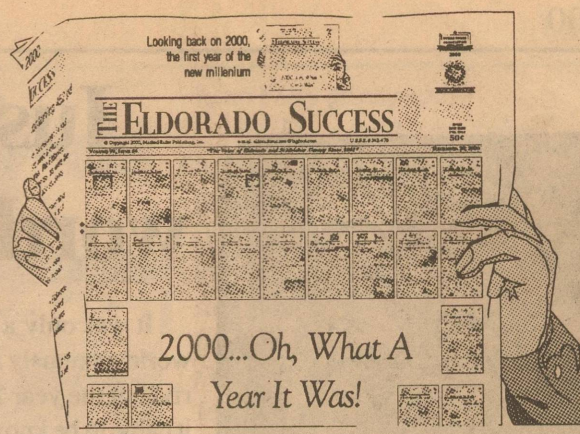


Looking back on 2000,
the first year of the
new millenium



THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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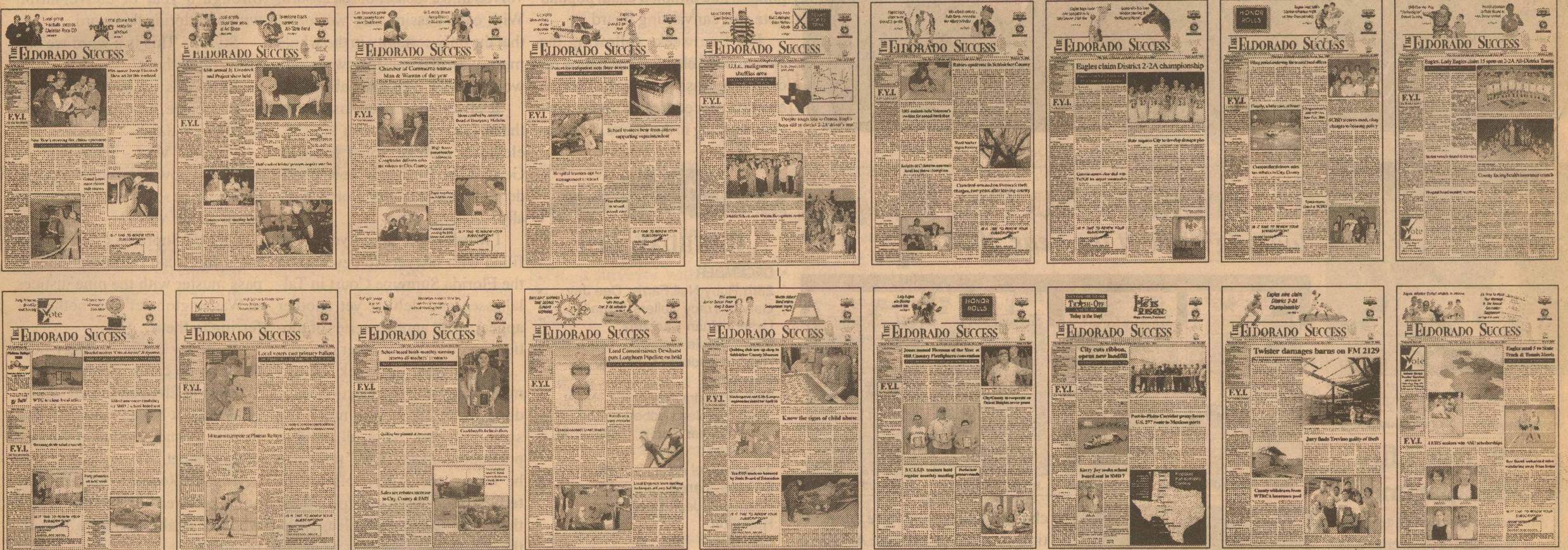
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VOLUME 99, ISSUE 54

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

DECEMBER 28, 2000



2000...Oh, What A Year It Was!

