

The Brackett News

Tigers open district tomorrow in Natalia
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15 year, No. 35

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

Fort Clark officials close restaurant

Board members consider privatization

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

In efforts to reduce expenses, the Fort Clark Springs Association Board of Directors closed the Las Moras Restaurant and Lounge after the close of business on Sept. 28.

"It was purely a financial decision," said John Dixon, who serves as treasurer on the FCSA board.

"We had been discussing it since July. It has continually lost money over the years. I took the 2001 audit back to 1999, and between the restaurant and the bar, they both lost over a quarter of a million dollars in a two-year period," he added.

Dixon said the restaurant and lounge were on their way to losing about \$110,000 through the

"We had been discussing it since July. It has continually lost money over the years. I took the 2001 audit back to 1999, and between the restaurant and the bar, they both lost over a quarter of a million dollars in a two-year period."

FCSA board member John Dixon

end of the fiscal year, which ended on Sept. 30.

"We just shut the books down for August. The restaurant has lost roughly a little bit over \$82,000 up until August," Dixon said.

"We're hoping we're going to be able to reduce our property and casualty insurance for those specific areas," he added.

Association officials are con-

sidering privatization for the restaurant and lounge.

"We're examining proposals to potentially lease it out and let someone else manage it," Dixon said.

The treasurer said the association's finances are continuing to look up.

"The RV Park and the motel are continuing to make money," he said.



Photo by J.J. Guidry

Closing the doors

Fort Clark Springs Association officials have closed the doors to the Las Moras Restaurant and Lounge because of continual financial losses.

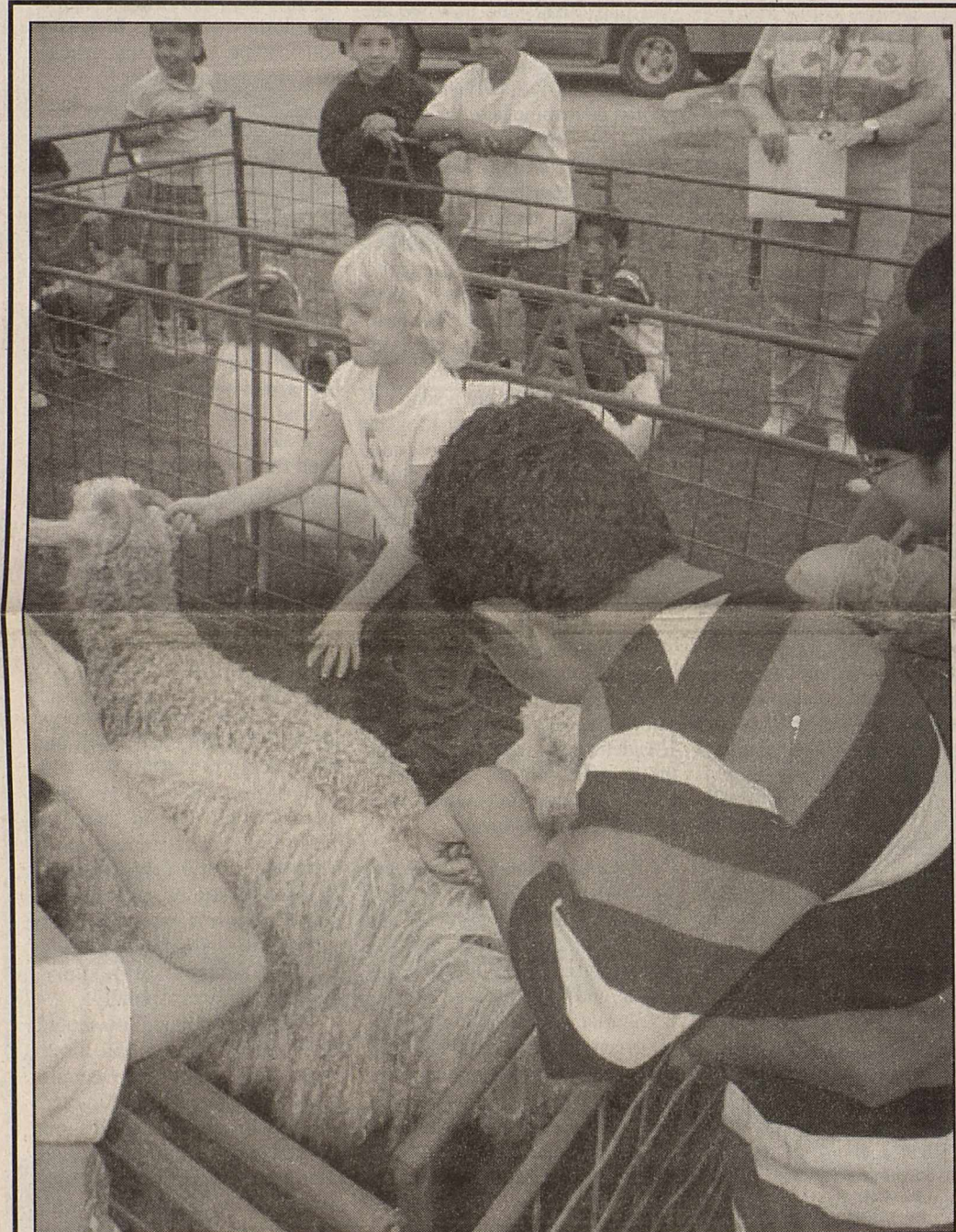


Photo by J.J. Guidry

Ag Day

Jones Elementary students look on as 4-year-old Tyler Schuster shows off her angora goats Tuesday at the annual Ag Day at Brackett ISD.

Water board proposes additional rule changes

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District officials are considering two additional changes to the district's rules.

Board members Don Hood, Chris Ring, Darlene Shahan, Cecil Smith, Hadley Wardlaw and Bob Young voted Monday to have the proposed changes drafted by their attorney, Brian Sledge of Austin. Board member Chuck Hall was absent from the meeting.

The proposed changes are expected to be available to the public today.

The board will reconvene Monday at 4 at the Courthouse to consider adopting the proposed changes.

The rule changes were proposed by Paul Terrill, an Austin attorney representing local landowners. He presented those changes to the board last week.

In Hood's motion, he said the district would "maintain a two-tier system, but ... extend the historic use period under the current rules so that it begins on Jan. 1, 1960."

Terrill had questioned the two-tiered system involving existing and historic users, and objected to citizens' inability to claim historic use prior to 1972 under the current rules.

"If someone can prove up historic use, I think they should get it," he said. "Somebody that has water use from the '40s or the '50s or the '60s may indeed

have a harder time proving it up. They're not going to have the same sort of aerial photographs. People that were farming at the time may be dead. They're going to have proof problems.

"From a legal standpoint, under the water code, if somebody can prove up historic use, there ought not be any difference between somebody who has use in 1973 versus somebody who has use in 1963 or 1953.

"If somebody has an old claim, let them come in and prove it up. Y'all will be ultimate arbiters of whether they have sufficient proof to prove up their claim. But they shouldn't be arbitrarily kept out of the opportunity to prove up their claim by an arbitrary endpoint, which right now is 1972," he added.

Hood's motion also said the district would "change rule 14.08 so that it is mandatory rather than permissive that the board establish a reduced fee for groundwater on land under contract with the CRP."

Terrill represents two landowners involved in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), where landowners receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on farmland.

"The way your rules are set up right now, they will have to pay users fees for water that they have a permit for, but for which they are contractually barred from using for irrigation for approximately eight years," he

said. "I would ask the board to suspend those fees or in some way address that specific situation for land that is in CRP.

"I think it's only fair that you don't pay user fees for water that you're not using. In addition to that, I think it has the added benefit of promoting conservation in the district. If somebody is not having to pay fees on water that they can't use, it's going to encourage people to not use that water," he added.

Smith asked if CRP participants could use their water for uses other than agriculture.

"I'm not aware of that," Terrill responded. "I'm not aware of anybody having used water from CRP land for some use other than that. If that's a serious concern, I think that's something that you can address with your rules."

Terrill also objected to the district rule which mandates that production fees be paid up front for all users, but the directors apparently are not going to address the issue.

"Everybody has to pay their fees based on the claimed amount that they are seeking in their application," he said. "The problem with that is we don't know what adjudicated right they're going to get, and we can only know that at the end of the process. For people that have over-claims, that the permit amount might be significantly reduced. Your system discourages people from coming in and bringing their full claim."

What do you do when your speaker cancels? Baker offers suggestions to fellow Rotarians

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My grandmother was recently discussing how she had been getting comments about my columns. They were good, but she heard more than usual.
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Roger Baker, pastor of the First Methodist Church and a Rotarian, addressed the Brackettville Rotary Club last Thursday at a noontime meeting at Barbara's Table in the patio area.

Rotary President Paula Renken opened the meeting with the traditional Pledge of Allegiance and the Four-Way Test.

Baker made apologies for the unexpectedly absent guest speaker and then surprised the gathering by introducing his topic: "What to Do When Your Speaker Cancels."

The fun presentation included a brief overview of strategies, such as finding a replacement speaker. Baker recommends contacting teachers, lawyers, pastors and others who frequently speak in public. These people might have a topic prepared they can present on short notice.

In other cases, the person responsible for finding a speaker might need to create a brief program themselves with little time to prepare.

The minister then proceeded to show how most people with a little speaking experience can quickly prepare a 10 to 15 minute program.

Baker recommends choosing a topic from the familiar things in life. Hobbies, books recently read, and unique life experiences all provide possible topics. The speaker's occupation may provide interesting subject matter, especially if the career is unfamiliar to many in the audience.

