

# The Brackett News



**Hoop teams open  
tournament play today**  
See story, Page 5

14th year, No. 44

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

## Who controls the water in West Texas?

### Battle over 'clear gold' bubbles to the surface

By ROBERT ELDER JR.  
Austin American-Statesman

"These water marketers don't give a damn about the county. For them, it's all about hard greenback dollars. They'd pump us dry."

**Water Board member Don Hood**

Jim McDaniel and Zachry Davis, farmers and friends in this West Texas county, plan to sell their water rights to supplement sagging crop prices and wring some growth out of a stagnant rural economy.

"I can assure you, it won't take much to beat the profits in farming," says Davis, a solidly built, 49-year-old Brackettville native. His lined face is youthful despite decades of ranch and farm work, a veterinary practice and six children.

Brackettville, the Kinney County seat, is one of the last green places in West Texas before you hit the vast Chihuahuan Desert. The abundant water that runs underneath Davis' and McDaniel's property — part brush land, part irrigated farmland — could help parched Texas cities meet future demand.

Willing sellers, potential buyers: It's what lawmakers envisioned when they rewrote Texas water law in the 1990s to address the geographic imbalance of supply and demand. The intent was to create a master plan, and a viable market, for the state's most valuable natural resource.

What has actually happened is far different.

The grand vision of a statewide water marketplace didn't reckon with the realities of local politics and two conflicting

interests: farmers who want to protect water for their crops and landowners who want to cash in on water resources. The involvement of big-name investors from other parts of the state feeds suspicions that the water dealers are profiteers.

"These water marketers," says Don Hood, the disdain clear in his voice, "don't give a damn about the county. For them, it's all about hard greenback dollars."

"They'd pump us dry," says Hood, a retired oilman who serves on the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District board.

But there are megabucks to be made selling water. The potential for profit has attracted big-time investors and big political names looking to exploit their legislative knowledge for profit. The boom mentality is like that in the oil patch early in the last century.

Water isn't like oil, however, and experts say it will never be as valuable. Water is expensive to ship because pipelines will have to be built for most major projects. There's no stable market for water, because the price depends on how far away customers are. And, as in Kinney County, it's hard to convince

people that their supply won't be affected by losing even a small amount.

In fact, the county's groundwater district, which largely controls the use of local groundwater, has effectively shut down plans for exporting water.

The dispute has enormous implications for the state because there are a lot of places like Kinney County — sparsely populated regions that have water to spare from aquifers.

If water development "doesn't work here, I'm not sure it will work anywhere in the state of Texas," says Dan Pearson, a lobbyist at HillCo Partners in Austin who represents some county landowners and investors. "I just hope we're smart enough that we don't scare off private capital" for the water business, he said.

#### A sense of urgency

Despite the current gridlock, there's an urgency to water-development deals. Three droughts in the past six years have sent Texas cities scrambling to secure additional water. San Antonio is one possible customer for Kinney County water, as are Eagle Pass and Del Rio.

In Central Texas, the fast-growing city of Kyle faces stiff

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Photo by J.J. Guidry

#### Answering questions

Brian Sledge (third from right), attorney for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District, answers questions during a recent board meeting as directors Darlene Shahan (clockwise from Sledge), Cecil Smith, Hadley Wardlaw, Bob Young, Zach Davis, Chuck Hall and Don Hood look on.

## Officials to consider rules, fees

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Editor

Brian Sledge, attorney for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District, is urging the directors to adopt a fee schedule when it meets again next Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

"We've got permits that need to be processed," Sledge said recently. "We need to establish application fees and permit fees so that we can get those things in."

Sledge presented a proposed fee schedule to the directors at a public hearing last month. Board member Zach Davis said some of the proposed figures were "extremely extravagant."

"This is the most financially

challenged district in the state, perhaps," Sledge said. "You're going to need to get some more money in the door. You're going to run out of money and that's not an option for you because everybody will sue you."

"It takes money to run a governmental body. Your \$70,000 budget is going to be gone in short order. You've only got two options for fixing it — you can charge fees or you can raise taxes. The beauty of fees is it shifts the burden of financing the district from the taxpayers to those who use it."

Sledge said one good source of income would be the district's groundwater transport fee.

"If you want to get to some marketers, you've got a good

opportunity here," he said. "There are a lot of folks that are going to make a lot of money on this water when it starts going over to San Antonio or Eagle Pass. There's no question that the legislature, in contemplating the groundwater transport fee provision, probably had something in mind on having some of the monetary benefits stay with the community from which the water came, rather than have the local taxpayers picking up the burden for all of that water that might go off to some far-away land, being beneficially used by somebody else who's not sitting here paying taxes."

Davis stressed that the fees need to be "fair and reasonable."

## BHS has 24 students named to Who's Who

Brackett High School has 24 students included in the 36th edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 2001-2002.

Local students selected include: Celina Cano, Stacey Castilla, Stephanie Coronado, Dietrich Davis, Lee Davis, Susannah Davis, Levi Duncan, Hector Febres, Ryan Frerich, Allison LaMascus, Nicole Mata, Sarah Meyer, Emily Petrosky, Arnold Pinales, Rodolfo Ramirez, Cody Robinette, Sarah Rose, Amanda Smith, Ashley Smith, Tammy Smith, Star Smith, Ana Talamantes, Jeff Tipps and Amanda Ward.

Who's Who, published by Educational Communications Inc. of Austin, is the largest recognition program and publication in the nation honoring high-achieving high school students.

#### WHO'S WHO

Following are BHS students named to Who's Who Among American High School Students:

Celina Cano, Stacey Castilla, Stephanie Coronado, Dietrich Davis, Lee Davis, Susannah Davis, Levi Duncan, Hector Febres, Ryan Frerich, Allison LaMascus, Nicole Mata, Sarah Meyer, Emily Petrosky, Arnold Pinales, Rodolfo Ramirez, Cody Robinette, Sarah Rose, Amanda Smith, Ashley Smith, Tammy Smith, Star Smith, Ana Talamantes, Jeff Tipps and Amanda Ward.

Students are nominated by high school principals and guidance counselors, national youth groups, churches and educational organizations based upon students' academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities. Traditionally,

99 percent of Who's Who students have a grade point average of B or better and 97 percent are college bound.

The 36th edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, published in 18 regional volumes, features over 850,000 students, or just 6 percent of the nation's 15 million high school students. They represent approximately 20,000 of the 24,000 public, private and parochial high schools in the country.

Who's Who students also compete for \$200,000 in scholarship awards and participate in the publication's annual survey of high achievers, an annual opinion poll of teen attitudes. The book is distributed on a complimentary basis to up to 15,000 high schools, colleges, universities and public libraries throughout the country.