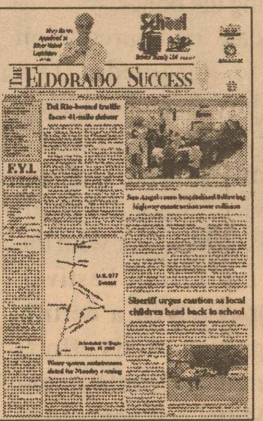
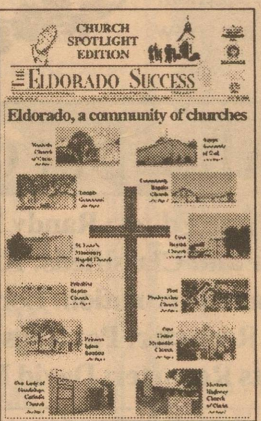
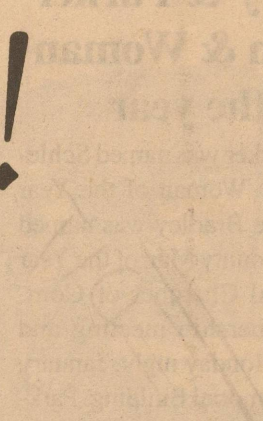
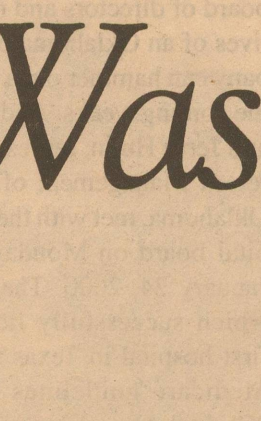
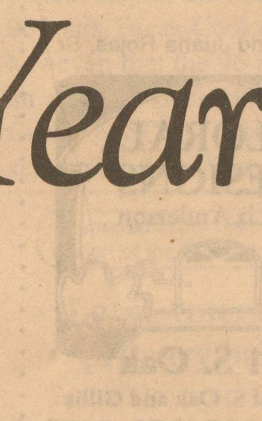
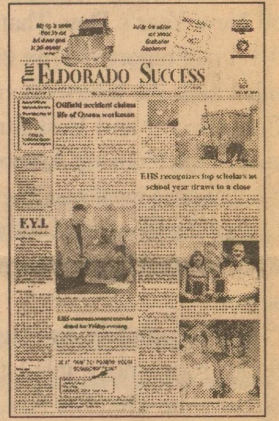




photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Feb. 3, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Locals locked up to benefit Muscular Dystrophy Association

More than twenty local citizens volunteered last week to be "locked up" for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). During the day, Schleicher County Sheriff's officers transported the volunteers to a makeshift jail, located at the Memorial Building. As the "prisoners" fulfilled their sentences, they were allowed to telephone family, friends and co-workers in an attempt to solicit "bail money," which went directly to MDA.

Sheriff David Doran and his posse helped out by serving warrants and delivering prisoners to the "jail" while Cactus Cafe provided lunch for the "jailbirds."

In all, the effort raised \$5,650.00 for the charity.

Reported in the Feb. 10, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Crawford arrested on livestock theft charges

Bobby Dwight Crawford, 46, of Mississippi, was arrested Monday in San Angelo on a two-year-old warrant from Schleicher County. Crawford was charged with theft of livestock and booked into the Tom Green County Jail. He was later released on \$10,000 bond.

The charges stem from an investigation conducted by Chief Deputy George Arispe and Cattle Ranger Jack Andrews in 1997. A grand jury indictment was handed down in the case on January 9, 1998. However, by that time, Crawford had already left the state.

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS looking back at the year 2000



Feb. 3, 2000 edition Feb. 10, 2000 edition Feb. 17, 2000 edition Mar. 16, 2000 edition

Crawford, who operated Mesa Cattle Company, a cattle feedlot in southwest Schleicher County, allegedly sold some of the cattle left in his care at Producers Livestock Auction in San Angelo. Other cattle were moved onto ranches in Schleicher, Tom Green and Coke counties. When the livestock owners came to claim their cattle, they reportedly found that both Crawford and the livestock were gone.

