

Season ends
for Lady Eagles
softball squad

...see Team Photo on Page 4

14th Annual
Shannon Harbor
Relays begin
12:30 p.m. today
in Eagle Stadium



THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 101, ISSUE 17

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

APRIL 25, 2002



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
Welcome to church, brother — Rev. Mervin Oglethorpe, played by Leonard Wideman, welcomes visitors to the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church during the Way Off-Broadway Players' production of "Smoke on the Mountain."

"Smoke on the Mountain" thrills San Angelo audiences

The Way Off-Broadway Players' production of "Smoke on the Mountain" played to three straight sellout crowds at the San Angelo Civic Theater last weekend and will appear three more times this weekend. Unfortunately for those wanting tickets, all of the upcoming performances have also sold out.

This marks the fourth incarnation of the play which began its run in Eldorado on the stage of the Tom Ratliff Civic Theater in 1995. After an extended run in the local theater, the play went to San Angelo Civic Theater where it played to sellout crowds for 10 performances.

"Smoke," as the cast affectionately refers to the play, returned to the stage in Eldorado during October of 2000. The one and only cast change occurred during that run when Leonard Wideman replaced Hawley Wolfe as Rev.

Mervin Oglethorpe, pastor of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

The play, set in 1939 North Carolina, highlights the antics of the Sanders Sanctified Singers, a family of gospel singers who have traveled from their home near Siler City to attend the first ever Saturday night gospel singing at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. What follows is a finely crafted mix of mayhem and old time gospel singing.

Miss Myrtle and Miss Maude, played by Kathy Mankin and Mabel Blaylock, are the church's chief financial supporters. The two spinsters occupy prominent places in the church's "amen pew" from where they can signal their disapproval of all the goings on. And...there are plenty of goings on for them to disapprove of once the Sanders family storms into the church.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
Last minute details — Joella Parker put the finishing touches on her hair last week as she prepared to play Maybelle in the Way Off-Broadway Players production of "Smoke on the Mountain." The show played to three sellout crowds at the Angelo Civic Theater last weekend and has sold out three more times this weekend.

The number you have dialed is not in service

Going, going...915 Area Code to be divided next year

Schleicher County and rest of Concho Valley moving to 325 Area Code

A burgeoning population and increased economic growth are the primary reasons given by the Public Utility Commission (PUC) of Texas for dividing the 915 Area Code into three area code regions. Schleicher County, along with the neighboring counties in the Concho Valley will join the areas around Abilene, Sweetwater, Brownwood and Brady in the new 325 Area Code beginning in April of next year.

Farther west, the Permian Basin, Big Bend and Trans-Pecos regions will be assigned to the 432 Area Code. Only the extreme western part of the state, stretching from just west of Van Horn to El Paso, will remain in the 915 Area Code.

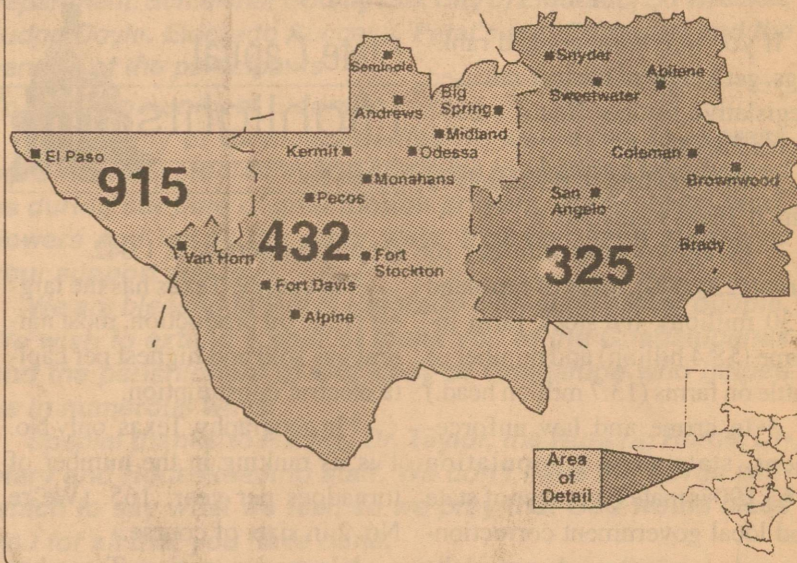
The changes will go into effect on April 5, 2003, according to a

schedule released Tuesday by the PUC. At that time, a six-month period of "permissive dialing" will begin. During this phase, phone customers will be able to dial either the 915 area code or one of the new ones. However, on October 5, 2003, the new Area Codes become mandatory. Customers dialing the old area code will get a recorded reminder until Dec. 7, 2003. An extensive customer education program to introduce customers to the new area codes will begin in early 2003.

In February the PUC issued an order that divided the 915 area code into three individual area code regions. The Commission designated the El Paso area to retain the 915 area code because of its concentrated population, extensive bilingual network and well-developed international commerce.