Photo by J.J. Guidry

#### Old Quarry Society play performance

Ruth Spencer (from left), Emily Petrosky, Kathy Wilson, Mary Petrosky, Tina Meek and Joanne Warner were among the local actors performing in the Old Quarry Society's production of "Divine Stella Devine" last weekend at Fort Clark Springs.

## BISD forced to spend \$69,500 to replace gymnasium floor

Brackett ISD's basketball teams have had to deal with the lack of a gymnasium floor for the last month.

The floor in the new gym was damaged by rain and the teams had to juggle schedules to share practice time in the old gym.

"It's been tough on all of our basketball teams," Brackett Athletic Director David Yeager said. "But all of the coaches have been patient, and worked together to find a feasible schedule to practice."

The installation of the new floor is expected to be completed by this weekend.

"The floor was damaged with rain water that into the building and ran under the gym sub-floor," BISD Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "The new roof did not leak. However, the roofing contractor had not yet installed downspouts on the front and back of the gym."

"We had a 5 1/2-inch rain

and a 3 1/2-inch rain in October before the downspouts were installed. The water came off the roof so fast into the gutter that it splashed into the gym through windows."

Stephenson said the district has received written statements from an architect and a building contractor as to the cause of the water damage.

"We also have had an insurance adjuster visit the site," he said. "A roofing contractor will also give us a written report on the cause."

The old oak gym floor had water under the sub-floor. The water caused the floor to begin to "cup" or swell up on the ends. Stephenson said two floor contractors inspected the floor and determined that the entire floor needed to be replaced.

"The old flooring was wet and had to be removed with a Bobcat," he said. "The concrete

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Photo by J.J. Guidry

#### New gym floor

Brackett ISD had to remove the damaged floor from the gymnasium and replace it, delaying home basketball games during the opening weeks of the season.

#### INSIDE

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In ancient Rome, the gladiatorial games were all the rage. They involved the savage death of men, women and wild animals.  
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##### ■ Shanae Simmons

It is very surprising how every day you learn something new. Life lessons, they always seem to jump up and nip you in the bum.  
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##### ■ Carolyn Rutherford

We are holding a public hearing about our EMS personnel variance request. The meeting is on Monday at 9 a.m.  
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Simple question deserves answer

The chattering of the Magpies are being heard again on Fort Clark Springs. Here is another tidbit that was related to me about a member who was looking for an answer. It seems he had a simple question about where he would like his car sticker to be placed and the reply he got from the general manager was: "Why don't you crabby old men just sell out and leave." What kind of answer is that? What has happened to the employees who treated their employers with just a little respect? Isn't the G.M. an employee hired by this association? What became of her respect for one of her employers? Why didn't she just explain, calmly, why? It's not that hard, is it? See how having our hands tied and them not listening to a large portion of the membership is further disrupting the usual calmness of FCS? Voting out this kind of element at the next election is the only way we are going to put a stop to this kind of madness. So please don't forget to vote when the time comes. While on the subject of directors, why do we need a seven-member board? Are we such a

huge entity that we need this many people to run our fort? I think not! Yes, we do need an uneven number so that a tie won't happen. But why seven? Why not three or five? That just sounds like way too many ill thought-out opinions to think about. And in the case of FCS, the lesser opinionated seem to follow the ones with the worst opinions. It looks to me like a smaller board of listening, thinking and more-caring people, and not the so-easily-led, less-caring people being led around by the ring-master. This smaller number would make it harder for a ring-master to herd the sheep around by the nose. This is just something to think about for the future of the fort. But maybe not the present because many of the non-thinking flock would be left and we would be in bigger trouble than we are now. I wish to thank those of you for your words of encouragement for me to keep writing. Please think of doing the same yourselves. It is going to take so much more to get our fort back to where it should be.

Richard Card

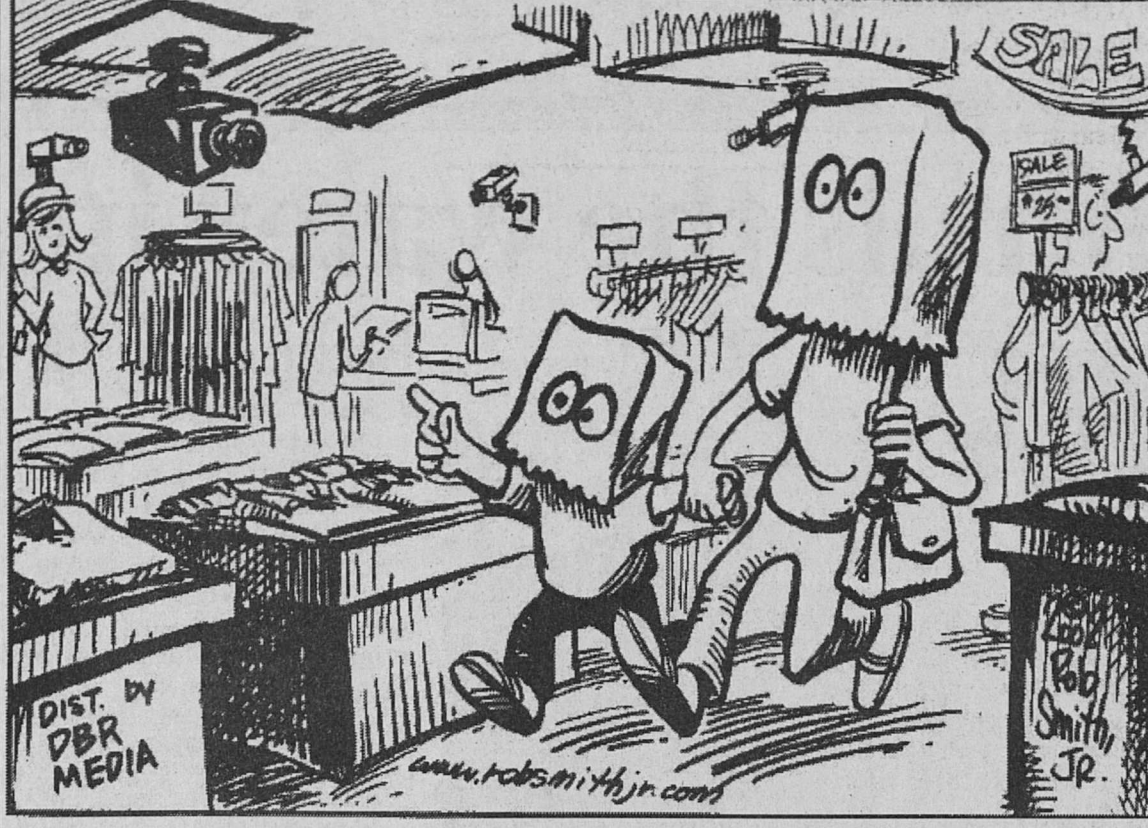
Fort members can see the truth

In the Fort Clark November Newsletter, the general manager stated, "The golf courses are looking wonderful. I do not believe I have ever seen these courses with this much lush grass since moving here 2 1/2 years ago. Of course, the green area and pastures are beautiful as well." Apparently the general manager's memory is no better than her story-telling skills. I went out and checked on the green areas and the 9-hole golf course — they looked terrible! There might have been a green area that was recently cut, but I couldn't find one. This statement by the Fort Clark G.M. is, in my opinion, a lie. The truth is that the green areas, 9-hole course, pastures, airstrip and trails have not looked worse since I moved here seven years ago. Also, the swimming pool has not stunk like a septic tank and been so filthy and slimy that the bottom was not visible since I moved here seven years ago. This is some more of the swinging watch nonsense. I