Topics based on location, such as Fort Clark, time of year, such as football season, or events in the news, like Homeland Security, each have possibilities.

Baker recommended that more than one potential topic be selected until appropriate support material can be found.

Using a humorous and casual style, Baker demonstrated the necessity of adjusting the style of presentation to match the seriousness of the topic.

"You don't want to present a persuasive argument without some passion in your presentation," the preacher said. "But you also don't want to go overboard presenting simple facts."

Baker recommends presenters stick to informative or entertaining topics when preparing for a short-notice presentation.

Another tip offered was to create handouts and visual aids early in the process so that the presentation would flow naturally from them. Using the opportunity to distribute lecture notes to the Rotarians, Baker showed how he had used a copy of the handout as a starting place and then expanded the notes to create his personal presentation script. The presenter offered advice concerning visual aids, recalling past presenters to the Rotary Club and identifying the different resources they used. He then showed how recorded sounds and even scents could add to the audience participation with a speaker.

Drawing from practical experience, Baker showed how humor can enliven a presentation by keeping the listeners engaged. He identified an introductory joke as a simple way to engage attendees from the very start. Topical humor, according to Baker, is probably best, but is not required. He finds humor involving race, religion, politics and sexuality as particularly troublesome and best avoided.

Among the resources Roger recommends are humorous col-



Photo Special to The Brackett News

Guest speaker

Rotary Club President Paula Renken (left) introduced fellow Rotarian Roger Baker at last week's meeting.

lections, like the Milton Berle "joke file" and other anthologies.

The young clergyman described the misuse of statistics as a sure method for boring an audience. Baker then illustrated the point in a handout that illustrated the levels of church membership in Kinney County.

His statements that "Kinney County holds over 67 tons of church members" and that "it would take three jumbo jets to

move all the church members in Kinney County to Jerusalem" were received with the intended humor and challenges.

While defending the authenticity of the statistics, Baker showed that these meaningless numbers lent little to the presentation while becoming an issue for pointless discussion. Baker recommends that the speaker always be ready to identify specific sources for any factual material presented.

Who needs a plumber?

I have two totally unrelated thoughts this week. I watched a commercial on TV the other day that was for eggs.

Eggs! Why would anyone advertise eggs? How can you convince me that your eggs are better than anyone else's? This isn't a product that you have much control over. A hen does the producing.

Also, I was plumbing last week. Just minor stuff. PVC. That's my material of choice.

Poly-vinyl-chloride. Good stuff, just don't burn it. It gives off a deadly gas. But for plumbing it's hard to beat. If you make a mistake, just cut it out, reglue it, and try again.

Needless to say I made a mistake, and I was soon to make another.

I had a small drip in an elbow of the PVC. One drop for a count of 23. It was a small leak, but still it needed to be fixed. PVC won't heal itself. It won't corrode up like metal pipe will.

So I cut the pipe at what I thought was a reasonable length to repair the damage. In answer to your question, no. No, I did not remember to turn off the water.

Mistake No. 3. I tried to put the heel of my hand over the



But I Could Be Wrong

Chuck Hall

open end of the pipe. Why do I always do that?

Yes, this has happened before. On more than one occasion. For some unknown reason, I think I can hold 500 pounds of water pressure. Indefinitely. Even If I could, what good would it do? Sometime, sooner or later, I'll have to let go to go turn off the water.

I yelled at Connie to turn off the water. She did. The stream slowed to a trickle, but did not stop. I got down, went to the water valve. If you want something done right ...

I turned the valve. I turned it back on. A few hundred gallons of water later, I realized my mistake. I quickly turned the valve as Connie had left it.

My major mistake was thinking I was a plumber. I fixed the problem, and dried up all of the mess. Now I need to turn the water back on to check it again. And I will. Someday.

But I could be wrong.



Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

Columnist appreciates loyal readers

My grandmother was recently discussing how she had been getting a lot of comments about my columns. They were good mind you, but she said she heard a bit more than usual. That got me thinking about the people who actually read my column. I really wonder, who is reading it right now, each and every word?

I know that only a few of my friends read my column, the others think it is too long. Now that I think about it, there is one person I know in particular from school, who actually reads some of my columns. He always comments on past writings, almost quoting them word for word. It is sometimes a bit spooky.

Actually, like many, he doesn't really compliment me on them — he teases me, but I know he secretly likes them. He has to be somewhat fond of them, judging on how he is the only one at school to say something about them, and repeat sentences of columns gone by. It is very odd that he can fit my articles into any conversation.

So my little stalker, I mean faithful reader, this column is dedicated to you. Actually, I would like to dedicate this to all my readers. I have decided to make this a week of thanks.

I would like to thank everyone who reads my columns each week. All those who care enough about this, shall we say "interesting" teen's philosophy on life, are thoroughly appreciated. You are truly remarkable.

I say this because I do not even think I would have the patience to get through my constant ramblings of odd sorts each and every week. All those crazy stories of eternal youth, bubble gum, aliens and how gross kissing is — that can get old pretty quick. (Who am I kidding? I read my article each and every week too.)

So in honor of those who put up with my chit chat, I will end this quickly to reward you with a short piece. Before I go, once more I would like to thank all the little people I stepped on to reach this position. Without you all, I would still be spending my time staring off into the abyss instead of writing these crazy columns, though I still find myself doing so occasionally.

I am just kidding. You should know me by now. I will never forget any of the little people when I am incredibly famous, either as an actress, a child show host, or even the president. And I don't plan on stepping on anyone either. Without the few who actually read this part of the paper, I would be the only one who read my columns, and that would be just plain pathetic. So protect me from being pathetic, keep reading.

Hollywood controls society

Does what your children see on television have any influence on their behavior? If they see casual sex, hear foul language and watch hours of bloody mayhem on the boob tube, do you think it changes the way they see their world?

If you say no, they know the difference between fantasy and reality, you would be only half right. The most recent studies reveal that what children see on television has a frightening impact on how they behave.

For instance, the following is copied from a report produced by Parents Television Council (PTC): "Recently, 24 state attorneys general sent a letter to Jack Valenti, the president of the Motion Picture Association of America urging him to persuade the industry to try to cut back on cigarette smoking in movies in an effort to reduce the appeal of cigarettes to teenagers. Underlying this letter is recognition of the fact that teenagers especially often imitate the behavior of their favorite TV and movie stars."

Also in a report from PTC is the following: "Mounting evidence also points to the fact that highly sexualized images on television can shape teens' attitudes towards sex. Teenaged girls who watch a lot of sex on TV tend to have more sex partners. Young women who watch as little as 22 hours a month of prime time TV are more likely to endorse a "recreational" view of sex than young women who watch less TV. Teens who watch sexy TV shows tend to engage in sexual behaviors more frequently than teens who watch less sex on TV. Children who are exposed to sexual material in media become sexually active earlier in life, putting them at higher risk for STDs and pregnancy."

The short story here is that no matter what the goons from Hollywood, Lalaland, tell you, what your children see on television and in the movies does indeed have a telling effect on how they think and act. Let's take profanity — plain, old cussin' — for example. "According to



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascus

Geoffrey Hughes, author of *Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths and Profanity in English*, "The influence of Hollywood has become a dominant factor (in the shift in attitudes towards swearing), initially for restraint, but subsequently for license."

"We've seen the pattern time and time again. Once the initial taboo is broken and the shock value wears off, more and more curse words fall into the category of 'acceptable' language, and TV must try to up the ante by introducing new words to prime time TV's obscene lexicon."

Think back on the last 30 years, those of you who are old enough to remember, and contemplate the incredible change in the amount of swearing you hear in public now as compared to then. Remember the breathtaking line from *Gone With the Wind*, "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn?" It caused tremors all through our society. Now such a line would be lost in the deluge of foul language emanating from the screen.

Did you know that foul language increased overall during every timeslot between 1998 and 2002? Foul language during the family hour increased by 94.8 percent between 1998 and 2002 and by 109.1 percent during the 9 p.m. ET/PT time slot. Ironically, the smallest increase, 38.7 percent, occurred during the last hour of prime time — the hour when young children are least likely to be in the viewing audience. And foul language increased during the WB's family hour by 188 percent between 1998 and 2002. Foul language during the second hour of prime time is up on the WB by 308.5 percent since 1998, from a mere two instances per hour to over 10 per hour.

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Big Mama Sez!

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BRIEFS

Bat flights await at Devil's Sinkhole

More than a million Mexican freetail bats are taking flight from the depths of Devil's Sinkhole, a 310-foot collapsed limestone pit that is the heart of a 1,859-acre state natural area. It reigns as the largest single-chamber and third deepest cavern in Texas.

The mostly undeveloped Devil's Sinkhole State Natural area, located approximately 6 miles northeast of Rocksprings, is open to the public by prior arrangement only.

The nonprofit Devil's Sinkhole Society takes reservation for bat flight observations and afternoon sinkhole tours. The bats are at their peak during the months of August and September and into October.

Currently, bat tours take place Wednesday through Sunday nights and sinkhole tours on weekends only. Tour participants meet at the Visitors Center in Rocksprings for the 20-minute bus ride to Devil's Sinkhole, 6 miles northeast of town.

Tours will run through Oct. 19. Bat flight tour fees are \$10 for adults, \$8 for persons over 65, and \$6 for children 4 to 11. Day-time tour fees are \$6 per person.

Devil's Sinkhole State Natural Area is one of more than 120 state parks that make up the Texas State Park System. For tour reservations, call (830) 683-2287.