Reported in the Feb. 17, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Eagles claim District 2-2A championship

by David E. Hill
Success Sportswriter

The Eldorado Eagles captured the District 2-2A Championship at Eagle Gym on Tuesday night when they defeated the Junction Eagles 85-57. A quick look at the record books reveals this is the first championship since 1989 for the Eldorado boys. The Eagles finished loop play with a record of 9-1 with the

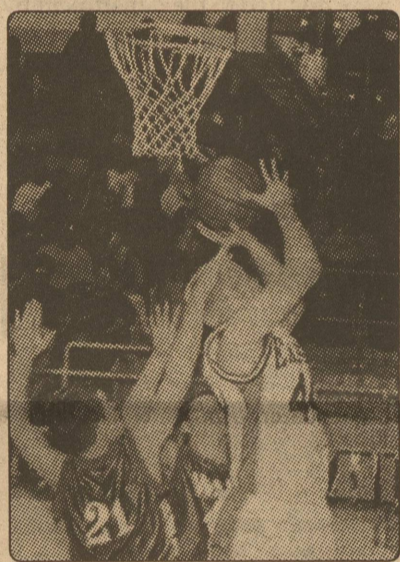


photo by Kathy Mankin

only loss coming at the beginning of the second round of district play to Ozona. A couple of teams played the Eagles tight but no other district foes really came close. Tuesday night was no exception.

Reported in the Mar. 9, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Hospital receives "Critical Access" designation

Schleicher County Medical Center became, last week, only the fourth hospital in Texas, and the first in this area, to earn a "Critical Access" designation. The news followed an inspection by Ron Starr, R.Ph., a surveyor with the Texas Department of Health. He gave the local hospital a clean bill of health and approved its application for the Critical Access designation.

SCMC was one of the first in the nation to apply for admission into the Critical Access program after the federal government offered the program as a means of preserving rural hospitals.

Under the Critical Access program, SCMC will be reimbursed on a "cost basis" proportionally for the number of Medicare patients it treats.

Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook explained the program "If every patient admitted to the hospital happened to be a Medicare patient, then Medicare would reimburse 100 percent of the cost of operating the hospital," Fagan-Cook said. "If the number is 75 percent then Medicare reimburses 75 percent of our cost. It's a great deal for us."

Participation in the program requires SCMC to keep its average patient stay in the hospital below 96 hours. Fagan-Cook emphasized, however, that the 96-hour limit is an average over an entire year. Currently, SCMC's average patient stay is less than 72 hours.

Reported in the Mar. 16, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Local voters cast primary ballots

Texas Governor George W. Bush was the top vote-getter in Schleicher County Tuesday as 422 local voters turned out to cast ballots in the Democratic and Repub-

lican Party primaries.

Bush's popularity seems to have brought several new voters to the Republican Primary which for the first time attracted more local votes than did the Democratic primary. In all, 241 voters cast Republican ballots while 181 voted in the Democratic primary. Neither ballot featured any locally contested races and there will be only three contested races in Schleicher County in November, two county commissioner races and the sheriff's race.

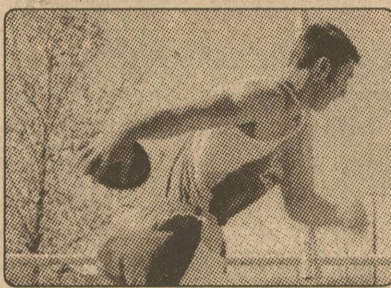


photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Mar. 16, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

14 teams compete at Plateau Relays

Iraan won the varsity boys division of the Plateau Relays last Saturday while Wall won the girls division as Eagle stadium played host to 14 track teams. Among the teams competing this year were: Sonora, Junction, Ozona, Iraan, Wall, Grape Creek, Forsan, Reagan County, Ballinger, Winters, Rocksprings, Brackett, Colorado City and Eldorado.