guess if you are incapable of actually performing the duties of a real general manager, you desperately try to get the membership to believe bold-faced lies. It's bad enough we lost our good maintenance department, now we're lied to about the condition of the fort. And the liar also assumes that members are so dumb they will believe the lies. I wonder if it ever occurred to the general manager that all we have to do is drive around the fort and look at the knee-high — and in some cases hip-high — weeds and brush that have over-run the green areas. Two weeks after the newsletter came out, some of the brush was cut, but some areas have not been cut since we lost our maintenance crew, and most others have been cut only once or twice. Also, brush pick up is ridiculously slow, just ask anyone you know that has thrown out brush. It'll sit in front of your house until it turns to mulch before it gets picked up. Let's remember this at the next election.

Dave Reinhold

NEWS NOTES: MORE PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR PRIVACY & SURVEILLANCE IN STORES...



Society hasn't progressed morally

In ancient Rome, the gladiatorial games were all the rage. They were vicious, bloody, inhumane spectacles involving the savage death of men, women and wild animals. In the mornings, the wild beasts were killed. This involved titanic, life-and-death struggles between men and wild animals, or between different kinds of animals, like lions and tigers or bears and bulls. The gladiators who fought the wild animals were separate from those who fought other men. Apparently, the skills required for each were so different that they were never pitted against each other. At noon, the simple executions were presented. The gladiators, soldiers and even private citizens were allowed to hack and slice to death the convicted criminals and whatever Christians had been captured. This too was a very popular spectacle, involving copious quantities of blood and gore. The afternoon performance was the main event. This was when the gladiators met face to face in the arena to hack each other to pieces. The gorier the event the greater the glee of the crowd. At various times, the emperor(s) would even pick someone from the audience and have them thrown into the arena to be slaughtered by the gladiators, and a good time was had by all. By the way, the Romans kept close count of the numbers and types of wild animals killed, but saw no reason to track the number of humans. Sounds revolting doesn't it? Or does it? Today, in the United States, we are heading in the same direction as the ancient Romans. Don't believe me? Just look at professional football, professional wrestling, professional boxing, Ultimate Pride fights, ice hockey, roller derby and a



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascus

great number of other "sports entertainment" programs. Why do you think programs like "Real TV," which shows graphic clips of people doing incredibly dangerous and stupid things and getting badly injured in the process, are so popular? I caught a piece of one the other day where they replayed over and over again a kid breaking his leg trying to skid a skateboard down a stair handrail. The close-up was particularly revolting as it showed in slow motion the bone breaking and folding back as the kid hit the concrete. There is even a series of videos on the market called, I believe, "The Faces of Death," where people being killed in various unique and gruesome ways is presented on film for your viewing enjoyment. I understand that they are hugely popular. And they are real, not fake. These are real people being killed, and some sick people think it is entertaining! Our television news coverage is another example of our desire to see mayhem up close and personal. The buzzword for TV news coverage, as well as for newspapers, has for years been, "If it bleeds, it leads" — meaning that blood and guts is more popular with the public and sells more copy, than human-interest stories. Violence sells, just like sex! We pride ourselves in our civilized urbanity. We brag that we have advanced more in the

last 100 years than all of humanity did in the rest of history. In some ways that may be true, we have advanced mechanically and technologically far beyond our ancestors. But our mentalities are still stuck in the past. We are deluding ourselves when we boast that we are more civilized than the ancient Romans. The truth is that we are still no more than bloodthirsty savages, thinly covered with a veneer of civility. And the sad fact is that instead of progressing toward a more civil, genteel, godly society, we are regressing daily into a world of debauchery, immorality and violence. We are rushing headlong into a future filled with the evil iniquities of the past. I am willing to bet that in 100 years the coliseum in Rome, or someplace similar, will again see the spilling of human blood for the entertainment of the screaming spectators. Oh, the participants will probably be volunteers. With the huge number of witless, idiots around today who are willing to risk their lives for a thrill, it would be fairly easy to round up enough of them to have a pretty interesting matinee. But it will still be blood sport. The truth is that we haven't progressed morally one micron in the last 2,000 years. We are still ruthless, soulless and often mindless minions of evil. And just like then, the Christians are being targeted for vilification. Isn't it amazing how the only path to life is always the most reviled? Come to Jesus. Be part of the cure instead of the disease. Acts 3:19, "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." NKJV



Teen Spirit  
Shanae Simmons

A good life lesson

You know, it is very surprising how every day you learn something new. Life lessons, they always seem to jump up and nip you in the bum. Lately, I have also been thinking about the past, especially about a certain story that came to my mind. It is a story I have told many times because it has a good life lesson. A few years ago when I was about in the fourth grade, I was into acting and things in that area. I was constantly auditioning for parts, thinking I was the perfect person to fill any role. One day my sister, Timmeke, and I were auditioning for a modeling job up in the mountains. It was a real treat because we lived in the city and my family got to travel all the way up to mountain country. When we arrived to a large, beautiful hotel, I got excited. We walked into a room with many other little girls and boys. A lady asked us to sign in and gave us a paper to fill out. I filled out my application and I felt on top of the world, though I was slightly nervous. Then, all the children were filed into a long line, we got our picture taken with a Polaroid camera, and it was then stapled to our paperwork. After that, we went home. Finally, the day came when we got the call back. I remember it, I was so excited and couldn't wait when I realized who my step-father was talking to on the phone. After saying thank you and hanging up the phone, he looked at my sister and I with a soft smile and some excitement. He said, "Timmeke," they said you made it and we will go for your fitting in a couple of days." He then turned to me a bit slower and said, "Shanae ... um ... I am sorry, but you didn't make it." My heart was broken. I was a very jealous child already, but when my sister made it and I didn't, I went mad. It hurt so much. I didn't know what to do, so after a large temper tantrum, I stomped off to my room crying. My sister tried to comfort me, but I was mad at her for making it over me, and I wanted her to leave me alone. The day finally came when she left again, up into the mountains, for a fitting. I refused to go. I know I should have, this was my sister, and I should have at least been by her side during it all, but I wasn't. I was a green monster, who was too blind with my own jealousy to even see. I remember that evening when they came back, I barely even looked at my sister. "Shanae," my step-father said with a grin on his face after walking in the door. "What?" I asked angrily. He then told me the story of their little trip. Apparently, after getting to the fitting and walking in with my sister, they asked where Timmeke was. My step-father then went on by telling them that this was Timmeke standing next to him. They then argued and said, that's not Timmeke, this is Timmeke, showing him a picture — a picture of me. Apparently, our papers got mixed up and they thought that I was Timmeke, but because she was already there and I wasn't, they decided that they would take her. Because of my own jealousy, I lost a great modeling job that paid \$50 an hour. Plus, my sister got to model with some hunky snowboard guys on a mountain. When I think about it, I kick myself, but I wouldn't have learned such a great lesson if I hadn't gone through the whole ordeal. Oh yeah, in the end, I sucked it up and went to watch my sister's shoot, and let me tell you, she wasn't half bad. Hey, you win some and you lose some.