To learn about all of the Texas state parks, call (800) 792-1112 or log onto the Texas Parks and Wildlife Web site: www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

Association sponsors rifle giveaway

The Kinney County Wildlife Management Association will be sponsoring a rifle giveaway for the following during the hunting season: bobcats and mountain lions, coyote and red fox, feral hog, and an open class for a \$10 donation. Four rifles will be given away — one for each of the categories.

All predators taken will be registered at the contest headquarters, the Kinney County Wool & Mohair, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Each time a participant brings in a new animal in one of the first three categories, his or her name will be put in a hat designated for that category.

The open class will be for participants who have made a donation to the Kinney County Wildlife Management Association. Every \$10 donation constitutes an entry.

A lottery-style drawing will be held at the close of the contest to determine the winner of each of the four categories. The drawing will take place at the Kinney County Wool & Mohair on Jan. 20 at 10 a.m.

Officials announce validation dates

Individuals interested in exhibiting an animal in this year's stockshows, both major and county, must have their animals validated this Saturday, according to Kinney County Agent Robert Elledge announced.

Officials will be validating animals on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at the Ag Shop. Anyone with conflicts must make arrangements prior to Saturday. For more information, call 563-2442.

Hunters Round-Up set for Nov. 1

The Kinney County Extension Office, the Wildlife Damage Management Association, the Chamber of Commerce and Fort Clark Springs Association will sponsor the annual Hunter's Roundup on Nov. 1.

Anyone interested in having a booth can contact the Extension Office at 563-2442. The price for a booth is \$25, or the donation of a door prize or raffle prize for the equivalent value.



Rock and roll all night

Wild Ride, a local band made up of J.J. Guidry (from left), Heath Childs, Scott Nebel and Wes Robinson, perform Saturday night during the Steakalada, a fundraiser for the Kinney County Livestock Show. The previous night the band performed in Alpine during Sul Ross State University's rodeo weekend. The group's performance is expected to be included in a 13-episode reality documentary series about college rodeo, slated for broadcast on the Outdoor Life Channel next spring.

Photo by Genie Robinson

DAR chapter celebrates Constitution Day

The Uvalde de las Encinas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution had 24 members and prospective members travel to Fredericksburg recently to celebrate Constitution Day with the nine other chapters in the Hill Country Council.

Attending the celebration from Brackettville were Jan Chism, Modge Hudson, Woodie Hornburg, Pat McKelvy, Woodie Frances Trotter and Louise Stone.

The U.S. Constitution is the source of the nation's stability and the fountainhead of citizens' freedom. When the Founding Fathers gathered in Philadelphia that hot summer of 1787, they had a great sense of mission.

On June 19, James Madison made a moving speech urging that the convention come up with a "Constitution for the Ages."

How could those men dare to dream that the constitution they

were writing could create a government that could last so long?

Even the notion that man is capable of self-government was revolutionary and controversial in 1787. Benjamin Franklin warned his fellow delegates that, if they failed to produce a workable constitution, future generations might conclude that mankind is not capable of self-government, and then leave government "to chance, conquest, and to war."

So, the Founding Fathers applied themselves to the task and invented an original design of governance that so distributed and divided the power of man over man that government could not evolve into tyranny and need to be overthrown in violence.

The Constitution's fundamental principles were revolutionary in 1787, but have clearly stood the test of time. These principles included reliance on a written document, the concept that government is the servant

of the people not their master, the principle that government may exercise only those powers specifically delegated to it, the principles of federalism and the separation of powers, and the concept that representative democracy must function under constitutional procedures and restraints.

The featured speaker for the celebration was Texas Rep. Carter Casteel, who serves District 73. Casteel grew up in Monahans and graduated from high school there. She received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Texas, her masters from Southwest Texas University, and her J.P. from St. Mary's School of Law.

Casteel has taught school in Austin and also in Comal ISD. She has served as an attorney, county judge, and as president of the Comal County Bar Association. She was selected as the freshman representative of the year this past session.



Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

Casserole costs only pennies, but tastes great

Want a casserole that costs pennies, serves four to six people and tastes good too?

- Here it is!
- Chinese Hamburger Dish**
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 diced onion
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1/4 cup soy sauce (low sodium, if desired)
- 1/2 cup uncooked white rice
- 1 cup warm water
- 1 3-ounce can crispy chow mein noodles

In a large skillet over medium heat, brown the meat with onion and celery. Drain the fat. Combine the soups, soy sauce, rice and water in a large bowl, and then stir in the meat mixture. Mix well.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour the meat and rice mixture into a 9-by-13 baking dish.

Cover and bake for 30 minutes, and then uncover and bake for another 30 minutes.

Sprinkle with chow mein noodles and bake an additional 15 minutes.

Note: You may substitute 2 cups of pre-cooked (left-over) rice, which would eliminate the 1 cup of water and 30 minutes of cooking the covered dish.

How about a good moist chocolate cake that can be enjoyed without icing?

Take 5 minutes to fix this and see if you don't agree. It's good with or without toppings.

- Diet Coke Cake**
 - 1 box chocolate cake mix (not with pudding)
 - 1 can diet coke
- Mix the ingredients together by hand, but do not whip. Follow the baking directions on the box. Watch closely to not over bake.

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, Sept. 29
2:30 p.m., A Kinney County man reported that someone broke into his residence at his ranch, about 3 miles east of Brackettville on Highway 90. Constable Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene. He found that someone used a rock to break two burglar bars, and then broke the double-pane windows to gain entry. The rancher reported that food and boots were missing from the residence.

4:29 p.m., A Fort Clark man told officials that he wanted his wife to come and pick up everything that was in the carport and to return the key to the house.

8:51 p.m., A Fort Clark woman said she wanted her dog back and her ex-husband would not give it to her.

11:50 p.m., A 911 caller said that her father was trying to kill himself and she requested assistance at their residence on W. El Paso Street.

Tuesday, Sept. 30
10:30 a.m., A woman requested assistance in stopping a woman from taking any belongings out of her residence.

10:42 a.m., A man called 911 to report that he smelled gas at his residence on N. Gove Street. City officials were notified.

12:07 a.m., Richard Guajardo, 39, of Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Cody Shannon on charges of family violence and interference with an emergency telephone call. He was released two days later on an \$1,800 cash bond.

4:25 p.m., A woman reported a horse running around loose near the Senior Apartments on W. Spring Street. City officials were notified of the situation.

6:40 p.m., A Fort Clark man

requested assistance as his wife picked up her belongings from their residence.

7:07 p.m., A Border Patrol agent reported a man with a history of homicide and murder walking west of Brackettville.

Wednesday, Oct. 1
2:30 p.m., A man reported a reckless driver on Rufus Alley. The caller stated that the driver of the vehicle had run over the family dog, which was taken to a veterinarian in Del Rio.

5:30 p.m., A man reported that a deputy would not let him enter Fort Clark Springs.

8:24 p.m., A woman said that her ex-husband, who lives on Fort Clark Springs, took her leather jacket.

9:35 p.m., A Spofford man said someone entered his residence and stole his beer and two bottles of Crown Royal. Entry was gained by using a key. He said only a few people know where the spare key is hidden.

Friday, Oct. 3
2:30 p.m., A Brackett High School official reported a fight between two male students around noon-time. A 17-year-old student reportedly grabbed a 15-year-old boy and shoved him against a wall, leaving a mark on the victim, for saying something about him. The father of the boy who was attacked filed charges for disorderly conduct against the other boy.

4:05 p.m., A BHS female student reported that another girl ran into her on the sidewalk after school, and then called her a vulgar name and threatened to beat her up.

4:30 p.m., A man reported that his pit bull was lost or possibly stolen about two months ago.

5:14 p.m., A woman called 911 and said there was a man parked in front of her residence on Coffin Street and would not leave. She said the man was looking for her sister, but she told him that she was not there.

8:01 p.m., Deputy Pena reported that he had hit a deer on Highway 131, south of Spofford. He said he would remove the deer from the highway.

9:03 p.m., An anonymous caller reported loud, vulgar music at a residence on Edwards Street.

Saturday, Oct. 4
1:45 a.m., Jose Isabel Gomez, 26, was arrested by DPS Trooper Marcos Hernandez for driving while intoxicated, first offense. Gomez was released the next day after posting a \$1,200 bail bond.

Sunday, Oct. 5
12:30 a.m., A Brackettville man said another man had come by his residence on N. Beaumont Street and threatened him about his nephew.

12:04 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported that she was fearful.

12:32 p.m., A man said his sewer was backed up at his residence on W. Spring Street. City officials were notified.

3:36 p.m., A woman requested a deputy because a man was in an apartment and wasn't supposed to be there.

5:30 p.m., A woman requested assistance in unlocking a truck on W. El Paso Street.

7:27 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported a disturbance at Rockledge Manor.

9:21 p.m., A man requested assistance at his residence on E. Spring Street in reference to a possible repo.

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Food Booths - Open To The Public
Displays - Open To The Public
Free Waffle Breakfast - 8:00 - 10:00 A.M.
Health Fair - 8:00 - 10:00 A.M.