Reported in the Mar. 16, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

County address health insurance issue

by Pat Ragsdale

Schleicher County Commissioner's voted unanimously Monday to pay the West Texas Rural County Association's health insurance pool \$40,824.00 in advance premiums in an effort to help the pool to pay current claims. Then, the court voted to call for bids from other insurance companies. Schleicher County was one of the original members of the pool but, as time has progressed, and growth of the pool has stabilized, the pool has not been able to build sufficient amount of reserve funds, it was explained.

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The Success prints renewal dates on all mailing labels. Our readers can help us hold down the cost of subscriptions by mailing in renewals in the appropriate month. Thank you!

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

In 2000 we lost many dear friends and loved ones. Obituaries for the following individuals appeared in the Success during the year.

Charles A. "Chill" Cole, Jr.
Ruth Duncan Humphrey
Willie L. Bridgeman
Bob E. Pena
Dale Austin Strong
Jerald Young Weddle
L.E. 'Ed' Davis
Ethel Carrell
Evelyn G. McSwane
Lenora Alvarez Cardona
Harry Steven Mercer
Rebecca Rodriguez
Enrique Y. Galindo
Betty Lewis Pereira
Antonio Sandate
Janice Halter Cole
Odell Green
Delores Martinez
Catherine Ethel Kennerly
Rhodie Dahlberg
Sam E. Long
Monty Yantis
Kenneth Pennington
Mack Gregg
May Nelson Kelly
Carlene Nut Keel
Imogehe Knight Newport
Ethel C. Reed Martindale Hale
Jim Scott Curbo
Samuel C. Calcote
Maurice Ray Christian
James Gillaspay
Toma Quain
Russell Sallee
Thelma Minter Young
James Lee Swain
Ovid "Bud" Wade, Jr.
Roy V. Adams
Rose Enochs
Richard Dale Heald
Lillian White Brooks
Lorena Williams
Clara Mae King Donaldson
Billy Dan McAngus
William E. "Bill" McAngus
Margee Lee Gates