**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. All writers must provide proof of identity. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

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MEMBERSHIP: Texas Press Association.

### Public hearing on personnel variance set for Monday

Once again, we are holding a public hearing about our EMS personnel variance request.

The meeting is on Monday at 9 a.m. at the Kinney County Courthouse before the regular Commissioners Court meeting.

Kinney County EMS requests this variance from the Texas Department of Health to allow a second or third unit to respond and transport patients with "less than TDH rules allow."

The notice of the public hearing reads: "Kinney County EMS has requested a variance from the Texas Department of Health to operate said EMS while not being in compliance with the law. The variance, if approved, would allow Kinney County EMS to operate emergency vehicles while responding to and transporting emergency patients. The public is encouraged to attend."

The variance means that the primary or first EMS unit must have a minimum of two EMS-certified personnel on board. If we receive a call requiring a second or a third ambulance to respond, the variance allows us to have one EMS-certified per-

son in the patient care compartment and one non-EMS-certified person, a volunteer, to drive. I am required to let you know that this variance allows us to function, but is in fact out of compliance with the strict TDH rules. It is only a temporary measure until we have enough personnel available for second and third EMS runs.

This variance is termed "temporary, emergency" to allow us to function until our active training program reaches its goal of seven new EMS personnel, preferably volunteers, to augment our current roles. We have gained a total of five new volunteers during the three years of constant work.

At this time, we have very few people from the local area and call upon part-time assistance from EMTs from other areas to fill in our scheduling gaps. There are two to three EMS courses taught each year, but few people from the area attend or complete the course.

One of the drawbacks to using a variance is that it reduces the revenue we can earn from EMS calls. Whenever we use



EMS Update

Carolyn Rutherford

less than TDH-required personnel, EMS cannot legally charge insurance carriers, Medicare, or Medicaid, or even the patient the "going rate."

Example: The first unit is on the way to the hospital with its crew and patient; the second unit is called in. On board the second unit is a non-EMS driver and an advanced EMT (intermediate or paramedic). Because of the advanced type of supplies these EMTs use (intravenous fluids, medications, heart monitor) on these patients, the costs of the run is more. EMS is not allowed to charge for those supplies, which has an effect on our overall revenue. It means that if we have 12 second calls (as we did this year) using the variance, our revenue for those calls is reduced by \$200 to \$300 per call,

a total of \$2,400 to \$3,600.

One point to make very clear is that we maintain the highest level of staffing we can provide. In all cases, there will be at least one EMS-certified attendant with our patient. That EMT will give our patient the highest quality care possible.

Mutual aid is available in any direction we travel (Uvalde, Eagle Pass and Del Rio) to augment our system in the event of disaster. Crews may call for "intercepts" from our mutual aid EMS brothers and sisters for added help when a higher level of care is required.

If this variance request is approved, it will be the fifth year it has been used. Our average number of times the variance is used has gone from 20 to 12 this last year. It is, however, hard to say this is a trend, because the number of runs varies throughout the year.

Please show up for the public hearing on Monday. If you have any questions about EMS, please call 563-9090 or come by our office, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday, at 401 S. Ellen St.

### OBITUARIES

#### Zulema S. Wilson

Zulema S. Wilson, 70, passed away Nov. 26, 2002, in San Antonio. She was born Aug. 17, 1932, in Brackettville.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Willard Maurice Wilson, and her parents, Faustino and Maria Sandoval. Wilson is survived by her sons: David Ricardo Wilson of Dallas and Steven Guillermo Wilson and wife Stephanie of San Antonio; grandchildren: Dylan Guillermo and Gabriella Maria Wilson; brothers: Julian O. Sandoval of San Antonio and Lingo Sandoval of Brackettville; sisters: Maria Elena Ortega of Brackettville and Bonnie Beloz of Del Rio.

Visitation was held Friday at the Brackettville Funeral Home Chapel. A rosary was recited at the chapel. A Mass was held on Saturday at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. Burial followed on Tuesday at Kinney County Cemetery. Pallbearers were Charlie DeLaRosa, Marcus Tidwell, Henry Fuentes, Alfredo Castro, Eddie Joe Sandoval and Cmdr. Ronald Sandoval. Honorary Pallbearers were Adolph Reyes Jr., Cruz M. Beloz and Lt. Tom Sandoval.

#### Robert Francis Canty Sr.

Robert Francis Canty Sr., 75, of Brackettville, died Nov. 30, 2002, at Val Verde Regional Medical Center in Del Rio. He was born May 12, 1927, in Chicago.

Canty had worked with Edison Commonwealth Electrical for 35 years. He was also a member of the VFW.

He is survived by his wife: Sylvia Canty of Brackettville; stepson: Gilbert Meyer Jr. and wife Angie of Lueders; stepdaughters: Cynthia Pena and husband Oscar of Chula Vista, Calif.; Melissa Starkweather and husband Brett of Paint Creek; and Melinda Sawyer and husband Lloyd of Chesapeake, Va.; sons: Robert Canty Jr. and Don Canty of Sabula, Iowa; John Canty and wife Jan of Addison, Ill.; and Lee Canty and wife Nina of Brackettville; brothers: Steve Canty of Chicago and Keith Canty of Grandberry; sisters: Carol Grandsard, June Garrison and Sandy Lynch, all of Chicago; 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held on Monday at the Brackettville Funeral Home. Funeral services were held Tuesday at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor William Adams officiating. Burial followed at the Kinney County Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Brackettville Funeral Home.

### KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

#### Wednesday, Nov. 27

6:15 a.m., Fred Gaudalpe Cazarez, 53, of Quemado and Robin L. Hurley Cazares, 41, Franklin Cazares, 49, and Robert M. Chartier, 25, all of Florida, were all arrested by DPS Trooper Tully Welch for possession of marijuana under 2 ounces. Chartier and Fred Cazarez were released the same day on a \$1,500 bail bond. Robin Cazarez was transported to the Wackenhut Correctional Facility and released two days later on a \$1,500 bail bond. Franklin Cazares was booked into the Kinney County Jail and released two days later on a \$1,500 bail bond.

11:35 p.m., Two women were reportedly fighting at Ami-

go's Bar on W. Spring Street. Deputy Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene.

#### Thursday, Nov. 28

11:34 a.m., A woman reported that a man was causing problems at her residence on N. Beaumont Street. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter was notified.

12:15 p.m., A man said he was having problems with his uncle, coming to his residence on E. El Paso Street late at night, waking up everyone. Deputy Guidry spoke to the individuals.

8:30 p.m., A Rocksprings Sheriff's Office employee reported a stolen F-150 pick-up truck. Local deputies were notified to be on the lookout for the vehicle.

4:45 p.m., Robert Balderas,

20, and Jessica Talamantez, 18, both of San Antonio, were arrested by Trooper Welch for possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces, and booked into the Kinney County Jail. Talamantez was released the same day on a personal recognizance bond. Balderas was released the next day on a \$1,500 bail bond.

#### Saturday, Nov. 30

4:07 p.m., An officer was requested at Amigo's Bar on W. Spring Street. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene. The owner reported that his business had been burglarized. Alcohol, cigarettes and lights were taken.

6:25 p.m., A man reported kids driving reckless on motorcycles without lights. Deputy Larry Robinson was notified of

the situation.

8:27 p.m., A woman called to report a fight in front of Stop-N-Shop on Highway 90. Deputy Karl Chism and DPS Trooper Tony Ashley were dispatched to the scene.

#### Sunday, Dec. 1

9:10 a.m., Joe Galvan, 27, of Chicago, and Joseph Eric Garcia, 18, and Luis Ivan Rodriguez, 18, both of Uvalde, were arrested by Trooper Ashley. Galvan was wanted on fugitive warrants out of Illinois. Garcia and Rodriguez were arrested for possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces. All three were booked into the Kinney County Jail, where they were still being held as of press-time.

## Bar-B-Que Fund Raiser For Stephanie Coronado

Date: December 8, 2002, Sunday  
Place: 509 East Spring Street  
Time: 11 am to 2 pm

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\$173 month  
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2002 CHEVY  
CAVALIER  
4 DR LS SEDAN  
240627(B)



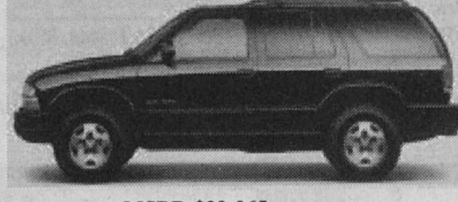
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Rebate  
Or 0% for 60 Months  
\$193 month  
payment

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LS 3500 4WD REG  
CAB DUALY  
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Including Rebate  
\$26,036

2002 CHEVY  
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4 WD 4DR LS  
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\$6,000  
Off  
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2002 CHEVY  
IMPALA  
SEDAN  
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MSRP \$22,919  
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C0364-Pmt 189 mth w/2000 dn, 8.9%, 60 mths W.A.C. \$8,845

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242736A- Pmt 187.00 mth w/2000 dn.,48 mths W.A.C. \$7,200

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242983A- Pmt 148.10 mth w/2000 dn.,48 mths,W.A.C....\$6,000

2001 Chevy Cavalier  
C0417- Pmt 189 mth w/2000 dn,48 mths, 8.9%,W.A.C....\$8,995

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LS 3rd Seat  
C0412- 3 To Choose From 1 Left.....\$27,995

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M.....\$14,995

1999 Chevy Suburban LS  
243243A.....\$17,995

2000 Chevy Suburban LT  
243262A- Leather, On Star.....\$26,995

2001 Chevy Suburban LT  
343202A- Leather On Star.....\$27,995

2000 Chevy EXT Cab  
Sprtside Gold  
342906A.....\$19,995

2001 Chevy Suburban LS  
243246A.....\$25,995

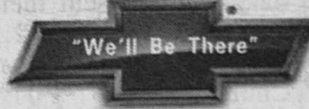
2000 Chevy Single Cab  
343001A- Pmt 231.00 mth w/2000 dn,60 mths WAC \$11,995

2000 Chevy Prizm  
Manual  
340002A-Pmt 153.00 mth w/2000 dn 60 mths W.A.C.\$8,495

2001 Chevy EXT Cab Sportside  
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\*Cash Advances not included \* Offer good through December 31, 2002

Quick, easy party tricks

Parties, parties, parties! Can't handle so many goodies in such a short time? Is there any help? Yes! I'll share some simple, quick and easy tricks to get us through when all ideas or hopes are gone.

Bottomless Cheese Crock
Ingredients: 4 cups (1 pound) of shredded sharp cheddar cheese, 1 small package (5 ounces) of cream cheese, 1 1/2 tablespoons each of dry mustard and garlic salt, and 2 tablespoons of brandy.

Bring the cheeses to room temperature (soft). Combine all the ingredients and beat until well blended. Pack into a container, cover and refrigerate for one week before using first time.

This makes about 3 cups. Before serving, let soften at room temperature for one hour.

Once this cheese crock is started, you keep blending cheese remnants into it - such



Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

as swiss, jack or any cheddar types.

Always shred and beat in while cheese is soft and in crock, adding a small amount of olive oil or cream cheese for good consistency. Also add brandy, dry sherry, port, beer or kirsch, keeping the total no more than original brandy. Let mixture age a few days before serving.

Use this every week or two, always saving part of the original mixture to keep crock going.

Cream Cheese Trio
Ingredients: 3 small packages (3 ounces) of cream cheese; 1 tablespoon of sesame seed, toasted; 1 tablespoon of soy sauce; 2 tablespoons of chopped fresh chives, 2 to 3 tablespoons of taco sauce.

Leave cream cheese blocks whole and bring to room temperature. Toast sesame seeds by spreading on baking sheet and bake about five minutes at 350 degrees until golden brown.

Coat one cheese block with toasted seeds and place on desired serving dish (all three may be served on single tray if desired). For added zest, drizzle soy sauce on top.

Press chives into second block of cheese, covering generously over all sides. Place third cheese block on tray and spoon about half of taco sauce over it, adding more as needed. There are 12 total servings.

Red Hatters host monthly meeting at Barbara's Table

The Red Hatters of Kinney County held its monthly meeting at Barbara's Table with 16 members attending. Plans were made for the next meeting.

The Kinney County Red Hatters will meet on Saturday at the Uvalde Country Club at noon.

Everyone attending will bring a Christmas ornament or decoration for a gift exchange.