A spokesman for the PUC was quick to point out that the change was not one of convenience. Current estimates predict that the 915 area code will run out of numbers in early 2004. Population growth is only part of the cause, however. The growing popularity of cellu-

3-Way Geographic Split For West Texas Area Codes



lar telephones and other telecommunication equipment has driven the demand for telephone numbers.

It is estimated that the three-way split of the 915 Area Code will prevent the need for additional area codes in the three regions for an estimated 17 to 20 years.

While approximately two-thirds of customers in the current 915 region will have to change their area code, the PUC determined the three-way split is the

best way to preserve local interests. For example, the three-way split allows the Midland-Odessa metropolitan area to continue sharing a common area code (432). The three-way split also allows customers to keep seven-digit dialing for local calls.

During the recently completed public comment period, the three-way split received overwhelming support from both residential and business customers, a PUC spokesman said.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
Tim Seymore

Seymore to be EHS Principal

Tim Seymore will be coming to Eldorado in the fall to take over as principal at Eldorado High School. Seymore is currently Principal at Santa Anna High School.

Seymore attended a meeting of the SCISD board of trustees on Monday night where he interviewed for the job. The Success learned that he was offered the position at that time but did not formally accept the job until Wednesday morning.

Prior to Seymore's stint at Santa Anna, he was a math teacher and a coach with the Ballinger ISD. Before that he was a teacher and coach at Wink.

Cleanup Day set for Friday

by Nancy Lester
County Extension Agent

All Eldorado residents are being encouraged to participate in the Great Texas Trash Off on Friday, April 26. Local sponsors include Eldorado Pride, Schleicher County, the City of Eldorado and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Carrie Hill, Keep Texas Beautiful county chairman, has announced that it will be held on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Hospital board holds regular monthly meeting

The Schleicher County Hospital District board of trustees began its regular monthly meeting by re-treating behind closed doors for a two and one-half hour executive session. The stated purpose for the session was to meet with attorney James Kosub concerning pending litigation. The board also discussed an amendment to Dr. Patrick Taylor's contract and conducted an administrator's evaluation.

When the group returned to open session they took no action on the litigation. They did, however, vote to approve an amended contract for Dr. Patrick Taylor and authorized Board President Randy Mankin to sign to on for the district. Mankin then told Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook that she is doing a good job and thanked her for her efforts on behalf of the hospital.

Present for the meeting were board members Shirley Joiner, Delia Pina, Ricky Fuessel, Jim Martin, John Callison and Randy Mankin. Also in attendance were Fagan-Cook, Assistant Administrator Beverly Minor, Accounts Receivable Manager Phillip Sharp as well as hospital consultants Andy Freeman and Beverly King.

Before carrying on with the remainder of the meeting, Board President Randy Mankin presented outgoing board members Shirley Joiner and Delia Pina with sculptured glass Eagles in honor of their service to the hospital district. Joiner was elected to the board in 2000 while Pina has served for the past 9 years.

In other business, Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook reported that a lawsuit brought by Duke Energy against the Schleicher County Tax Appraisal District had finally been settled and that the hospital district's portion of the settlement amounts to \$6,276.46. She explained that more than \$50,000.00 had been set aside for the purpose.

Beverly Minor then updated the board on the district's financial position. She noted that there was \$630,000.00 in reserves at the end of March and that revenues are running 200 percent above last

year. Minor voiced one concern, however. She noted that according to her calculations Medicare has overpaid the hospital \$100,000.00 but continued to explain that the figure is likely to turn in the district's favor during the summer months.

When questions arose about the overpayment, Mankin explained that under the Critical Access Program, Medicare is basing its payment to the hospital on last year's patient volume. Since that volume has dramatically increased

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
Thank you gift — Outgoing hospital district trustees (L-R) Delia Pina and Shirley Joiner received sculpted glass Eagles Monday evening in recognition of their service to the district.

OBITUARIES

Mildred "Pete" Freitag Dudley

MERTZON — Mildred "Pete" Freitag Dudley, 81, of Mertzon, Texas, died Sunday, April 21, 2002, at her residence.

Service was Wednesday, April 24, at First United Methodist Church in Mertzon with the Rev. Phillip Steinbach and the Rev. Grosse Mohler officiating. Burial followed in Mertzon Cemetery.

Mildred was born Nov. 4, 1920, in San Angelo, Texas, to Bill and Nannie Lee Freitag and was a resident of Mertzon for 66 years.

Mildred was married to Preston Dudley on April 3, 1940, in San Angelo, Texas. She was a member of the First Methodist Church of Mertzon, where she served as treasurer at one time as well as a member of various committees. She was always active where her girls, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were involved in school, church and life.

In her earlier years she was chairman of the March of Dimes Mother March, active in P.T.A., served as deputy of the Sheriff's office, tax assessor collector for Irion County and was chairman of the first Appraisal Board formed in Irion County. She was partners with her husband, Preston, in the Dudley Hardware and Lumber Company before retiring in 1982. She was active in fund-raising for the West Texas Rehab.

