Your sense of humor may win you some new friends and allies. And when you face emotional turmoil in the next few weeks, you'll deal with it best by laughing. A close personal friend is depending on your support for a major problem.

**Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23**  
Personal problems are mounting. You need help dealing with them before they become too much for you. An old family friend needs your help and support right now. Consider the facts only; don't listen to the gossip.

**Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22**  
Walk with a lighter step. You have found a way to overcome an obstacle that's been hounding you. A friend's suggestion may turn out to be helpful. Take advantage of an opportunity to express your ideas. It's a great way to show your potential.

**Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21**  
Focus on financial wants and needs. It may be difficult to get everything worked out, but you can do it. Don't let someone's bad attitude rub off on you. You will get more accomplished when you approach things with the right attitude.

**Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20**  
Romance has not been first and foremost in your life recently. You should take steps to change that right away because someone is feeling very neglected. Keep an open mind in a meeting at work next week.

**Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18**  
You need to be very confident about a new idea you want to introduce. Stand tall, express yourself well, and you will win in the end. The key to dealing with an unruly acquaintance is laughter. Use better judgment next time.

**Pisces Feb. 19-March 20**  
Your recent feelings of depression are affecting others in your life and hurting you at work. Your best help for the problem is within yourself. This may be a good time for a weekend getaway.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

March 23.....Patricia Gass  
March 23.....Johnny Gomez  
March 23.....Estell Guajardo  
March 23.....Nicole Mata  
March 23.....Jonathan Rios  
March 24.....Pablo Brisenro  
March 24.....Dorothy Frank  
March 24.....Agapita Morin  
March 24.....Paula Munoz  
March 24.....Jesus Reschman  
March 25.....Victor Abrigo  
March 25.....Dixie Brown  
March 25.....Dwite Gilliland  
March 25.....Teresita DeHoyos  
March 25.....Laura Rivas  
March 26.....Felicia Abrigo  
March 26.....Arturo Falcon  
March 27.....Lydia Cremer  
March 27.....Tommy Foster  
March 27.....Robertta Pena  
March 27.....Dick Reivitt  
March 27.....Tiffany Reschman  
March 28.....Terry DeHoyos  
March 28.....Adrian Pena  
March 28.....Tim Ward  
March 29.....Melody Barrett  
March 29.....Ivan Pinales

The wise man must be wise before, not after the event.  
\*\*\*  
—Epicharmus

# 'Spring Break' and visits from grandchildren Wisdom you can use is to read the word of God

St. Mary Magdalene  
By Lynn McNew

The children from Brackett ISD just finished a week of Spring Break and I have noticed children on the Fort last week and this week who are also on Spring Break and visiting their grandparents. It makes me wonder—what is the fascination with spending time with grandparents?

As a grandparent, I love to be with my grandchildren. Unfortunately, they live in Georgia and I don't get to spend enough time with them. When my children were growing up, they had some grandparents who lived far away, whom they didn't get to see very often. They also had grandparents in San Angelo and they frequently spent time with them.

Whether or not they realize it, I believe that children like to spend

time with their grandparents because they can learn things from us. My grandchildren love to hear stories about their daddy when he was growing up. They also enjoy stories about their grandpa and me. They like to help me cook and do chores that at home they consider work.

Children also seem to feel they have more freedom at grandparents' house—using the phrase "Mom and Dad don't care if I do that." And, of course, here at Fort Clark Springs and Brackettville, there are lots of active things for the kids to do.

I believe I have more time and patience with my grandchildren than I did with my own children. I feel a different kind of responsibility toward them. I don't have to worry about buying shoes—I can buy them something if I want to, not because I have to. I seem

to take more time to explain things to them.

Of course, being with grandchildren, or having them visit you, has a down side. They often have ideas that we don't approve of, are picky eaters, or complain about things that we want them to do. They want to stay up half the night and sleep half the day. They interrupt our schedules. They want to drive the golf cart.

This week, when I see unfam-

iliar children around the Fort, I will remember they are someone's grandchildren and are very special little people. I will treat them with the respect I would expect from them and that I would hope others would show to my grandchildren. I hope you will also.

You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. God Bless You.

Gateway Ministries  
By Pastor Charolette Cory

Keep wisdom and understanding in front of your eyes. Wear them like a necklace around your neck. "So shall they be life unto thy soul and grace unto thy neck. Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely and thy foot shall not stumble.