The Kinney County Red Hatters will be hosting the South Texas Red Hatters on April 5.

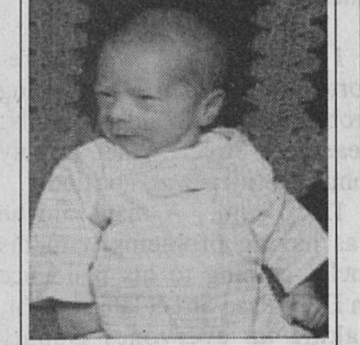
Plans are being made for the Spring Fling. It will be discussed at the December meeting.

The South Texas Hill Coun-

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\* Oferta valida hasta el 31 de diciembre 2002

It's a Boy



J.J. Hidalgo was born to Saul and Karen Hidalgo on Oct. 24th, 2002; 12:37 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hospital. 4 lbs 14 oz., 18 in. Paternal Grandparents are Jesus and Santa Hidalgo. Maternal Grandparents are Lyle and Dorothea Jesse.

UVALDE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

DECEMBER 2002 - OUTPATIENT CLINIC CALENDAR

You are encouraged to select a physician from the Active Medical Staff of our Hospital. If you are unable to get an appointment, call the UMH Uvalde Health Care Clinic, (830) 278-1692, or the UMH Sabinal Health Care Clinic, (830) 988-2985, for hours of operation.

Table with columns for days of the week (Monday-Friday) and rows for dates (1-31), listing the names and contact information of the on-call physicians for each day.



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- Bezerra, Herminio, M.D. Internal Medicine 278-7105
Bitar, Jamil, M.D. Internal Medicine & Cardiology 591-1294
Box, Gloria G., M.D. Orthopedic Surgery 278-2292
Carpinteyro, Ralph, M.D. Internal Medicine 278-6681
Flanders, Barry, M.D. Radiology 278-6251
Gaitonde, G. V., M.D. Surgery 278-4568
Garza, R. Steve, M.D. Family Practice/OB 278-4453
Lutton, Richard B., M.D. Family Practice/OB 278-4453
Preddy, John, D.O. Family Practice/OB 278-7101
Shudde, John L., M.D. Family Practice 278-3118
Sosa, Isaac, M.D. Internal Medicine 278-6265
Uptergrove, Kevin L., M.D. Family Practice/OB 278-4453
Utterback, Carl, M.D. Family Practice/OB 278-4588
Walkins, Harry O., M.D. Surgery 278-3213
Zarzar, Francisco J., M.D. Pediatrics 278-7105

Other Specialists

- Gregory Baber, D.M.D. Dental Surgeon (830) 278-7105
Jesse Castellanos, M.D. Disability Assessments, Inc. (830) 278-6469
Hanger Prosthetics (every Monday) (210) 227-2471
Victor Igumbola, D.D.S. Pediatric Dental Surgeon (830) 278-3122
Sanjiv Kumar, M.D. Ophthalmologist (830) 278-2020
Rodolfo Molina, M.D. (12/19) Rheumatologist (210) 690-8067
Matthew Mossbacher, M.D. (12/5) Rheumatologist (210) 690-8067
Gabriel Rodriguez, D.P.M. Podiatrist (830) 278-1840
Manuel A. Santiago, M.D. (every Wednesday) Hematology/Oncology (210) 595-5300
Ario Terry, M.D. (every Tuesday) Ophthalmologist (830) 278-9465



BRIEFS

Brackett ISD hosts Christmas concerts

Brackett ISD is inviting the community to its Christmas concerts. On Thursday, Dec. 12, the fifth, sixth and Brackett Tiger Bands will perform. On Monday, Dec. 16, the Pre-K through fourth grades will perform various Christmas songs. These performances are both in the school auditorium at 7 each night. Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria following both concerts.

The Tiger Band is selling raffle tickets. First prize is an Emerson DVD/VCR (partially funded by Wal-Mart) and second prize is an Apex VCR donated by HEB. The winning tickets will be drawn between band performances on Thursday.

Christmas poster contest is planned

The Theme for this year's Community Unity Poster Contest is "Jesus, the gift of love." First Prize for the contest is \$25, second prize is \$15 and third prize is \$10. Prizes will be awarded for three divisions - elementary, junior high and high school.

All submissions must be turned in by noon on Dec. 13 to the BISD Main Office. All posters become the property of the Church Alliance of Brackettville. The contest is open to all ages of school children. Participants must reside in Kinney County. Prizes will be given out on Dec. 15 at the Community Unity Christmas Program, which will be held at the Civic Center from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Attendance is required.

There will be a silent auction for the posters during the program. Winning posters will be displayed at Kinney County Public Library the following week.

For more information, call Charolette Corey at 563-2121.

Showcase to be held Sunday afternoon

Next Sunday, from 2 to 5 p.m., get ready for a great Sunday outing! Instead of the Christmas Homes Tour, the Kinney County Arts Council is showcasing the Wainwright House with all rooms groomed for Christmas.

For \$1, a tour of this historical home is available and a chance to participate in a silent auction, pantry sale (bake goods), retail items, and a raffle of a beautiful hand made afghan. So plan to kick-off the Christmas season with a unique opportunity to visit the home of famous generals and where John Wayne lived during the filming of "The Alamo."

Calvary Brigade returns to duty

Troopers are dribbling in from their summer campaign from the north and the east. Arriving at the fort and getting refreshed, it will be time to shine and spruce up FCS' grounds, creek and the exterior and interior of historical buildings.

The Calvary Brigade will be mustering at Shafter Hall at 9 a.m. on Sunday and a "chow" award that is guaranteed to please the most finicky trooper will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