10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon
RGEC Business Meeting
Free Barbecue Lunch
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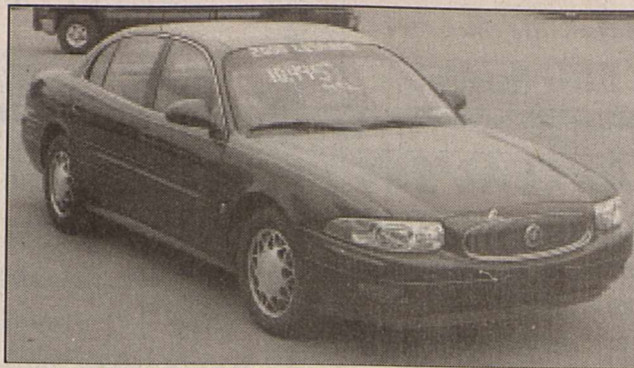
2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS - DK BLUE



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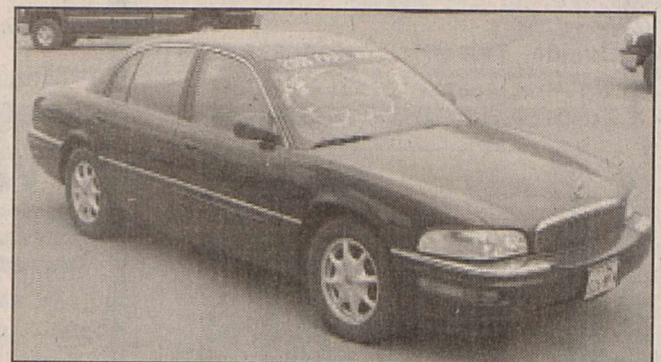
2000 BUICK LESABRE CUSTOM



\$10,495 #4985

Plus TTL OR w/ \$2500 down & TTL. \$157.76 x 60 @ 6.5% WAC. 36,110 Miles

2000 BUICK PARK AVENUE



\$9,995 #5069A

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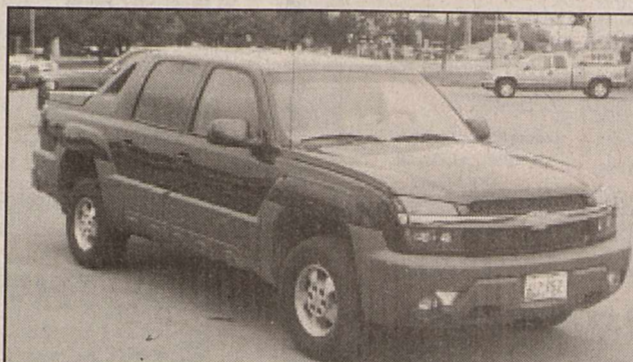
2001 FORD RANGER EXT XLT



\$6,495 #30193A

Plus TTL OR w/ \$2500 down & TTL. \$79.95 x 60 @ 6.5% WAC. 37,319 Miles

2002 AVALANCHE LS Z66



\$21,995 #31783A

Plus TTL OR w/ \$3000 down & TTL. \$329.26 x 72 @ 7.5% WAC. 31,281 Miles. Has Factory Warranty

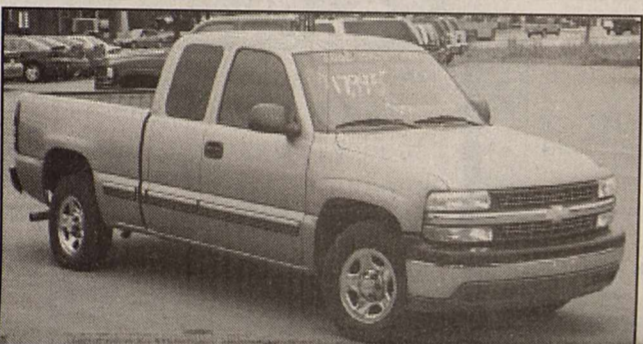
2001 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 1500 LS



\$20,845 #4996A

Plus TTL OR w/ \$3000 down & TTL. \$308.71 x 72 @ 7.5% WAC. 46,083 Miles

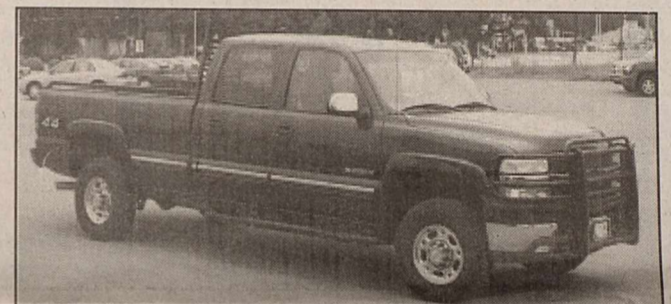
2002 1500 EXT CAB



\$16,995 #5017

Has warranty - Plus TTL OR w/ \$2500 down & TTL. \$259.81 x 60 @ 6.5% WAC. 21,437 Miles

2001 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500 EXT CAB LT 4X4



\$21,995 #70024A

Plus TTL OR w/ \$3000 down & TTL. \$329.81 x 72 @ 7.5% WAC. 63,245 Miles

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2003	Pontiac Grand AM SE	15,362	5089
2003	Oldsmobile Alero	28,348	5080
2003	Oldsmobile Alero	24,015	5083
2003	GMC Light Duty Envoy	21,611	5059
2003	Ford Ranger	1,514	50183A
2003	Chevrolet Trailblazer	18,515	5074
2003	Chevrolet Suburban	18,627	5030
2003	Chevrolet Trailblazer	21,774	5081
2003	Chevrolet Venture	23,101	5084
2003	Chevrolet Cavalier	18,401	5082
2003	Chevrolet Impala	23,780	5086
2003	Chevrolet Monte Carlo	29,341	5091
2003	Buick LeSabre Custom	29,426	31813A
2003	Buick Century Custom	19,490	5090
2002	Pontiac Bonneville	10,949	4991
2002	Pontiac Grand AM SE	27,075	5088
2002	GMC Yukon XL	53,914	70633A
2002	GMC Yukon	34,911	5075
2002	GMC Sierra	16,701	5085
2002	Chevrolet Tahoe	37,317	5028
2002	Chevrolet Trailblazer	44,917	5054

2002	Chevrolet Silverado 1500	6,716	4963
2002	Chevrolet Silverado 1500	20,238	5017
2002	Chevrolet Silverado C1500	26,232	5062
2002	Chevrolet Avalanche	31,021	31783A
2002	Chevrolet Silverado C1500	24,092	32343A
2002	Buick LeSabre Custom	28,120	4937
2002	Buick LeSabre Custom	12,439	50273B
2001	Pontiac Aztek	35,249	5064
2001	Oldsmobile Aurora	22,317	5032
2001	GMC Sierra 1500	25,956	5010
2001	Ford Ranger	37,248	30193A
2001	Chevrolet Silverado C2500	62,443	70024A

2001	Chevrolet Suburban	45,761	4996A
2001	Chevrolet Prizm	22,575	4969
2001	Chevrolet Camaro	18,006	5087
2001	Chevrolet Impala	27,836	5092
2000	GMC Jimmy	43,539	5073
2000	GMC New Sierra 1500	33,780	5014
2000	Chevrolet Silverado C1500	28,734	5023
2000	Chevrolet S10 Pickup	34,299	5056
2000	Chevrolet Venture	45,749	5070
2000	Chevrolet Prizm	34,762	5067
2000	Buick Park Avenue	54,289	5069A
2000	Buick LeSabre	35,210	4985

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Regency Disc...\$2,000
GM Rebate.....\$3,500
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Regency Disc...\$2,000
Bonus Cash.....\$750
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• Plus More!
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Regency Disc...\$2,500
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MSRP.....\$22,990
Regency Disc...\$2,500
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SN# 60193
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• Plus More!
0% for 60 mo.
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Plus TT&L

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MSRP.....\$25,375
Regency Disc...\$2,700
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 9 Covenant
 13 Moved smoothly
 15 Member of the royally
 16 Bylaw
 17 Cabbage's cousin
 18 Fragrance
 19 Native American
 20 Cone-shaped device
 22 Foolish ones
 23 Fully developed
 24 Appropriate
 26 Real estate transaction
 29 Fried batter cakes
 34 Palms' locations
 35 Fry
 36 Give permission to
 37 Arch style

DOWN
 1 Inquire
 2 Door's noise
 3 Mound
 4 Cool dessert
 5 Shaper
 6 Biblical preposition
 7 Irishman's name
 8 Important factor in longevity
 9 Adjusted beforehand
 10 Personal emanation
 11 Fastener
 12 Pieces of wood that are pressed into the turf
 14 Humiliate
 21 Is not in the pink
 25 Early Coloradan
 26 River in France
 27 Raring to go
 28 Haughty expression

39 Walk
aid
40 Word before a maiden name
41 Pine Tree State
42 Mistake
43 In a straying manner
45 Part of some backyards
46 Poker term
47 Winter sight
48 Clasp
51 Newspaper feature
56 Bicycled
57 Rejuvenate
58 Dye ingredient
60 Intestinal parts
61 Audacity
62 Overdue
63 Cherished
64 Jet's advantage
65 Dam

29 Seat
30 Trick
31 Oxlike antelope
32 Name for a femme
33 Strict
35 Oars' alternative
38 Beginning sewer's needs
39 Friendly
41 6, on a telephone
42 1934 heavyweigh champ
44 Show up
45 Shone
47 McCusker
48 Word with lock or iron
49 Function
50 What's the big ___?
52 Very low
53 Regarding
54 Woeful exclamation
55 Instrument of old
59 Request for a bowl of milk

ROARING TWENTIES
 In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and let it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Words can be found in all directions—forward, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: EUROPEAN NATIONS