Her greatest pleasures were her children, husband, son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bridge and dancing also were at the top of the list and she and Preston belonged to several dance clubs in San Angelo and Mertzon. The bridge table was always alive with laughter and conversation. Mother always carried a deck of cards around in her purse in case of a bridge emergency.

Phone numbers were on the inside of the kitchen cabinet labeled "Bridge Emergency". Her sense of humor will be greatly missed.

Survivors include her husband, Preston of Mertzon; two daughters, Vicki McKissack and husband, Howard, of Fort Stockton and Linda Stemm of Mertzon; six grandchildren, Vickie Simpson and husband, Michael, of Mertzon, Ronnie Stemm of Mertzon, Debbie Low of Lake Charles, La., Dudley McKissack of Fort Stockton, Mickey and wife, Tracie McKissack, of Artesia, N.M., and Kaci and husband, Ken Plunk, of Huntsville; seven great-grandchildren, Chris Frazier of Lubbock, Shannon Frazier of Mertzon, Maegan and Mitchell McKissack of Abilene, Sydney Low of Lake Charles, La., Matthew McKissack of Aretisia, N.M., and Robert Childress of Huntsville, Texas; two brothers, Jimmy Freitag of Missouri, Bill Freitag Jr. and wife, Mabel, of Eldorado; and one sister, Babe Griffin of Odessa; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins of both sides of the family and she loved the Dudley nephews and nieces as she did her own. She is also survived by a special nephew, Dr. Loren Scott of Baton Rouge, La. and numerous friends.

Pallbearers were Ronnie Stemm, Dudley McKissack, Mickey McKissack, Sammie Hodges, Jay Freitag, Gary Freitag, Don Freitag and Robert Carothers.

Honorary pallbearers were Chris Frazier, Mitchell McKissack, Bobby Diebitsch, Dr. Dan Stultz, Dr. Kenneth Rose, Guy Hargrave, Scott Dudley, Jackie Dudley, Dudley Owens, Ronnie Freitag, Tommy Dudley, Ken Pluck, Joe Pickering and Michael Simpson.



College money — Sheriff David Doran (L) presented two \$500.00 scholarships on behalf of the Sheriff's Association of Texas to Makenzie C. Fryar (2nd from L) and Kayla F. McCravey (R). The women are the daughters of William Chris McCravey and Chris Edmiston McCravey and granddaughters of retired Schleicher County Sheriff Orval Edmiston (2nd from R).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Eldorado Success.

The elephant is in the living room

Dear Editor:

Prejudice... a word that in today's society is unacceptable. God forbid that any of us would harbor ill feelings towards another human being based on skin color, religion, society, etc. But let's examine ourselves closely. To do so is painful but definitely brings about growth.

I believe that each of us acts out of some sort of prejudice at various points in our lives...some of us more than others. Some of us are willing to admit this shortcoming while others prefer to pretend that we are beyond the clutches of prejudice. Recently, with the situation regarding the school board redistricting, the "elephant in the living room" has been exposed. It's difficult to admit that we, as a community, have wronged one another because of race, but it is obvious that some in Eldorado feel this way. Others feel that those who are asking for the changes are "whining" about a perception of not being treated fairly.

Folks, the elephant's not leav-

ing. Why don't we, as a community, sit together in the "living room" and examine the issue. Rather than defend our feelings with accusations and falsely protecting ourselves with comments about "having friends" of another race, let's allow this pain that exists to help us grow together. We need to have a time whereby anyone who is interested can have their voice heard. Until we develop a comfortable, non-threatening environment in which we can listen to one another, I guarantee that the racial issues will continue to surface in unproductive ways.

Eldorado is truly a place of gold...gold-hearted people. We can get through this. We must come up with a plan of action to hear each other's hearts. Let's talk about solutions in our churches, with our children, with other communities who have been through this pain and have triumphed over it. We can get beyond this...if we truly want to do so.

Katrina Gonzales

Half-price book fair slated at Elementary Library

To promote summer reading, the Eldorado Elementary Library is hosting a Half-Price Book Fair on May 1, 2, 3, 2002 in the Elementary Library. The book fair will be open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The books are published by Scholastic and will be available throughout the day. The public is invited to come to the library and purchase books for a favorite reader. If you have any questions, please call Debbie Griffin at 853-2514 ext 230.

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I, Victor Belman, formally announce my candidacy for an at-large position on the Schleicher Co. ISD School Board. I am married to Sylvia Belman and have two children, Victor A. Belman and Cristie Belman. I have been a resident of Schleicher County for about 46 years. I currently hold a position as a social worker with the Texas Department of Human Services in Community Care for the Aged and Disabled. I have been with the State of Texas for the past fourteen years. I am the Financial Secretary for the Knights of Columbus, a local Catholic Fraternity organization, and have held this position since its existence in Eldorado. I currently am enrolled in a four-year permanent Diaconate program with the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo. I graduated from Eldorado High School in 1971 and from Angelo State University in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree. If elected as school board trustee, I will represent all citizens of Schleicher County. I encourage everyone to participate in the May 4th election and vote for the candidate of your choice. Thank you for your consideration.
 Victor Belman
 Political Ad Paid For By Victor Belman

www.myeldorado.net
Eldorado's Internet Homepage

Raymond A. Rodgers

A memorial service will be held for Raymond A. Rodgers at the West Side Church of Christ in Eldorado, Texas at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2002, with W.L. Johnson officiating.