When thou liest down thou shalt not be afraid: ye, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet. Be not afraid of sudden fear, nor of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken." (Proverbs 3:19-26).

The best wisdom you can use is to read the word of God with understanding. Only the Holy Spirit can give this understanding to you because the letters written in the bible were written to people who believe and to those who truly desire to believe. To those who do not believe in Jesus Christ the Messiah, these same words are clouded and kept a mystery.

To use the words of God gives life to your mind, will and emo-

tions. To ignore God's words leads to destruction. Trials and test will come, but you will have an opportunity to fall into the "snare of fear" or to use God's word that says God has not given me the spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. (II Tim. 1:7)

No weapon formed against me shall prosper. I shall lie down and my sleep shall be sweet. God shall keep my foot from being caught in the snare of the fowler. God gives me confidence and I shall walk in His ways.

In doing this, you give God all the glory, because it is only through the supernatural power of God that you can maintain confidence in the face of fear. It is always a choice to look at life as opportunities to be an overcomer and be strengthened in the power of God's might or to run with fear and suffer defeat. It is your choice to walk in God's word or ignore it. One path leads to blessings, the other leads to curses (Deuteronomy 28). It is your choice. Use wisdom and understanding in your choosing. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

## Are You Hungry?

Frontier Baptist Church  
By Pastor Dave Crowe

Toward the end of our Lord Jesus' time to be here on earth in human form, knowing He would be returning to Heaven soon, He asked Peter three times, "Peter do you love me?" Every time Peter answered "Oh yes, you know I do!"

Each time Jesus answered with "feed my sheep!"

Are you hungry? Do you know that you need Jesus and that you also can be fed?

Jesus said "Love your God with all your heart, mind, body and soul" and "first seek ye the kingdom of God and all else will be given to you according to your need."

Jesus also said "that we are to love one another as we love ourselves."

At the Frontier Baptist Church we are each others keeper. We are

a family, caring for one another. You are invited to join our family.

We care deeply for this our community. We believe that everyone is a child of God, created in His likeness and that we all are brothers and sisters.

We need each other and we need the church. Help me to help

you and those you care the most about. Because we are all sinners, without God and His redeeming love we would be forever lost.

Let's strive to fill every pew in every church in the world. Let us first start here at home.

There is room in every church in Brackettville for more people to come and be fed than ever before.

I beg of you, please go to the church of your choice this Sunday.

Come home and let God bless you and your life, please.

## When is anger righteous?

First United Methodist Church  
Rev. Ken F. Sellers, Jr.

The following statistics come from the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence.

- By the most conservative estimate, each year 1 million women suffer nonfatal violence by an intimate. (Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report: Violence against women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey (NCJ-154348), August 1995, p. 3.) By other estimates, 4 million American women experience a serious assault by an intimate partner during an average 12 month period. (American Psychol. Ass'n., Violence and the Family: Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family (1996), p. 10.)

- Marital homicide differs significantly by gender: a large proportion of the killings by women are acts of self-defense, while almost none of the killings by men are acts of self-defense. (Florida Governor's Task Force on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Florida Mortality Review Project: Executive Summary, 1997.)

- Defensive action by battered women to protect themselves or their children is often interpreted by law enforcement as an act of

domestic violence. (Promising Practices Initiatives Report on the Expert Panels on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Technical Assistance Project, U.S. Department of Justice, 1997.)

It is a sad commentary on the morals of our society that we have not found a more acceptable outlet for men's anger than to injure another person, especially when he is usually larger, stronger and more physical than his victim (ordinarily a woman or child). It is also a sad commentary that many abused women find their only avenue out of an abusive relationship is murder. We are a nation of people in great need of education about how to control our anger.

In the second chapter of the Gospel according to John, we read of an angry Jesus creating a whip out of cords and driving people (and animals) out of the temple. And this prompts us to ask, "If Jesus can get angry and use a whip to 'cleanse' the Lord's house, how is that different from any other violent release of anger (other than there are probably no women among those driven out)?" Join us at First United Methodist Church Sunday at 10:45 a.m. as we conclude Women's History month with a look at "When is anger righteous?"