GER M A N Y K S D S L
 Y R A G N U H J N D U A
 K D S I S P A I N X D G
 J O C A N O M A E S U
 A K E S D A L M D P W T
 I R C E F E B S O E E R
 R A E S C O T L A N D O
 A M E I U N A I A G E P
 G N R R S N A D T L S
 L E G D D N O R W A Y D
 U D D N A L N I F N L F
 B I R E L A N D S D Q Y

1. Sweden
 2.
 3.
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 8.
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 10.
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 17.
 18.
 19.
 20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Oct 10.....David Garcia
 Oct 10.....Bob Jackson
 Oct 10.....Lupe Rodriguez
 Oct 11.....Xavier Adams
 Oct 11.....Keith Bickel
 Oct 11.....Charles Evans
 Oct 12.....Eugene Green
 Oct 12.....Minnie Mahefky
 Oct 12.....Paul E. Pena
 Oct 13.....Miguel Aguirre
 Oct 13.....Devon Fague
 Oct 13.....Nancy Franson
 Oct 13.....Colter Gass
 Oct 13.....Hettie Grantham
 Oct 13.....Inez Laurel
 Oct 13.....Marguerite Wiatt
 Oct 14.....Rosa Rios
 Oct 15.....Earl Nobles

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Albania 11. Ireland
 2. Bulgaria 12. Italy
 3. Denmark 13. Luxembourg
 4. England 14. Monaco
 5. Finland 15. Norway
 6. France 16. Poland
 7. Germany 17. Portugal
 8. Greece 18. Scotland
 9. Hungary 19. Spain
 10. Iceland 20. Sweden

HOROSCOPES
 by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 If out and about socializing this week, take care not to overdo it. Any financial decisions should be a joint venture with family members. Later in the week, a work project is baffling.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 Avoid a tendency to be uncommunicative this week. Although someone has insulted you, this wasn't intentional. Try to get beyond this.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 This isn't the time to play Good-Time Charlie. Your finances aren't up to this. Instead, make sure everyone shares the expenses.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 An unexpected delay in your plans should be taken in stride. It's all for the best in the long run. This weekend, pursue cultural interests.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 Avoid that person who's always bragging. In the long run, those assertions are highly exaggerated. Simply count your blessings instead.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
 You give in to a jealous streak this week. This is unlike you. If you're really honest with yourself, you'll realize there's nothing to worry about.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
 You're suspicious of someone's motives this week. Analyze this carefully. You don't want to jump to the wrong conclusion.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
 Minor mishaps could cause you to be temperamental. Instead of lashing out, look for solutions. Over the weekend, you gain new insights into career matters.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
 Shopping isn't favored this week. Impulse buying could cause you to spend beyond your means. At work, you express yourself quite well.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
 A friend lets you down by failing to keep a social commitment this week. Feel free to attend the event solo. You'll still have a wonderful time.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
 An unexpected house guest has your home in a bit of a mess. If this person has overstayed his welcome, feel free to express yourself. This can be done tactfully and still make the point.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
 You have too many things going on at the same time. It's a wise idea to simplify and delegate. Partnerships are the focus later in the week.

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Tigers try to make it six in a row

Brackett opens conference with road game against Natalia on Friday

J.J. GUIDRY
Sports Editor

Brackett was one game away from making the football playoffs last year. They finished tied for third in the district race with Natalia, but the Mustangs advanced to the post-season because of their victory over the Tigers.

In that game, Natalia took advantage of five Brackett turnovers en route to a 24-7 victory.

Brackett (5-0) is hoping for a different outcome Friday night when the two teams open district play at 7:30 in Natalia (2-3).

"The loss to Natalia last year just proved what we tell the kids every day — anybody can beat anybody on any Friday night in the state of Texas," Tigers coach David Yeager said. "You have to come ready to play and be focused on the job at hand."

"I think this year's team wants to be in the hunt for the district championship at the end of the year and they realize that you have to take each game one at a time. We did not overlook Natalia last year. We just didn't play that well and they beat us."

"We certainly realize they have a good, well-coached ball team and will be ready to play Friday night. However, our kids are fired up and I feel will be up for the challenge," he added.

This year's contest is also expected to play a big role in the outcome of the district race.

"The one that wins it is going to have a good chance to win the district championship and a great chance to make the playoffs — I really feel that way," Mustangs coach Michael Fox said. "It should be a fantastic game."

The Tigers are off to a good

start, winning their first five games, including wins over three larger 3A schools.

"I am very happy as to where our team is at entering district play," Yeager said. "First and most important, we are healthy and having fun. Second, we are getting better each week in some phase of the game. And last, we are gaining more and more confidence in our program, team and ourselves each time we take the field. The kids are having fun and are working hard each day."

The Tigers were open last week after claiming a 20-19 come-from-behind win over Sonora on Sept. 26.

"Brackett is an extremely well-coached ball club that is real disciplined," Fox said. "They just do a lot of real good things. They're a very impressive ball club. They play with a



Morgan



Rosetti

lot of confidence. Their offensive line comes off the ball real well. They seem to be real strong kids. I know Coach Yeager and his staff does a great job in the off-season with their weight and conditioning programs."

Brackett is led by the running tandem of fullback Glenn Morgan and halfback Tony Rosetti.

Morgan has rushed for 547 yards and seven touchdowns on 85 carries.

"Morgan is a big, strong bruiser," Fox said. "He's averaging 17 carries a game. He does an extremely good job of running the off-tackle play and the trap."

Rosetti has ran for 372 and three TDs on 58 attempts this season.

"Rosetti did a great job last year at fullback and he hasn't missed a beat since moving to halfback," Fox said. "He has

Tigers watch

■ Last week: Open.

■ This week: Brackett at Natalia, 7:30 p.m.

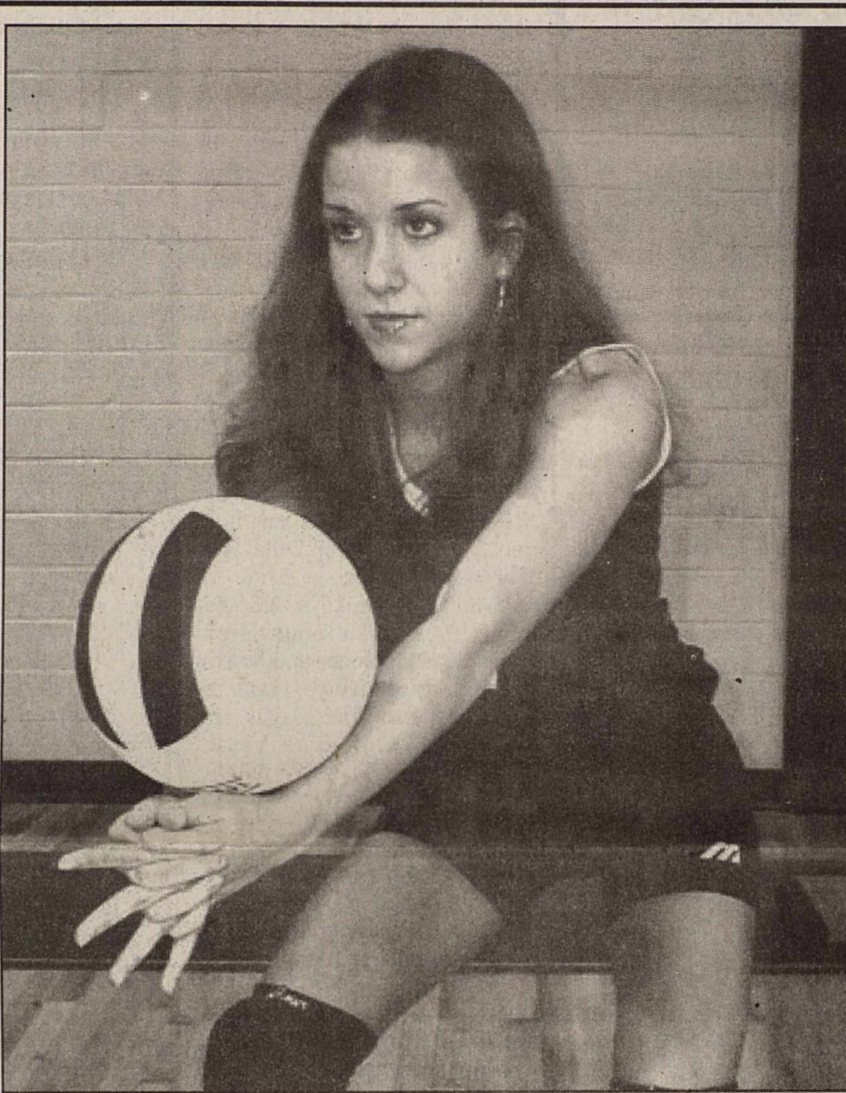
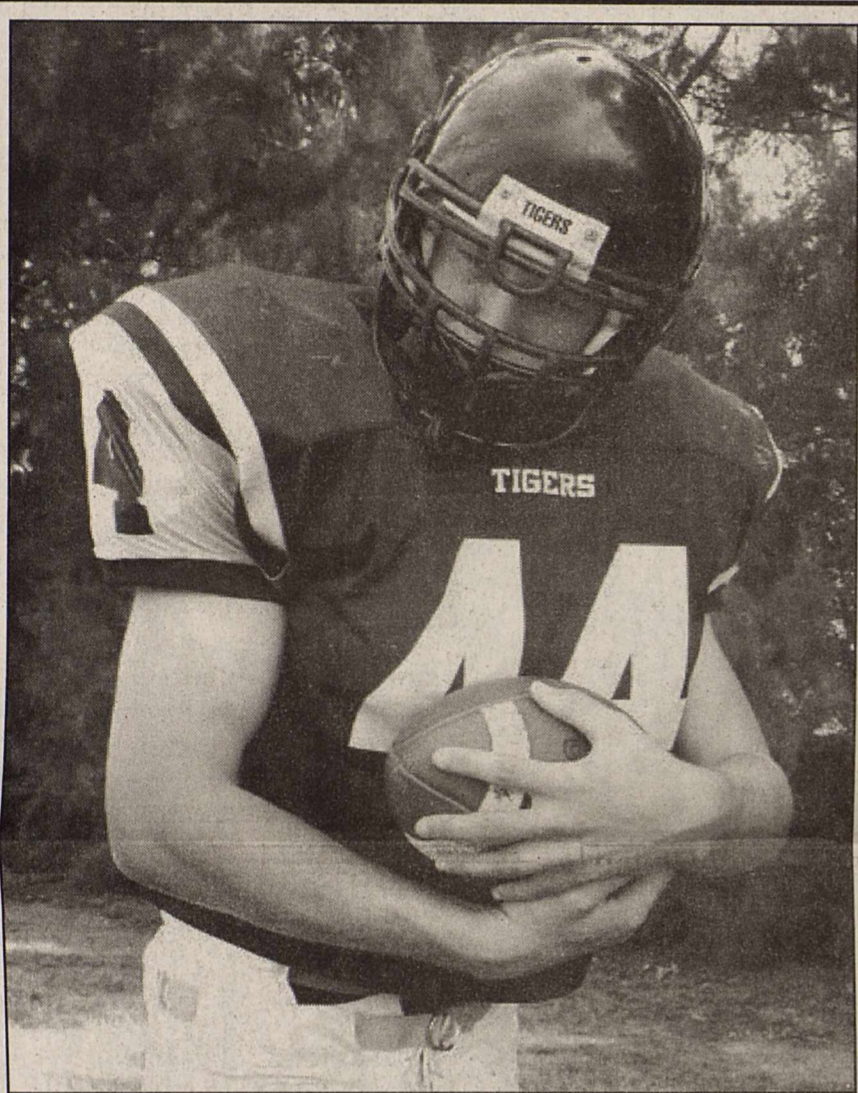
■ Records: Brackett 5-0, Natalia 2-3.