Mr. Rodgers passed away in Fresno, California on January 3, 2002. He is survived by one brother, Alva Rodgers, three sisters and brothers-in-law, Hazel R. Johnson and husband W.L. of Fresno, California, Laverne Marshall and husband Dan of Midlothian, Texas, Ann Schooley and husband Cliff-

ford of Eldorado; numerous nieces, nephews, and many friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, John and Lillian Rodgers; one sister, Lucille Booth; and three brothers, William D. Rodgers, John E. Rodgers and Lewis V. Rodgers.

Interment was in the family plot at the Eldorado Cemetery.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Eldorado Success.

Dear Editor,

One of the things we must do if we have any hopes of securing the Olympic Games is to stage major sporting events in town to show we are capable. I'd like to announce one such preparatory event to be held next winter at the same time as the Iditarod to show we are in tune with events around the world. I wanted to announce it now so local drivers could be training their teams. Whereas their race features dogsleds racing across frozen snow and ice, our race will feature goats pulling their drivers 3K through town on wheeled devices. Teams may consist of any number of goats desired and the only rule for the sled/wagon/cart/etc. is that it be non-motorized. Prizes will be awarded for the fastest, most comical, best costumed and most ingenious rig. For more details on the ELDOTAROD, contact me at 853-2434.

Sincerely,
 Jim Runge

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Please Join Us For



Jo Ann Heffernan Appreciation Day

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

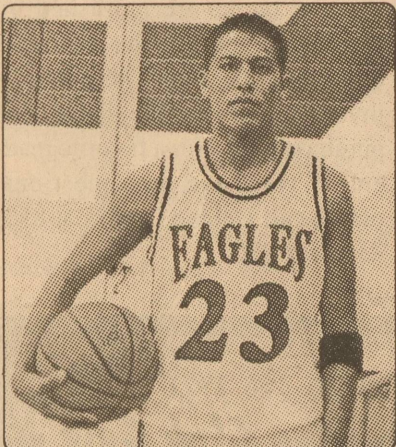
On the occasion of her retirement from FNB. Stop by and visit with Jo Ann on her last day on the job.



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Herrera named to Academic All-State basketball team



SUCCESS FILE PHOTO
Johnny Herrera
2A Academic All State Team

EHS senior Johnny Herrera was named to the Conference 2A Academic All State Basketball Team this week by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. EHS coach Alan Gillespie announced the honor and pointed out that the award is presented to only 25 boys in the 2-A conference from across Texas.

Herrera was a standout on the court for the Eagles, as well. He is the son of Fidel and Delia Herrera. He will be graduating from EHS next month.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

The Lady Eagles softball team ended its season at Grape Creek last week. Although the team's district record was a disappointing 1-7, the girls all participated and learned throughout the season. Team members include (Front L-R) Amanda Figueroa, Sheryl Alexander, Betsy Green (Middle L-R) Jessica Robertson, Ashley Doran, Selina Rojas, Amanda Wanoreck, Ashton Murr (Back L-R) Cristie Jo Belman, Hallie Greer, Tanna Williams and Mitzi Sessom

Eldorado Youth Baseball opens 2002 campaign

Over 200 participants this year

by David E. Hill

Eldorado Youth Baseball has opened its 2002 season in the last couple of weeks. The organization is sponsoring 17 teams for the youth of Eldorado from the ages of 6 to 18. Eldorado Youth Baseball has become a fully chartered Little League organization for all age groups this year. "We did this for several reasons, first was the ability for us to participate in their insurance programs for the kids and all of the resources, support, and information available through Williamsport is excellent," according to Bill Dykstra, league V.P.

In softball, there are two teams of 11 through 14 year old girls and one team of 8 through 10 year olds. Eldorado and Sonora combine for league play and there will be an all star team from Eldorado in the older age group that will compete in the summer. A total of 40 girls are participating this year.

In baseball, EYB has three Pee-Wee teams for boys and girls ages 6 and 7; there are four Minor

League teams for kids 8, 9, and 10; and three Major League teams for kids 10, 11, and 12. There are 116 youth participating in these age groups.

In the Jr. League (13 and 14's), EYB has two teams participating in the San Angelo area league. There is a total of 23 participants in this age group. The Sr. League (15 and 16's) has one team participating in the San Angelo league and have 12 on the roster. Rounding out the participants is the Big League (17 and 18's) who are also participating in San Angelo and have a 12 man roster.