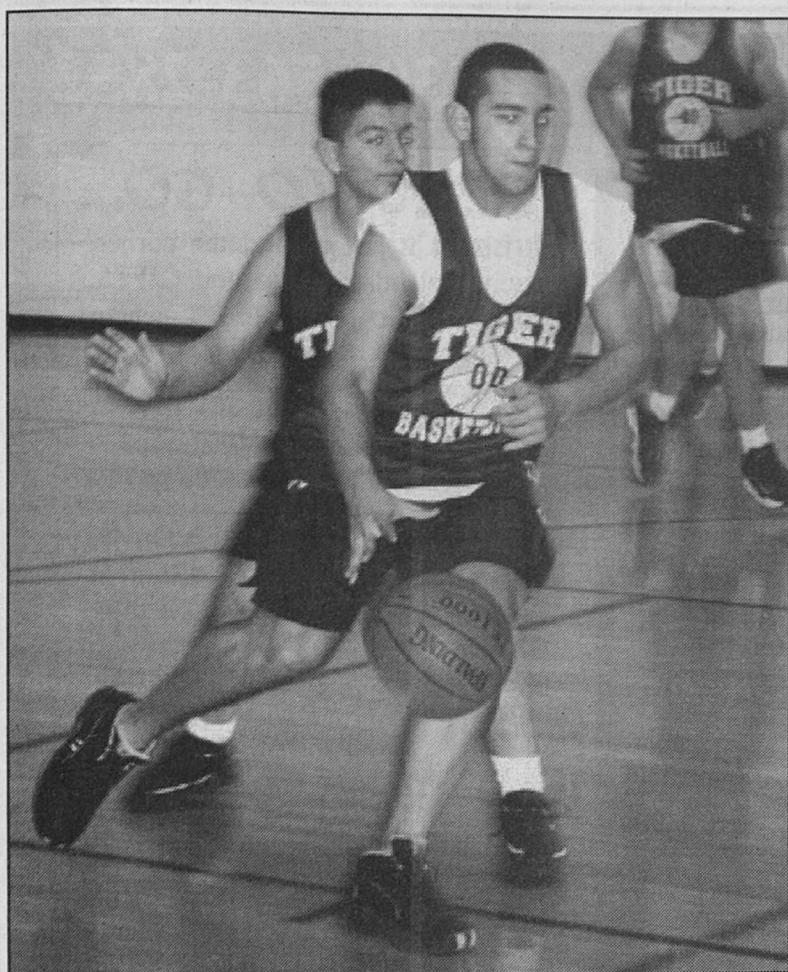
There will be jobs for all, including troopers with recovering injuries, as well as dealing with old wounds.

Genealogical group meets on Saturday

The Southwest Genealogical Society will meet on Saturday at Neal's Lodge Cafe in Concan at 10 a.m. The speaker will be James Menke. The registration fee is \$2 and lunch is \$8. The public is invited.

Piano recital set for 2:30 on Sunday

Lynn McNew and Marilyn Baker will present their piano students in a recital at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at the Methodist Church.



**Driving to the bucket**  
Brackett senior Philip Munoz drives to the basket past teammate Martin Flores during practice this week.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## Hoop teams open play in N.C. tourney today

Brackett opens play in the Nueces Canyon basketball tournament today in Barksdale.

The Tigerettes (1-2) face Sabinal today at noon in their opening contest.

"We are progressing each game," Brackett coach Ricky Creel said. "We are starting to play as a team."

"We have showed a lot of improvement through the first three games," he added.

In today's other first-round matchup, LaPryor plays Nueces Canyon at 9 a.m. The losers of the two games meet at 3 p.m., while the winners play at 6 p.m.

On Friday, D'Hanis plays Rocksprings at 9 a.m., and Knippa faces Utopia at noon.

On Saturday, the consolation contest is at 10 a.m., the third-place final is at 1 p.m. and the championship is at 4 p.m.

The Tigers (2-0) open the tournament against Sabinal today in a 1:30 contest.

Brackett opened its seasons with wins over Knippa (39-34) and Leakey (51-39).

"Our defense has been much better than I anticipated," Tigers coach Charlie Marquardt said. "It is going to carry us until we find our shooting touch."

"We're starting to do a better job of limiting our turnovers. I'm sure we will take better care of the ball as the season progresses," he added.

In the other first-round game, LaPryor plays Nueces Canyon at 10:30 a.m. The losers of the two games meet at 11:30 a.m., while the winners play at 5:30 p.m.

On Friday, D'Hanis plays Rocksprings at 10:30 a.m., and Knippa faces Utopia at 1:30 p.m.

On Saturday, the consolation contest is at 11:30 a.m., the third-place final is at 2:30 p.m. and the championship is at 5:30 p.m.

## Thank You

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner was a great success. The dinner was held Friday, November 22, 2002, at the Kinney County Civic Center. We appreciate everyone who attended and enjoyed the excellent food and entertainment.

Local talent Patty Lopez opened the ceremony with the singing of the National Anthem. Father Scanlan gave grace. Plates with turkey and all the trimmings were prepared by Julie Molano and Candy Gonzalez and were served by 4-H students and E.M.S. staff. The Jones Elementary Kindergarden, 1st and 2nd grade classes sang and read poems. Patty Lopez closed the ceremony with a couple of her songs. All decorations were made by the students of Jones Elementary and placed by Julie Nowlin. Robert Garza, Leonel Juarez, and Mayor Carmen Berlanga thanked everyone for the performances.

We want to offer special thanks to Val Verde Home Nurses, Inc. for donating the food, to the Kinney County Commissioners Court for allowing the use of the Civic Center at no cost, and to Julie Molano and the Aging Center Staff for the preparation and delivery of the excellent food. We would also like to thank and recognize the following individuals and organizations for their contributions and volunteering their time. We apologize if we did not recognize anyone, but your time and efforts were very well appreciated.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Garza, Leonel Juarez, Martha Pena Pardon, Wackenhut Correctional Center, Patty Lopez, Father Cornelius J. Scanlan, Los Moras Hispanic Organization, Fort Clark Men's Club, Sarah Terrazas and Kinney Cty. Library, Brackett Chamber of Commerce, Robert Elledge & 4-H club, Carolyn Rutherford & E.M.S., United Medical Center, Candy Gonzalez, Mark Garcia, Connie Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Mario Jaso, Elda E. Terrazas, Evangelina Cardenas, Albert Payne, Sylvia Gomez, Pat Gomez, Julie Nowlin, Virginia Reyes, Zulema Reyes Kermit Gomez, Maria D. Martinez, Francisca D. Garza, Chacha Stewart, Elena Molinar, Lucila Valdez, Leo Luna, Jeff Luna.

### BRIEFS

#### Tigerettes claim big win over Leakey

The Brackett Tigerettes won their first game on Nov. 22 with a 34-7 road win over Leakey in junior varsity basketball action.

The Tigerettes (1-1) were leading 7-5 at intermission, but broke the game open after outscoring the Lady Eagles 14-0 in the third quarter and 27-2 in the second half.

"After only one week of practice, our first game was pretty rough, but we started coming together and working as a team in the second game," BHS coach Tiffany Blore said. "We are planning on working hard through December, then coming back in the new year ready to play."

Timmeka Simmons paced Brackett with a game-high 12 points against Leakey.

Jessi Crane and Divina Pena both scored four points, Alanna Conoly pitched in three points, Clarissa Aguirre, Cassie Mata, Tanya Molinar and Brandy Smith all had two points and Shaddine Gum added one point.

The Tigerettes opened their season on Nov. 16 with a 23-12 loss to Knippa.

Simmons finished with five points in the contest, Crane scored four, Pena had two and Stephanie DeLeon chipped in one point.

#### Cubettes fall short against Comstock

COMSTOCK — The Brackett Cubettes seventh-grade team came up short Monday, falling to Comstock 27-9.

Comstock jumped out to an 11-5 halftime lead and then outscored Brackett 16-4 in the second half to secure the win.