■ Line: The Harris Ratings list the Tigers as a 7-point favorite over the Mustangs.

real good quickness and runs the ball real well. He was a 1,000-yard rusher last year."

Kody Yeager, the Tigers junior signal-caller, has completed 13 of 22 passes for 221 yards with six touchdowns and one interception.

"Kody is a talented quarterback," Fox said. "They don't throw when they don't have to, but Yeager is very capable and ■ See TIGERS/Page 8



Dietrich Davis (left) and Beth Ballew have been nominated for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award.

HEISMAN AWARD NOMINEES

Ballew, Davis nominated for scholar-athlete award

By J.J. GUIDRY
Sports Editor

It's not exactly the Heisman Trophy awarded to the nation's top college football player, but it's still quite an honor.

Brackett High School seniors Beth Ballew and Dietrich Davis have been nominated for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award.

Similar to the collegiate Heisman recognition, this award honors the nation's top high school seniors who best exemplify a "scholar-citizen-athlete."

The two seniors were recognized by BHS Principal John Paul Schuster for their academic aptitude, athletic talent and display of commitment to their communities. They were both recognized during the pep rally last Friday.

"Beth and Dietrich are both leaders in the classroom, on the playing field and in the community," Schuster said.

"They represent our school very well."

Ballew currently starts at an outside hitter position for the Tigerettes volleyball team. She also plays golf.

"Beth adds a lot of character to our team," Tigerettes coach Rhonda Marquardt said. "Since she is a left-hander, she gives us some options of things to do with the ball that you can't do with all right-handers. She is a lot of fun to be around and makes her teammates laugh on a regular basis."

Davis starts at tight end and defensive end for the Tigers football team. He is also a member of the baseball, basketball and golf teams at Brackett.

"Dietrich is a great leader," said David Yeager, Brackett's head football coach and athletic director. "He has good football presence and great knowledge of the game. He always gives everything that he has on the field."

Now celebrating 10 years of com-

mitment to youth and education, the Wendy's High School Heisman Program was created in 1994 through a partnership between Wendy's, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Heisman Memorial Trust.

"These students are truly in a league of their own," said Archie Griffin, the only two-time winner of the prestigious Heisman Memorial Trophy and program spokesperson. "Each student nominated for the award has gone above and beyond expectations to help those in need, enhance their education and pursue their dreams."

Principals from approximately 24,000 high schools across the country were invited to nominate one male and one female student to fulfill the program requirements. Students are judged on academic and athletic achievements in addition to community service.

The Wendy's High School Heisman Program is comprised of five phases: Nomination, state finalists, state winners, national finalists and national winners.

Entries are initially evaluated by the ACT scholastic review service during the state-finalist and state-winner phases, and then passed on to a distinguished panel of judges — including past Heisman Memorial Trophy recipients, and education, business and community leaders — to elect the national finalists and national winners.

Twelve national finalists will receive the opportunity to fly to New York City on Dec. 12-14 to participate in Heisman weekend festivities. ESPN will feature all 12 of the finalists during the Wendy's High School Heisman Awards Ceremony that will air before the live broadcast of the College Heisman Memorial Trophy Awards on Dec. 13.

Tigerettes look for 3-way tie

J.J. GUIDRY
Sports Editor

The Brackett Tigerettes can force a three-way tie in the conference volleyball race with a win Friday when they face the Natalia Lady Mustangs on the road.

Natalia is 1-0 in league play after picking up a win over Dilley on Tuesday. Dilley is now 1-1 and Brackett is 0-1.

"It should be a good game," Tigerettes coach Rhonda Marquardt said. "If we play like we did Tuesday night against Utopia, we should do good."

"They have a big girl in the middle that's a very good blocker and hitter. We're going to have to control her and not let her control us," she added.

Brackett is 10-10 overall after falling Tuesday to Utopia 19-25, 25-18, 25-15, 27-25 on the road.

Shanae Simmons had six kills for the Tigerettes and Amanda Davis had nine assists. Stephanie Bonner pitched in three aces.

Ashley Castillo led the defense with 39 digs, while Courtney Frerich had three blocks.

Next Tuesday, Brackett has a rematch with Dilley at home. The Lady Wolves won the first meeting 25-18, 25-14, 27-25.

"I thought we should have beat them," Marquardt said. "We have to play up to our capability. We had problems serving and spiking the ball last time. If we will serve and spike well Tuesday, we'll win."

Simmons led BHS' offense against Dilley with six kills. Castillo finished with three kills, and Bonner, Beth Ballew and Ashley Smith all had two apiece.

Bonner and Davis both had six assists. Emily Petrosky served two aces and Castillo added one. Simmons tallied eight blocks in the match, while Ballew, Castillo and Ashley Smith each had one.



Davis

Runners win second-straight meet

By J.J. GUIDRY
Sports Editor

DILLEY — All seven of Brackett's varsity runners finished in the Top 10 Saturday as the Tigerettes won their second-straight cross country meet, claiming top honors in the Dilley Invitational.

"I'm real proud of all of the runners," coach Dusty Brotherton said. "They are working hard and improving every week. They're all showing a lot of dedication and desire."

Juliann Ashabranner led the Tigerettes with a first-place finish. She won the gold after being clocked at 13:01.

Brackett's Ashley Smith, Ashley Castillo and Rachel



Calk

Jessi Crane turned in a sixth-place performance with a time of 14:59, while Brandy Smith was ninth with a time of 15:20 and Stephanie Bonner was 10th with a 15:23.

Justin Calk took ninth in the varsity boys' division after turning in a time of 23:33.

In the junior varsity girls' competition, Tanya Molinar finished sixth with a time of 16:24

and Divina Pena was eighth with a 16:50.

Daphne Hunt led the Cubettes to a first-place finish after winning the eighth grade girls' division with a time of 14:15. Harmony Pettett was second with a 14:56, Julie Castillo finished third with a 15:15, Elva Garcia was fourth with a 15:56, Heather Baggett was ninth with a 16:55 and Bianca Stewart was 10th with a 16:59.

In the seventh grade girls race, Bianca Terrazas took sixth with a 16:36, Jessica Garza was eighth with a 16:46 and Natalie Aguirre was 10th with a 17:07.

Travis Bonner was 10th in the eighth grade boys' division with a 14:15, while K.J. Bonner finished 19th with a 16:42.