Dykstra commented on the number of kids participating, "We are very pleased with the participation of the youth in Schleicher County, we could have had more participation in the younger age group in Softball, but all in all, we are pleased."

The leagues will participate through the end of the school year for the 6 to 12 year olds and the older kids will play through June.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Looks like a fastball — Jaymie O'Harrow was on the mound for the Tigers as Eldorado Youth Baseball got underway last week at Legion Field. Youth league games will be continuing on Legion and Volunteer Fields during the coming weeks.

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Jr. High District Tennis Results

Middle School District Tennis was held in Mason on Saturday, April 20, 2002.

J.C. Rodriguez won Consolation bracket in the 7th grade girl singles

Drew Bosmans and Mark Bybee won Consolation in the 7th grade boys doubles.

Russell Cathey placed 2nd in the 7th grade boys singles.

Taylor Baker took 3rd in the 8th grade girls singles.

8th grade doubles Chandra Wanoreck and Maxie Holley placed 2nd and Allison Reynolds and Lauren Brown placed 4th.

Caleb Nixon won Consolation in 8th grade singles and Michael Ballew and Frank Edmiston placed 3rd.

Also participating at district were Abel Montalvo, Cash Lane, Louis Almazon, Logan Jones, Sammy Estrada, and Kristin Mittel. Kimberly Samaniego and Krista Troy also participated during tennis tournaments, but not at district.

Coach Teresa Baker stated she loved these young people, especially loved driving them to the Dairy Queen for ice cream. "They are very talented and most of the time a lot of fun!"

Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week

This week the Mighty Eagle Fan of the week is M'Kenna Gillespie. If you are chosen as Pizza Pro's Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week, cut out the ad, bring it by Pizza Pro and say, "I'm the Mighty Eagle Fan of the Week!" and receive a free pizza on us!

Redeem before May 2, 2002

myEldorado.net

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Eldorado's Internet Homepage

School Menu

Milk & Bread Offered
Menus Subject To Change
Cafeteria Line

Monday, April 29
No School

Tuesday, April 30
Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, English Peas, Dinner Roll, Apple Crisp

Wednesday, May 1
Bean & Cheese Chalupas, Spanish Rice, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Pineapple Tidbits

Thursday, May 2
Corn Dogs, Tater Roundabouts, Whole Kernel Corn, Chocolate Pudding w/ Topping

Friday, May 3
Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, French Fries, Lettuce w/ Tomato, Sugar Cookies

Breakfast
½ pt. Milk & 4oz Juice Offered with each breakfast

Monday, April 29
No School

Tuesday, April 30
Dry Cereal, Crackers

Wednesday, May 1
Cinnamon Roll, Crackers

Thursday, May 2
Dry Cereal, Crackers

Friday, May 3
Donuts, Mozzarella Sticks

Fast Food Line

Monday, April 29
No School

Tuesday, April 30
Chef's Salad w/ Diced Ham, Crackers (8), Fruit, Apple Crisp

Wednesday, May 1
Chicken Sandwich, French Fries, Shredded Lettuce & Tomato, Pineapple Tidbits

Thursday, May 2
Corn Dogs, Tater Roundabouts, Whole Kernel Corn, Chocolate Pudding w/ Topping

Friday, May 3
Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, French Fries, Lettuce w/ Tomato, Sugar Cookies

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“Smoke on the Mountain” back by popular demand

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

June Sanders, played brilliantly by Deb Joy, provides the play's comic relief. She is the daughter of Burl and Vera Sanders, portrayed by Jim Martin and Sherry Belk, the owners of a “filling station” on nearby Route 69.

Then there is Burl's brother Stanley, an ex-con played by Dale Lipsett and his other brother Ralph, played by Lynn Meador.

To say that Ralph is henpecked would be an understatement. His wife Ethel, portrayed by Terry Green, is willing to put her foot down when necessary to keep Ralph in line. Ethel admits to the audience that she “hardly ever sins,” and takes credit for rescuing her cousin Maybelle, played by Joella Parker, from a beer joint, where she had resorted to singing and drinking beer with the patrons following her late husband's death.

Charlie Bradley and Eva Jo Sessom portray Burl and Vera's twin teenagers, Dennis and Denise. The flirtatious Denise has her eye on Pastor Oglethorpe, the young and enthusiastic (and sin-

gle) pastor of the church.

Meanwhile, each time Dennis speaks he reminds everyone that he is one of the twins, then quickly points out that he is the boy. Dennis is the apple of his mother's eye and is destined to be a preacher some day, whether he wants to, or not.

Hilarious stories about a bus accident and an explosion at a pickle factory are sprinkled through a script that contains plenty of gospel songs and numerous sight-gags. Helping blend everything together is Glenda Nix, the only member of the show's cast, who mans the sound booth during each performance.