Haley Harris led the Cubettes in scoring with three points, Julie Castillo and Bianca Stewart each had two points, and Bailey Allen and Daphne Hunt both added one point.

Brackett resumes action today with a 5 p.m. road game against Sacred Heart in Del Rio.

#### Rain damages floor

Continued from Page 1

slab under the floor had to completely dry for five days. New maple flooring was shipped from Wisconsin. Our contractor worked tirelessly to get the floor replaced."

It cost the district \$69,500 to replace the floor, but Stephenson said the school plans on recouping the expense.

"We have informed the roofing contractor and continue to gather information to help with the cause of the damage," he said. "The board's attorney is helping to direct these efforts. It is our goal that either the insurance company or the roofing company pay the entire cost of the replacement of the floor. If they don't do it willingly, I'm sure that the board will litigate the incident."

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<b>2003 YUKON XL</b>  Save \$5587 #2001 MSRP ... \$37842 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$3589 <b>\$32255</b>	<b>2003 YUKON</b>  Save \$5276 #2149 MSRP ... \$34688 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$3276 <b>\$29412</b>	<b>2002 SEVILLE SLS</b>  Save \$9469 #1369 MSRP ... \$45844 • Rebate ... \$4000 Brown Disc .. \$5469 <b>\$36375</b>	<b>2002 PARK AVENUE</b>  Save \$6083 #1215 MSRP ... \$36032 • Rebate ... \$3000 Brown Disc .. \$3083 <b>\$29949</b>
<b>2002 ESCALADE EXT</b>  Save \$7693 #1693 MSRP ... \$50015 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$5693 <b>\$42322</b>	<b>2002 2500 HD DIESEL CC</b>  Save \$6101 #2051 MSRP ... \$39722 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$4101 <b>\$33621</b>	<b>2003 SONSOMA EXT CAB</b>  Save \$3536 #1980 MSRP ... \$21620 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$1536 <b>\$18084</b>	<b>2003 DEVILLE</b>  Save \$9513 #1653 MSRP ... \$45735 • Rebate ... \$4000 Brown Disc .. \$5513 <b>\$36222</b>
<b>2002 2500 HD DIESEL CC</b>  Save \$6101 #2051 MSRP ... \$39722 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$4101 <b>\$33621</b>	<b>2003 SIERRA 1500</b>  Save \$3468 #2002 MSRP ... \$20953 • Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc .. \$1468 <b>\$17985</b>	 <h1>Brown Automotive</h1> <p>"Where Customer Satisfaction is our Priority" • 2520 Hwy 90W • 775-7550 • 1-800-725-7550</p> <p>*All prices figured with Rebate &amp; T.T.&amp;L down W.A.C. thru GMAC</p>	

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS 1 Tuna container 4 Dry and shriveled 8 UN goal 13 Encourage 14 Stumble 15 Became furious 16 Siamese cry 17 Leave the ground 18 Heart chambers 19 Overly fastidious 22 Common street name 23 Neutered 24 Long period of illness 26 Part of a bicycle 29 Odors 32 Vision 36 Back 38 Let 39 Cruel one 40 Food for the wandering Israelites 41 Suffix for confer or

Crossword grid with numbers 1-41 indicating starting positions for across and down clues.

Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc. 1. Elia Fitzgerald; 2. Phillip; 3. The great auk; 4. 36; 5. Vincent; 6. Fear

ROARING TWENTIES

In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid.

Today's Category: BASKETBALL TEAMS

S S C I N O S R E P U S R R B U C K S D C S E P E O D D H K D I S V B I K I W C W E G D L C U S A R E A L A A O S N L T L R H B M I W T U Z L O K A S V S R P G S Z S N I W D C E D G P E A N S N D W B C E S S E J E U G E M S T E K C O R T N S I S S S R E C A P S S T S R U P S C I T L E C

- 1. Bulls 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- 1. Who was the first woman to receive the "Lincoln Center Medallion"? 2. In the Walt Disney movie, "Sleeping Beauty", what is the name of the prince who kisses and awakens Sleeping Beauty? 3. What bird became extinct in 1844? 4. How many black keys are there on a grand piano? 5. How did Vincent Van Gogh sign his paintings? 6. What is astraphobia? 7. In the famous song, which track did the Chattanooga Choo-Choo leave from? 8. What Central American country's name means "land of trees"? 9. What is the national language of Pakistan? 10. What city boasts the world's largest opera house?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Dec. 5...Joe Don Ferguson Dec. 7.....Becky Moore Dec. 5...Stevie Lowrance Dec. 8....Carol Benefield Dec. 5.....Jack Taunt Dec. 8....Garland Hinesly Dec. 5.....Natalie Thelen Dec. 9.....Pedro Benitez Dec. 6....Frances Larson Dec. 10.....Ray Smith Dec. 7.....Rita Holmes Dec. 11.....Russell Latensen

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) When making your holiday gift list, keep finances in mind. You don't have to spend a fortune to make others happy. A simple, thoughtful gift will do. LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You're given a work assignment which isn't to your liking. However, your skills are best suited for this. Grin and bear it; it's soon put to rest. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're tempted to be impulsive this week. Thus, you could make a purchase you'll regret in the long run. This weekend, do some holiday decorating. SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) It's a good time to go over contracts and legal agreements. Your mind is sharp, and you won't miss a detail. This weekend, make yourself available for family projects. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The watchword of the week is practicality. This approach serves you well when a minor crisis erupts at work. Later in the week, catch up on neglected correspondence. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Caught up in last week's festivities, some important work fell by the wayside. Be sure to clear this up. Later, you're entertained by a child's fanciful tales. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You are able to learn a new skill this week. For some, that means becoming computer literate - finally! Over the weekend, a friend needs an attentive ear. CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) It's stop-and-go for your work week. Try not to give in to frustration. You can break this cycle with the help of a cooperative co-worker. LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your thinking is right on target at work. Take advantage of this to come up with innovative solutions. A social engagement awaits over the weekend. AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Your restlessness is getting the attention of bigwigs at work. Do your best to curb this. Once you do, you're unstoppable. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You do some searching for the perfect gift for your mate. Remember, money isn't of the utmost importance in this. Later in the week, work takes precedence. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Avoid a tendency to drive yourself too hard, particularly at work. All that overtime soon catches up to you. Use the weekend to catch up on much-needed rest.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

- 1. Bucks 2. Bulls 3. Celtics 4. Clippers 5. Hawks 6. Heat 7. Jazz 8. Kings 9. Lakers 10. Magic 11. Nets 12. Nuggets 13. Pacers 14. Pistons 15. Rockets 16. Spurs 17. Suns 18. SuperSonics 19. Timberwolves 20. Warriors

Solution grid for the Roaring Twenties crossword puzzle.