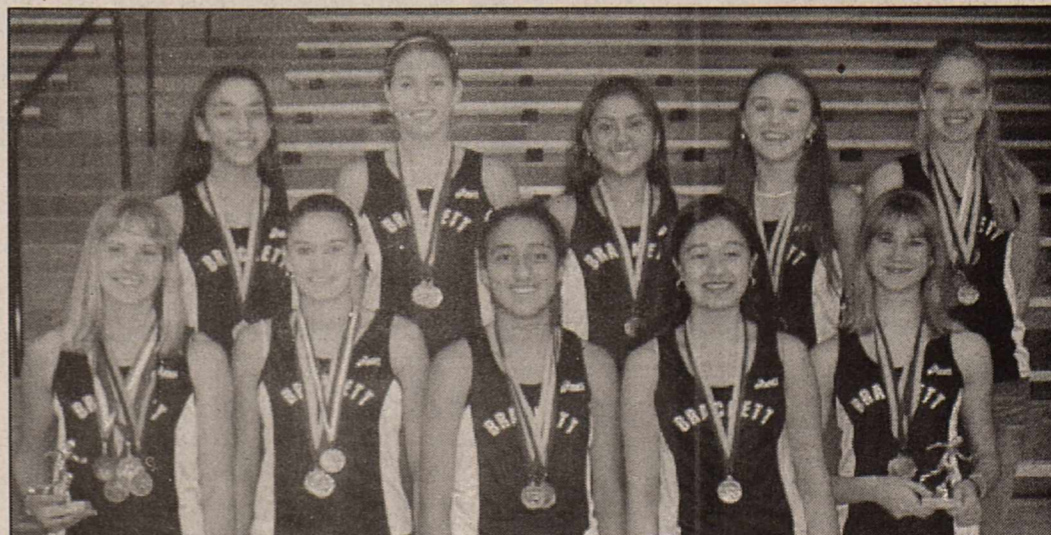


Photo by J.J. Guidry

On a roll

The Brackett Tigerettes have won two-straight cross country meets. The team consists of, top row (from left): Lola Cano, Brandy Smith, Tanya Molinar, Jessi Crane and Ashley Smith. Bottom row: Juliann Ashabranner, Stephanie Bonner, Ashley Castillo, Divina Pena and Rachel Swinson.

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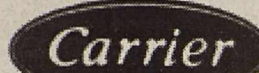
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Tigers hope to lasso Mustangs

Continued from Page 7

they have kids that can run and can catch the football."

The Mustangs have an experienced 5-3 defense that returns eight starters from last year's squad.

"They are a very aggressive they swarm the ball real well," Yeager said. "They have an outstanding middle linebacker, Paul Ramsey. We are going to have to get a hat on him every time or he will make the play."

The Mustangs will be facing a Brackett team that leads South Texas in rushing defense, allowing only 44.6 yards on the ground per contest.

"You can look at their stats and tell they're real good defensively," Fox said. "We have our work cut out for us."

The Mustangs' offense is led by senior quarterback Brian Clark and running backs Mark Saldana and Eder Valera.

"Natalia runs a ball-controlled offense," Yeager said. "They get foot to foot and try to run over you. Their offensive line comes off the ball well and their backs run very hard. It is nothing fancy, just smash mouth football."

Turnovers proved costly for the Tigers last year. Yeager said they will be equally important this time around.

"I look for this to be a very physical game and the team who wins the turnover ratio will have a good chance at winning the game," he added.

Brackett at Natalia

Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Scouting Report

THE LAST MEETING: Natalia took advantage of five Brackett turnovers as the Mustangs claimed a 24-7 victory over the Tigers.

Brackett jumped ahead 7-0 at the 9:36 mark in the second quarter when Eliot Stone broke loose for a 33-yard touchdown run. But Natalia went on to score 24 unanswered points.

Stone led Brackett's ground game with 42 yards on six carries, while Tony Rosetti rushed for 34 yards on 15 carries and Jared Hobbs tallied 20 yards on five totes.

BRACKETT KEYS: The Tigers have stopped the run all season, and they will have to limit the Mustangs powerful ground game this week.

NATALIA KEYS: The Mustangs will have to establish the run on offense and not give up the big play on defense.

THE LINE: The Harris Ratings have the Tigers listed as a 7-point favorite over the Mustangs.

Team Rosters

Brackett Tigers				Natalia Mustangs			
No.	Player	Pos.	Cl.	No.	Player	Pos.	Cl.
2	Jaime Puente	RB/S	12	2	Eric Rodriguez	QB/DB	12
3	Tony Rosetti	RB/LB	12	7	Mark Saldana	RB/DB	12
7	Kody Yeager	QB/S	11	9	George Alderete	RB/LB	12
9	Tillman Davis	SM/CB	11	10	Cody Brown	TE/DB	11
11	Tres Rueda	TE/LB	10	11	Brian Clark	QB/DB	12
14	Brand Wylie	RB/S	10	12	Johnny Hernandez	TE/DL	12
20	Cody Edwards	RB/CB	11	15	E.J. Hernandez	RB/DB	11
26	Evaristo Villarreal	SM/CB	11	21	Jose Cortinas	RB/DB	11
30	Glenn Morgan	FB/LB	12	23	Johnny Marquez	RB/DL	11
35	Mark Kesteloot	FB/LB	11	32	Chris Walker	RB/DL	12
40	Noe Talamantes	RB/S	11	33	Eder Valera	RB/DL	12
44	Dietrich Davis	TE/DE	12	35	Ernie Peralta	RB/LB	11
50	Arnold Pinales	OL/LB	12	44	Mitchell Viduarri	RB/DB	10
51	Tony Jamail	OL/DE	12	45	Marcial Moreno	RB/DB	10
52	Gumaro Martinez	OL/LB	10	47	Paul Ramsey	RB/LB	11
54	Whitney Massingill	OL/DE	11	50	Andres Vega	C/DE	12
55	David Samaniego	OL/DT	12	55	Justin Saldana	C/LB	9
61	Lito Escamilla	OL/LB	11	60	Matt Garcia	OL/DL	10
64	Rolando Ortiz	OL/DE	11	61	Eric Gonzales	OL/DL	10
68	Oscar Sierra	OL/DE	11	63	Joe Perez	OL/DL	9
71	Joaquin Rivas	OL/NG	10	66	Jeremy Ortega	OL/DE	10
75	Jason Smith	OL/NG	12	70	Eric Valera	OL/DL	9
78	Eli Woolsey	OL/DE	12	71	Carlos Ensicio	OL/DL	12
81	Star Smith	SM/CB	11	74	Tim Price	OL/DL	12
				78	A.J. Gonzales	OL/DL	11
				81	Vicente Monreal	TE/DB	10
				83	Jimmy Head	TE/DE	10
				84	Justin Tolbert	TE/LB	12
				85	Andrew Edam	TE/DL	11



Projected Starters

Brackett		Natalia	
OFFENSE	DEFENSE	OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB Yeager	LE D. Davis	QB Clark	LE Cortinas
FB Morgan	N Massingill	FB Ed. Valera	LT Walker
HB Rosetti	RE Woolsey	HB M. Saldana	N E. Gonzales
TB Talamantes	SLB Pinales	HB Walker	RT Perez
SE T. Davis	MLB Morgan	TE Brown	RE Monreal
LT Ortiz	WLB Kesteloot	LT A. Gonzales	LLB Alderete
LG Martinez	RLB Rueda	LG Perez	MLB Ramsey
C Woolsey	LC T. Davis	C Vega	RLB Peralta
RG Massingill	RC Edwards	RG Garcia	LC Rodriguez
RT J. Smith	SS Talamantes	RT Ensicio	RC Hernandez
TE D. Davis	FS Wylie	TE Tolbert	S Clark

J.V. Tigerettes claim win over Lady Wolves

Brackett's junior varsity and freshmen volleyball teams both picked up wins over Dilley last Tuesday.

The J.V. won 25-8, 25-6 behind 13 and nine points from Juliann Ashabranner and Kristin Meyer, respectively. Timmeke Simmons had five assists and three kills, while Kara Yeager had four assists and two kills.

The freshmen won 25-10, 25-18. Lola Cano and Laura Meyer both had four assists, and Lisa Morgan had two kills.

Both teams resume action Tuesday when they host Dilley.

Junior High Football

The Cubs (1-1-1) came up short last Thursday, falling to the Sonora Broncos 34-20.

Travis Bonner led Brackett with nine carries for 84 yards rushing and 7 yards passing. He scored a TD in the fourth quarter on a quarterback sneak to pull the Cubs within 28-20.

Fermin Villanueva rushed for 136 yards on 19 attempts. He scored on a 1-yard TD run and then returned a kickoff 75 yards for a touchdown.

The Cubs return to the field today at 5 to face Natalia.

Junior High Volleyball

The Cubettes split a doubleheader with Del Rio Blue on Monday. The eighth-graders won 25-17, 25-18, while the seventh-grade team lost 25-23, 27-25.



Photo Special to The Brackett News

Tournament champions The Brackett eighth grade volleyball team recently won the Eagle Pass tourney. The team consists of, top row (from left): Whitney Gum, Jolisa Wright, Bailee Allen and coach Tiffany Blore. Middle row: Erica Rodriguez, Julie Castillo, Bianca Stewart, Meghann Davis and Daphne Hunt. Bottom row: Ashley Stephenson, Anita DeLeon, Amber Castilla, Anolda Watkins, Chaito Sanchez and Capri Creech.

Haley Harris led the eighth-graders, scoring eight straight points in the second game with three aces. Bailee Allen served 89 percent with five straight points in the first game. She also

had two aces. Bianca Stewart served 100 percent and had two kills and a block.

Esna Herrera served 92 percent for the seventh-grade Cubettes, and Natalie Aguirre, Becca Mann and Bianca Terrazas all served over 70 percent.

The Cubettes will compete in the Del Rio tourney Saturday and then host Eagle Pass Memorial on Monday.

Attention

Important new information regarding the eligibility of persons to purchase property at Texas tax sales, as provided by House Bill 335, passed by the 78th regular session of the Texas Legislature. Beginning with Texas tax sales conducted on or after October 1, 2003, purchasers at tax sales must present to the sheriff conducting the sale a written statement issued to the purchaser by the county chief appraiser who assesses and collects taxes for the county stating that the purchaser owes no delinquent property taxes to the county and that there are no known or reported delinquent taxes owed by the purchaser to any school district or city with territory in the county. House Bill 335 further prohibits the sheriff or constable from delivering a tax deed to any purchaser who fails to present to the office the required written statement issued by the county tax assessor-collector. In order to secure the required written statement from the County Chief Appraiser regarding your delinquent tax liability, contact the County Appraisal District office in person after September 1, 2003 for the correct form. You must complete the form, have it notarized, and present it to the County Chief Appraiser along with a payment of the statutory fee of \$10.00. You are urged to submit the request form to the county chief appraiser well in advance of the tax sale at which you intend to bid. The statement issued by the tax assessor-collector will expire ninety (90) days after it is issued. A person who knowingly violates this law commits a criminal offense.