Jo Ann Sproul, the play's director, says she isn't sure exactly how many times the group has staged “Smoke” but believes it to be about forty times in all. She credits the play's popularity to the talents and versatility of the cast. Audiences in Eldorado and San Angelo, who are left standing and cheering at the end of each performance, obviously agree with Sproul's assessment.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Lady in Charge — Jo Ann Sproul is the Director of the Way Off Broadway Players production of “Smoke on the Mountain” and the driving force behind the success of the local theater troupe.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Eldorado Success.

City was sued and nothing changed

Dear Editor,

This letter is to congratulate Donna Garvin on an excellent letter commenting on the recent lawsuit to once again redistrict. This time it is the school district. If memory serves me right a few years ago a lawsuit was filed to force a change in the way city council members were elected. I believe the same number of good city council members of Hispanic heritage are still serving our community as there were before the lawsuit. This after it cost the city tax dollars to answer the lawsuit and make changes. I might add that these good people serve on the council minus pay. It is a public service and all council members are to be commended.

I know two of the persons filing this lawsuit are hard working people because they run an oilfield service business. My hus-

band had an oilfield service company for 20 plus years and I know how confining this can be. I congratulate them for being successful business people and respect them for that.

I know that in the past there has been discrimination against other races, but you don't have to be of another race. You could be just white and poor or cross-eyed. Been there, done that.

May God guide us as we live together and try to be at peace with one another. May all our prayers be that God can somehow guide us to set examples for others that hate us or would destroy our country. It is not a perfect government, but I feel it is much better than most. It is a country where poor can work hard and obtain a better life. We can worship as we please without fear.

Barbara Jackson



Beta Sigma Phi Report

by Barbara Jackson

Spring had arrived with warm days and some rain showers as Xi Xi Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held a regular monthly meeting in the home of President Flora Hubble. Mrs. Hubble called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. on April 16, 2002. Six members were present to answer roll call.

In the absence of the treasurer, Dorothy Dacy gave the treasurer's report and read a letter from the Chamber of Commerce about the upcoming Schleicher County Days, to be held on June 15, 2002. The chapter decided to have a silent auction at this community

event.

During other business, officers for the new sorority year were elected. These members will be installed on Founder's Day, April 29th. Members are to meet at Mrs. Dacy's home at 6:15 p.m. on this day. They will travel to Sonora where they will have a banquet and the installation of officers.

Following the closing ritual the hostess served chips, dips, tuna salad sandwiches and strawberry shortcake to Mrs. Dacy, Mary Nolen, Mary Leigh Dunagan, Dorothy Clark, Doris Vanecek and Barbara Jackson, who won the sunshine gift.

2002 Project Graduation

It is that time of year again, when we ask for your support of our annual Eldorado Project Graduation to be held on Friday, May 24, 2002. Project Graduation is a drug-free & alcohol-free event. Eldorado High School students are treated to a night of games, food, and prizes from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., in celebration of our EHS Graduation and the end of the school year. The purpose is to provide a safe, fun place for the kids to celebrate, on a night which too often ends in tragedy. We are proud that so many of our high school students chose to attend Eldorado Project Graduation last year. With your help, we are hoping to increase that number this year.

Without the support of local and area businesses and individuals, we would be unable to meet the financial burden that comes with such a large undertaking. We think it is worth it, and we hope you do also. If you would like to have more information or make a donation, you may contact Ilse Williams at 853-2514, ext. 235, Candi Homer at 853-2261, Susie Ramirez 853-3366, or Eva Jo


Sessom at 853-2827. Just leave a message if no one is available and your call will be returned. Donations may also be made at First National Bank of Eldorado, attention Caroline Hight or Stacy Haynes. Donations may be mailed to Project Graduation, c/o FNB Eldorado, P.O. Box 737, Eldorado, TX 76936, Attention: Stacy or Caroline. Donations will be accepted through May 24, 2002 but we ask that you please have them in by May 17, 2002 to help facilitate purchasing.

Donor's names will be published in a special program that will be available at graduation. Several layers of sponsorship are available including: Diamond Supporter \$500; Gold Supporter \$250; Silver Supporter \$100; Bronze Supporter \$50 and Eagle Supporter \$25.

Thank you for your support of the students of Eldorado High School, and thank you from the 2002 Eldorado Project Graduation Committee.

Mother's Tea

The Eldorado Elementary Staff is inviting you, the mother of an elementary student, to a Mother's Tea, on Wednesday, May 8. We are having a light lunch in the elementary kitchen for the moms (or a representative of a student: grandmother, stepmother, aunt.) It will be a come and go affair from 11:00 until 1:00. If you are interested in attending, and are the parent of a pre-kindergarten through fourth grade student, please let us know by May 6. Call us at 853-2770, ext. 521. We are looking forward to having you join us!