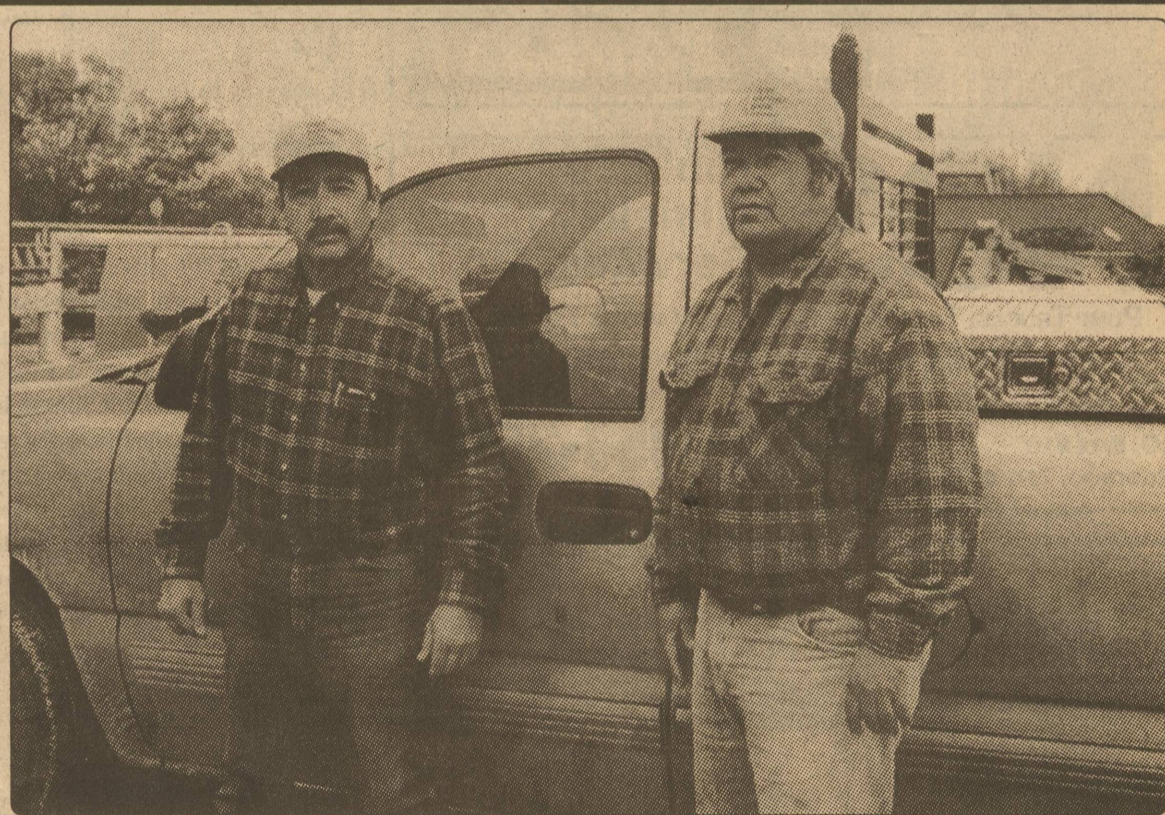
Emil H. Brown
E.B. "Tot" McCown
Amelia Torres
John Holcak
Hazel McMurray McElreath
Margaret Ann Odstrcil
Roy Lynn Love
Maria Avila
John T. Alexander
Margaret Elizabeth Rountree
William Daughtery Pinkston
James Alton Short
Douglas Patterson Calcote
Ben L. Isaacs, Jr.
Oscar Neff
Francisco Paiz Suarez
Otis Deal
Glenda Ann Cobb Joyce
Paull Fitts-Torrez, IV
Shirley Williams
Jose Hernandez
Christina Huichapa
Connie Sue McKenzie
Eulalia Duran
Gina Rene Martin
Marjorie Elizabeth Alexander
Eldon Thomas Calk, Jr.
Guillermo Espinosa, Jr.
Mora Lee West
Patsy Jo Locklin Lively Bradley
Mrs. Nenelle Ky Gold
Josefina Blanco
Allie Velma Cheatham
Ello L. Wilde
Anton Malkowski
Isabella Malkowski
Thelma Jean Hart Calcote
Lindsey Babb
Margaret Lee Isaacs Williams
Willie Blanche Johnson
Vickie Frances Kotsch LaPlante
F. Joe Reynolds
Mabel Ellis
Jose Sosa
Alfonso Rodriguez
Allen John "Jack" Hinton

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Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, January 1
Closed for New Year's Day
Tuesday, January 2
Oven Baked Chicken, Lima Beans, Broccoli, Bread, Chunky Mixed Fruit, Milk
Wednesday, January 3
Crab Cakes w/Tartar Sauce, Sweet Peas, Okra Gumbo, Hot Rolls, Applesauce, Milk
Thursday, January 4
Vegetable Beef Stew, Green Beans, Cornbread, Pear Half w/Cottage Cheese, Vanilla Pudding, Milk
Friday, January 5
Baked Ham, Candied Yams, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Carrot Raisin Salad, Gelatin w/Fruit, Milk



S & T Roustabouts

As lifetime residents of Eldorado and members of the local Catholic Church, Albert and Ester Torres and Heliodoro and Sylvia Sanchez considered no other options when choosing where they would have their family business.

Nineteen years ago, S & T started serving the oilfields of West Texas and now averages nine employees. It is truly a family business. Albert and Heliodoro not only own and run the company, but they can be found driving trucks when necessary. Ester and Sylvia, the real bosses, take care of the office and paper work.

When they do find some time off, Albert can be found on the golf course and Heliodoro will probably be fishing at Lake Amistad.

In 1981, the First National Bank of Eldorado helped Albert and Heliodoro finance their first work truck so they could open for business. Today the First National Bank continues to meet the needs of S & T Roustabouts.