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School of Instruction meets every  
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**Church of Christ**

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Sunday P.M. 1:30

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Minister: Ray Melton

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Worship	9AM
Sunday School	10:15 to 11:00 AM
Wednesday Bible study in Sanctuary	7:00 PM

Pastor: Nathan Lafrenz 830-591-1614

## Health

# Planning is the key to managing asthma

Question: My 6 year old son was diagnosed with Asthma over the holidays. He tends to panic during an attack and then becomes very helpless. How can we manage this away from home?

Answer: Planning is the key to managing an asthma. An Asthma attack can be anxious time for you and for your child. That's exactly why you need to prepare how to handle the situation.

It is important that you schedule a meeting with your son's teachers, the school nurse, coaches, and the school administrators. They should all be included in your concerns and pro-

vided with a contingency plan. If your son is to succeed at school, he needs the support of the staff.

Asthma patients, their parents, and their doctor should put together a written contingency plan that outlines how to handle an asthma attack. The plan should be kept in a place where it's accessible at a moment's notice along with emergency phone numbers.

Your son may express concern about taking medication at school or feeling "different". Try to discourage staff members from seeing asthma as something that sets your child apart. Encourage them to integrate treatment into the

usual school day.

A three step approach to dealing with asthma and increasing your son's chance at success at school is to plan, monitor and assess.

- Plan. Avoid substances (such as cigarette smoke) that trigger asthma. Take medication prior to activities that trigger episodes.

- Monitor your child's learning. Ask teachers to contact you if your child has difficulty paying attention or following instructions, and follow-up promptly on any decline in grades. Asthma symptoms or medications might be involved.

- Assess the results. Observe your child's symptoms. If you notice any change, consult your physician. If your child's treatment changes, inform your school.

Dr. Susan Nickel is a senior staff physician in the Division of Pediatrics at the Scott & White Clinic in Temple and an assistant professor at The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine.

## No, you can't catch cystic fibrosis

Question: My 1 year old niece has cystic fibrosis. I am 6 months pregnant with my first child and I don't want the baby to catch it from her. How will I know if my baby gets it?

Answer: Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is an inherited disorder that affects the lungs and digestive system. A child inherits a gene for the disease from each parent. A parent whose cells carry only a single gene for cystic fibrosis will not have CF. But when two such persons have children, one or more of the children may inherit two CF genes - one from each parent. The parents may not even know that they carry the CF gene, since in many cases the parents do not have the disease.

CF is not contagious; it can't be passed from one person to another by germs. Mother's diet during pregnancy, a bad cold as a baby, and being the first and last born have nothing to do with the disease. You can't "catch" CF; either you are born with the disease or you are not.

Symptoms of CF usually appear early in life. In some children it is the lungs that are mainly effected; in others, it's the digestive system. Many youngsters, however, have problems with both.

Parents may provide the first

clue by reporting to the doctor that the baby tastes salty when kissed. Other signs include: a persistent cough which sometimes sounds like whooping cough; wheezing, which may be mistaken for asthma; repeated lung infections, such as pneumonia and bronchitis; failure to grow or gain weight in spite of a big appetite; and bowel movements which are frequent, bulky, and foul smelling.

The sweat test is the standard diagnostic test for CF. This simple

and painless test measures the amount of salt in the sweat.

A high salt level indicates that a person has CF. Make sure to discuss your concerns with your child's doctor.

Dr. Steven Copenhaver is the Director of the Scott and White Central Texas Cystic Fibrosis Clinic.

If you have a question, please write to: Scott & White Public Affairs Dept., 2401 S., 31st Street, Temple, TX 76508

### First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman

Sunday Schedule:

Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service - Childrens Church 11 a.m.  
nursery provided  
Choir all ages 4:30 p.m.  
Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.  
Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesdays 7 p.m.

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting

Bus and Church information call  
church office at 563-2245  
Pastor: R. D. Holloway

### VAL VERDE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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10	11 Dr. M. Singer <i>Ophthalmology</i>	12 Dr. R. Evans <i>Ophthalmology</i> P.M. Clinic	13 Dr. R. Evans <i>Ophthalmology</i> E.N.T. Dr. G. Warner <i>Urology</i>	14 Dr. G. Warner <i>Urology</i>	
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To schedule an appointment with any of the above physicians call (830) 703-1730 or (830) 775-8566 ext #1730, #1731, #1732. All physicians see patients at the Val Verde Regional Medical Center, 801 Bedell Ave., Del Rio, Texas. Easy access through South entrance of the building.

**For the news that's important to you, subscribe to The Brackett News. Call 563-2852 today!**