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28th Jeannifer Rivera, Buddy Key, Roho Rodriguez
29th Suzanne Rojas
30th Prissy Paxton, Dora L. Arispe, Stoney Harris, Margarita Arispe, Landon Nixon, Kimberly Edmiston

May

1st Joe Christian, Isaac Saldivar, Richmond Adame

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County Commissioners consider various construction projects

The Schleicher County Commissioners court met Monday morning, with all members present, and took up the discussion of construction at the county airport and at the golf course concession stand. Phil McCormick and Kerry Joy, representing the Eldorado Golf Club attended the meeting to update the commissioners on the club's plans to remodel and carry out repairs to the club house and awning area. McCormick added that the club strongly supports the county's plan to reconstruct rest room facilities at the concession stand currently used by Eldorado Youth Baseball. He noted that the golf club was willing to let the county use an existing building, attached to the concession stand, for the expansion of the rest room facilities. That area is currently being used to store golf carts.

It was noted that the current rest rooms, which are also attached to the concession stand, routinely experience plumbing problems, causing sewage to back up and resulting in health and hygiene con-

cerns in the concession stand. At that point, Commissioner Ross Whitten called the facility, "the bathroom from Hell!"

The men then agreed to trade an airplane hangar, given to the county recently by Dr. Brame, to the Golf Club in return for the room adjacent to the concession stand. It was explained that the hangar will be used for cart storage and that the rest room facility upgrade would benefit patrons of the golf club, the youth baseball parks as well as the general public.

The commissioners then received three bids for labor to construct new airport hangars. The low bid, submitted by Lanis Mikeska of Eldorado, totaling \$27,750.00, was accepted by the court. Two other bids were rejected. The high bid came in at \$34,360.00. Judge Johnny Griffin explained that construction could begin as soon as authorization was received from the State of Texas.

Next, the commissioners asked that a letter be sent to a property

owner near the Eldorado Cemetery. It was noted that tractor ruts had been found across unmarked graves in the cemetery. In the letter the owner will be directed to construct their right-of-way into their field in such a way as to prevent farm equipment from driving across cemetery plots.

A letter from Paddy Jones Lucas was then read in which she asked the county not to mow county road rights-of-way until bluebonnet flowers have gone to seed. The court also issued a quit claim deed to a road easement the county had received in 1976. It was explained that the county has no need for the property.

Next, the men heard from Judge Griffin about a visit he had with San Angelo architect Gary Donaldson about renovations and repairs at the Ag Barn. Griffin noted that Donaldson recommended using architect Henry Schmidt for the project. Griffin further explained that for the county to insure the exhibit hall portion of the ag building evaporative coolers and wall paneling will need to be removed because of the threat of mold.

It was also suggested that propane heaters be removed and replaced with heat pumps and that ducts be used to bring cooling in from the new part of the facility. Donaldson also recommended upgrading the rest rooms in the building in order for them to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Griffin told the men.

With that the commissioners voted to proceed with the recom-

mended construction as well as to move the livestock feeding facility away from the building. That gave the green light to County Agent Scott Edmonson who has been drawing up plans for a new feeding facility.

The men then briefly considered issuing Certificates of Obligation in order to fund the various building projects that had been discussed at the meeting.

The commissioners then posted an emergency meeting agenda so that they could pass a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs.

Next, Tax Assessor-Collector, Lou Ann Turner advised the court that she would be contracting with a new law firm for the purpose of collecting delinquent taxes. The firm's name is Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott. L.L.P. Turner also reported that her office has collected 99% of tax revenue for the 2001 tax year as of the end of March.

The purchase of a new lawn mower for the courthouse square was then discussed but the item was tabled until a future meeting when the selection of a mower is to be made.



Silver Medalists — The Eldorado High School Spelling Team consisting of Laurie Almazan, Luis Munoz, Layna Murr and Emily Newman placed 2nd place team in Abilene during U.I.L. Regional Meet. The team coach was Mrs. Linda Thomas.

Way To Go Josh! — Josh Trejo recently received a 5th place individual medal in Number Sense in Abilene during Regional UIL Academic Meet. Coaching sponsor was High School Math Teacher Mr. Tom Gray.