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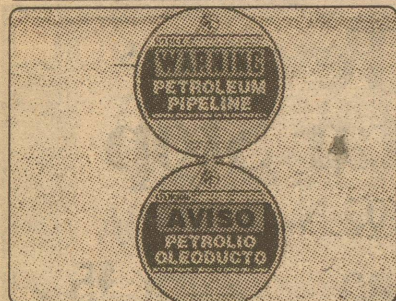


photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Mar. 30, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Land Commissioner Dewhurst puts Longhorn Pipeline on hold

AUSTIN—Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst announced last week he will not sign the necessary easements for the Longhorn Pipeline to become operational until he is satisfied that all federal health and safety standards have been met. The move effectively stalled progress on the pipeline which crosses the length of Schleicher County until further environmental assessments are carried out.

Reported in the Apr. 6, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Quilting club sets up shop in Schleicher County Museum

Twenty excited quilters met for the first time at the Schleicher County Museum on Tuesday, April 4, 2000 to begin their first group quilting session. A whole-cloth quilt top belonging to Clara Mae Donaldson was put in the frame and the stitching began.

The first group of quilters are: Mary McGinnes, Clara Mae Donaldson, Peggy Grelle, Norma Lynn Mund, Ann Barker, Eloise Day, May Runge Kissko, Wanda Edmiston, Dorothy Clark, Bessie Causey, Dorothy Harris, Charlotte Wilha, Flora Hubble, Agnes Lozano, Louella Sauer, Princess Grubben, Charlene Edmiston, Janet Felver, Vernel McCalla, and Barbara Jackson.

Standards for the quilt frame the group is using were supplied by

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS looking back at the year 2000



Mar. 30, 2000 edition Apr. 6, 2000 edition Apr. 13, 2000 edition Apr. 20, 2000 edition

George Spinks, industrial arts teacher at Eldorado Middle School.

The group will be quilting at the Museum every Tuesday starting at 1:30 p.m. with evening sessions also being planned. The group is searching for a name and more interested quilters. Come and join in, even if think you cannot quilt...the group can use needle threaders!



photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Apr. 6, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Almost like Cinderella

Chief Deputy George Arispé was one of the officers involved in searching for a missing driver during the early morning hours of Friday, March 31, 2000, after a 1999 Chevy Lumina rolled 5.5 miles

north of Eldorado on U.S. 277. Also joining in the search were Deputy Eddie Rodriguez and several Fire Dept. and EMS volunteers. The driver, Richard Sepeda Sosa, 17, of San Angelo was finally located two hours later by DPS Trooper Robert Bybee, who noticed the man standing on the roadside. A shoe left at the scene of the accident, matched the single shoe Sosa was wearing, officer's said, identifying him as the vehicle's driver. Sosa was reportedly uninjured except for a few scrapes and bruises and "lots of stickers." He was cited by Deputy Eddie Rodriguez for "failing to give information and render aid" and for "failure to control speed."



photo by Kathy Mankin

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS looking back at the year 2000



Apr. 27, 2000 edition May 4, 2000 edition May 11, 2000 edition May 18, 2000 edition

learned that Jane had been in the barn at the time of the storm. As the tornado lifted a large part of the barn's roof, and blew out one wall, Jane took shelter inside her pickup, where she watched as several tires, mounted on wheels, banged against her truck before being scattered around the barn.

The Kosub ranch is located on F.M. 2129, approximately 8 miles southwest of Eldorado. As the tornado moved away from the property, it left behind a trail of twisted sheet metal and splintered lumber.

The Kosub's barn wasn't the only structure damaged by the storm. Another barn, owned by W.F. Edmiston had suffered much the same fate only a few moments earlier. Fortunately, no one was injured in either incident.



photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Apr. 27, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

District 2-2A Champs! Eagles nine defeat Ozona

The Eldorado Eagles won the District 2-2A baseball title for the second year in a row by defeating the Ozona Lions 11 to 7 on Tuesday night. Pitcher Manuel Hernandez went the distance for the Eagles and got the win.