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The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.



For information call (830) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (830) 563-2077 evenings.

Make straight the way of the Lord

One of the prettiest drives you could ever take is the route between Brackettville and Rocksprings. You twist through a few West Texas "mountains," through draws and washes, across creek beds and up trails.

Once or twice there are some wonderful views of miles of West Texas from places where the rugged ground appears smooth and the distance hides the snakes, lizards and scorpions.

It's the sort of view that sustained the pioneers as they came to Texas, and what I imagine appealed to the Native American tribes in the area. It's easy to feel the presence of God when you feel overshadowed by the grandeur around you (see Psalms 27:4-5, especially about taking shelter in the rocks!).

The same thing happens in our Christian lives, too. We have moments of "mountain top" experiences when we can see God's plan for us in wondrous elegance, unscarred by the details of practicalities. (Exodus 24:12)

We all ache for these moments of clarity and we celebrate when God gives us these insights. (Psalms 43:3-4)

Sadly, though, I am often confronted by "solo" Christians who feel no need to associate themselves with any group of Christians. These pioneers on the spiritual wilderness become hardened veterans of their current existence. They pray in solitude and worship alone. Some have staked out claims of valuable territory, discovering new wealth in their solitude.

Unfortunately, they rarely share their spiritual insights and keep to themselves the spiritual treasures they have found. Others have a hard-scrabble claim in a spiritual desert, just getting by day-to-day and waiting for the infrequent rain of blessings.

These hardy pioneers have much to share with those of us who fill pews and conduct committee meetings. Likewise, we sitting in church buildings have treasure they could share in



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Roger Baker

group Bible study, communal worship and a supply of pastoral guidance.

I suspect it is far easier to share prayer concerns and joyous reports within a congregation, even if you can only share your needs and news with just one or two close friends. The oasis of Christian fellowship that the church is supposed to be is a wonderful resource for encouragement, sustenance and instruction. It's the way God chose to nourish us — as a church.

When calling people to the good news of the messiah, John the Baptist used the phrase from Isaiah, "make straight the way of the Lord!" (John 1:23)

This phrase wasn't unfa-

iliar to his listeners in a practical sense, either. Just like in Kinney County, there are twisted paths through mountains and across draws all through Palestine. "Make straight" can literally be translated as "go as the crow flies" — take the most direct route to get there.

When we rise early on a Sunday to make our way to worship with our sisters and brothers in Christ, we are making a straight path to the Lord, a path that leads from our hearts and continues to the doorway of worship shared in the fellowship of saints.

At First Methodist Church, we're learning how to make our way through the twisted road of life while keeping our eyes on Jesus and the promised eternal future. Come join us on our pilgrimage to the Kingdom of God. We meet for prayer and worship each Sunday at 10:45 a.m. (some of us start early at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday School). Please bring a Bible and be ready to praise God!

Book helps to enrich understanding of Jesus

I have just finished reading a most fascinating and inspiring book by Thomas Cahill called "Desire of the Everlasting Hills," published by Doubleday.

Cahill is well known for his authorship of "The Gifts of the Jews" and "How the Irish Saved Civilization."

In "Desire of the Everlasting Hills," Cahill writes about Jesus of Nazareth, certainly the central figure of Western civilization and Lord to all Christians.

In this book, we see Jesus as a real person, sharp-witted and sharp-tongued, but kind, humorous and affectionate, shadowed by the inevitable climax of crucifixion, the cruelist form of execution ever de-



Our Redeemer Lutheran & St. Andrew's

Nathan Lafrenz

vised by humankind. He brings to life the widely varied social and religious context of Judaism in which Jesus moved and flourished.

I highly recommend this book to all. I promise that your understanding of Jesus will be enriched, and your faith strengthened.

Visit us this Sunday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Honor your ancestors, but not their sins

The Living Word of God commands us not to enter into witchcraft, which is one of the many "lusts of the flesh." It opposes the fruit of the spirit of obedience. (Galatians 5:17-24)

"Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." (1 Samuel 15:23)

When we stubbornly hold onto old ways of doing things which are opposed to God's word it becomes iniquity and idolatry.

I am the first to encourage people to honor their mother and father, that it may be well with them and their days be long upon the Earth.

I am the first to encourage them to honor their forefathers and pass down family traditions, except where they conflict with the word of God.



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charollette Corey

God is the first and foremost Father we should honor above all others. Obedience to His Word is the way to honor Him. Even Jesus, the only begotten son of God, was obedient. (Hebrews 5:5-10)

God wants us to submit every action and thought in obedience to God's word. (Ephesians 2:1-6)

"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the

obedience of Christ; and having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience (in yourself) when your obedience is fulfilled). (2 Corinthians 10:2-2-6)

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servant to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:16-23)

God warns us that those who practice witchcraft (white or black), or those who practice sorcery, deal with wizards, familiar spirits, use enchantments or practice idolatry angers God and they will not have an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. (Ephesians 5:1-21, 2 Chronicles 33:1-19, Micah

5:9-15)

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." (Revelation 21:6-8, 22:13-15)

Be proud of your heritage, but submit it to the word of God for purification. Love and honor your ancestors, but not their sins. You are not responsible to judge their sins, just love the people, but you are responsible for what you teach your own children and those looking to you for direction.

Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Fight for your salvation

"My soul fainteth for thy salvation, but I hope in thy Word. Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying when will thy comfort me? For I am become like a bottle in the smoke, yet do I not forget thy statutes."

"How many are the days of thy servant? When wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?"

"The proud have digged pits for me, which are not after thy law. All thy commandments are faithful; they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me."

"They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts. Quicken me after thy loving kindness; so shall I deep the testimonies of thy mouth. Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven."

"Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth."



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

"They continue this day according to thy ordinances: for all are thy servants. Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction. I will never forget thy precepts for with them thou hast quickened me. I am thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts."

"The wicked have waited for me to destroy me; but I will consider thy testimonies. I have seen our end of all perfection: but thy commandment is exceeding bread." (Psalm 119:81-96)

Praise the Lord!

The story of a lady and a fork

By CORNELIUS J. SCANLAN
St. Mary Magdalene Church

If you have already heard the story of a lady and a fork, please read it again. Most of us miss something in the first telling. If you have not heard it yet, you might find it refreshing.

I have received it twice via the Internet, once each from two different persons. In any event, allow me to share it with you.

The story begins with a young woman who learned from her doctor that she was terminally ill and that she may have only three months more to live on this earth.

She decided to "get her things in order." With that in mind, she contacted her religious pastor and asked him to visit her at her home. After he had arrived, she let him know that she wanted to discuss with him what she wanted the ending of her pilgrimage on this world to look like.

When he arrived, he found her already prepared. She had picked the songs she wanted sung, what Scriptures she would like read and what outfit she wanted to be buried in.

The pastor was preparing to leave when the young

woman remembered something very important to her. "There's one more thing," she said.

"What's that?" he asked. She said: "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand."

"Why?" asked the pastor. She told him that her grandmother shared with her how she had noticed that, whenever she had attended some function at which a meal was served, as the servers were coming around to take away the used dishes, invariably someone would say to her, "Keep your fork."

"I learned then that something better was coming," said her grandmother, "the dessert."

"And that is why I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand, because something better is coming," the woman said.

The moral of this story is that we do not need to wait for time immemorial to find "that something better."

It is here! It is now! How often in both the Old and New Testaments of our Sacred Scriptures do we read God encouraging us with, "I will be with you," or "do not be afraid?"

Shame belongs to the thief

"David," Lori shouted. "Come here. I need to ask you something." Lori concealed her concern from her tone of voice.

"What's up Mom?" David said as he bounded through the door into his bedroom.

Lori pulled a ballpoint pen from David's backpack and held it up to him.

"Where'd you get this pen, David?" she asked. "This isn't one that I bought you for school. It's a pretty nice pen. I know you didn't buy it yourself."

David tried to look and sound innocent. Thinking that his rationale for having the pen was acceptable, he didn't hesitate to answer: "I found it, Mom. Pretty nice, huh?"

Looking David in the eye, Lori knew he wasn't lying: "So, where did you find it?"

The continued questioning gave David some indication that all was not right.

"Well," he said, "I found it at school. Besides Mom, finders keepers."

"Where at school did you find it?" Lori continued. "In the hall," David answered, quickly adding, "but it doesn't belong to anyone if it was lost."

Showing the pen again, Lori continued: "David, this is a very expensive pen. It belongs to someone, probably one of the



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

teachers at school. Just because it was dropped on the floor doesn't mean it can belong to whoever finds it. It must be returned."

"But Mom," David objected. "David," Lori continued. "This pen belongs to someone else. If you keep it then that makes you a thief because you have someone else's property. It would be a lie to keep it and say that it's yours just because you found it."

"Tomorrow morning when you go to school you can take it to the office and tell them you found it. You will be rewarded with praise and thanks from the person who lost it."

"Long a go a very wise man said that shame was created for the thief. Others will look down on those who lie about it." (Sirach 5:17)


■ Editor's note: This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project, working in Brackettville to strengthen family, faith and education.

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