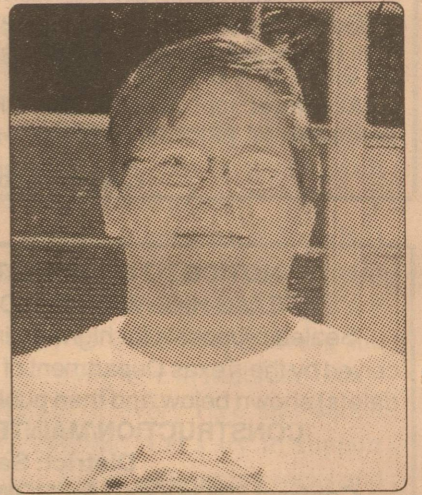


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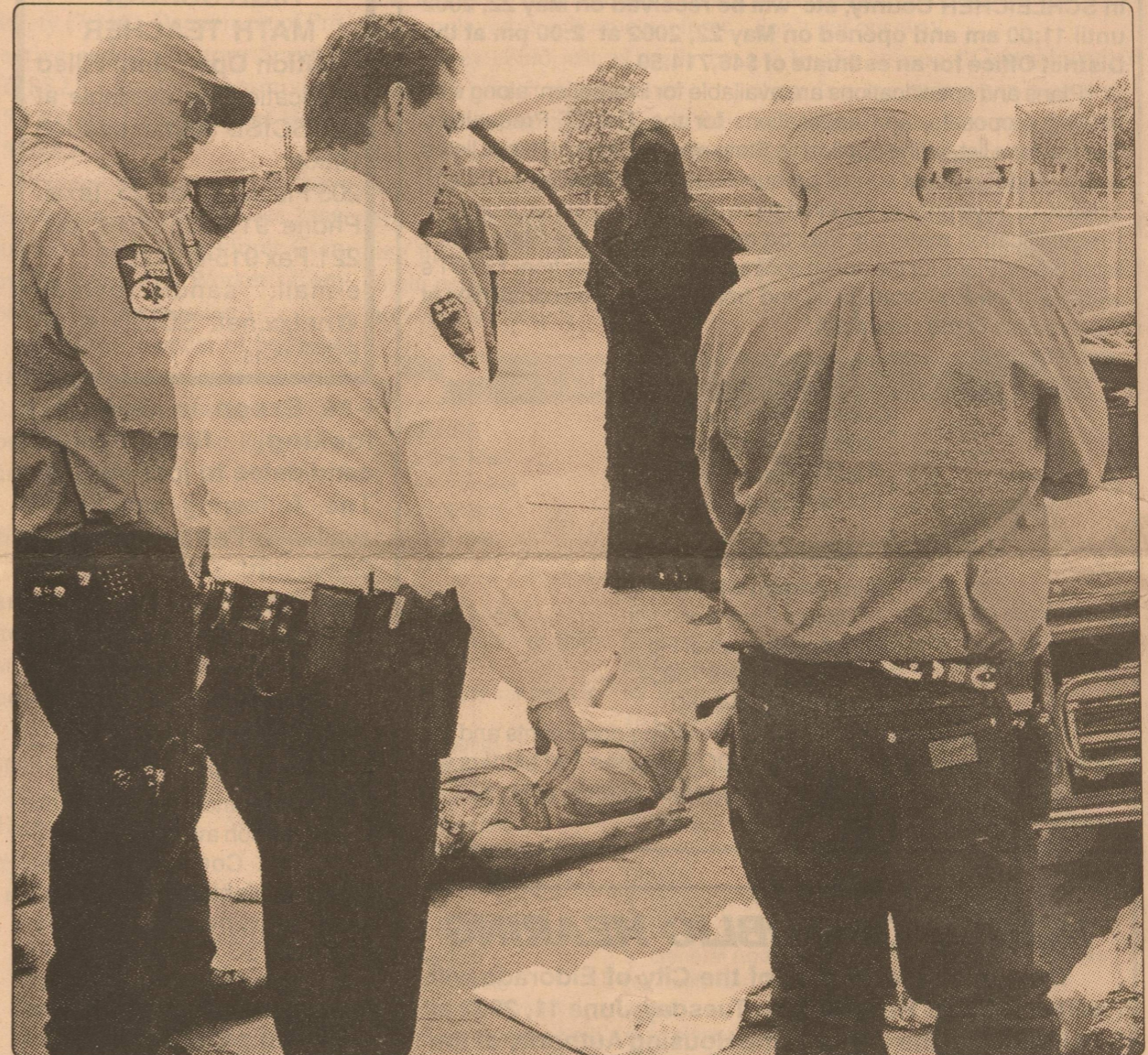
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Remember! Blood Drive slated for today!

United Blood Services will be in Eldorado for a blood drive on today, April 25. It will be held at Schleicher County Medical Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Call Chris Kessler at 853-2507 for an appointment.

my

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Time of Death 2:03 p.m. — The Grim Reaper looked on as Justice of the Peace Jimmy Doyle (R) pronounced two occupants of an overturned pickup dead at the scene during a Mock Accident Program staged by the EMS, Fire Dept. and the Sheriff's Dept. EHS seniors Gentry Newman and Wesley Jones portrayed the victims and Ramon Ray Barajas portrayed the Grim Reaper. The event was staged for the benefit of local students who witnessed the drill. It was also timed to coincide with the EHS Prom, which will be held tonight in San Angelo. Also pictured is EMT David Overstreet and Sheriff David Doran.

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Honorbound Chivo Cook-Off slated Saturday

Templo Getsemani Assembly of God Men's Ministries of Eldorado will be host its second annual Honorbound Chivo Cook-Off this Saturday, April 27. The event will be held under the shade of the giant pecan trees on the Schleicher County Courthouse Square and will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Local churches will be allowed two entries each in the cookoff and the goats may be ready for cooking or previously prepared. All entries will be judged in three separate categories including taste, aroma and tenderness.

There is no entry fee for participation, but the cooked meat will be available for use in the fellowship dinner that will follow. Meals will also be sold to the public following the judging. Meals may be purchased for a donation.

Evangelist Bernie Guebara from San Angelo will be guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in the important event.

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