Eldorado pounded out 14 hits and Ozona managed only 7. Leading the Eagles offensively with singles Lance Mitchel, Rocky Robles

Reported in the Apr. 13, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

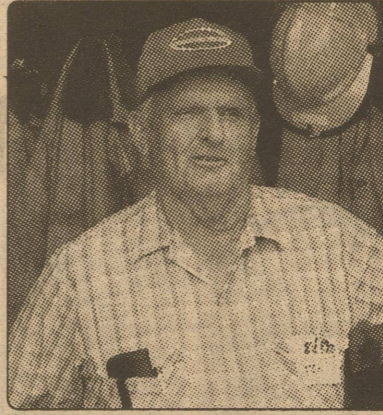


photo by Kathy Mankin

Jones named Fireman of the Year at Hill Country Firefighters convention

Jerry Jones of Eldorado was named Fireman of the Year by the Hill Country Firefighter's Association convention in Eden last Saturday. Jones, who has served as Fire Chief of the Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department for 18 years, said he was honored to be recognized by his fellow firefighters.

During Jones' tenure as Fire Chief, the local department has undergone an extensive modernization. Most recently, a new pumper truck was added to the department's inventory, after a lengthy lobbying effort, led by Jones, persuaded the four major taxing entities in the county to share the cost of the equipment. Through the years, numerous "grass trucks," utilized in fighting grass and brush fires, have also been added and upgraded. Most of those trucks were used military vehicles which were donated to the department by the Texas Forest Service.

Reported in the Apr. 20, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

City cuts ribbon, opens new landfill

The City of Eldorado's new landfill opened for business Monday after a ribbon cutting ceremony near the facility's gate house. Mayor John Nikolauk thanked a crowd of 35 well-wishers for attending before leading the ribbon cutting ceremony.

"A lot of people have worked on this project for a long, long time," Nikolauk said.

He noted that a number of current and former city council members had worked diligently on the project and offered them thanks on behalf of the city. Nikolauk also expressed his gratitude to all the city employees involved in the project. Specifically, he noted City Superintendent Jack Dean and City Secretary Carolyn Mayo.

Moments after the ribbon was cut, garbage truck driver Guillermo Zuniga and landfill attendant Daniel Mejia took the first load of garbage into a pit behind the gatehouse and dumped it as the assembled crowd watched.

"This is a big day for us," Mayor Nikolauk commented after the ceremony. "It ensures that the citizens of Eldorado won't be at the mercy of a trucking company in the coming years."



photo by Kathy Mankin

Other Eagles placing at the Regional Track Meet included Samantha Smith, who placed 6th in the 100 Meter Dash with a time of 12.95. Michael Mayo also placed in the Shot Put, finishing 5th with a throw of 52-04.

Reported in the May 11, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

TDH feuds with County over Community Resource Center

After years of battling to keep the doors of the Community Resource Center open, Schleicher County found itself suddenly evicted from the facility this week. Miguel A. Escobedo, M.D., Regional Director of the Texas Department of Health (TDH) notified Schleicher County Judge Johnny Griffin by letter that the county's Resource Center coordinator, Patsy Kellogg, would no longer be allowed in the building.

At press time, the Success had been unable to contact Dr. Escobedo for comment on the matter.



courtesy photo

Reported in the May 18, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Oilfield accident claims life of Ozona workman

Sostenes, F. DeHoyos, 55, of Ozona, died Friday, May 12, 2000 after piping, connecting a gas well to two frac-tanks, blew out, striking the man in the head. Schleicher County Justice of the Peace James C. Doyle pronounced the man dead at the scene at 3:25 p.m.

According to investigators, DeHoyos was employed by Lilly Construction in Ozona. The company was reportedly working on a Texaco-McWhorter lease at the time of the accident.

A 4-inch "T" with reducing swages, a "bull plug" and a "hammer-union" coupling were found near the body. A crease in the crown of DeHoyos' white hard hat, indicated that he was wearing it at the time of the accident.



photo by Kathy Mankin

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Reported in the May 25, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

State officials relent, county stays in Community Resource Center

by Pat Ragsdale

With Schleicher County poised to remove its office equipment from the Community Resource Center, and with other state agencies rallying to the county's cause, Dr. Manuel A. Escobedo, regional director of the Texas Department of Health (TDH), last week rescinded his order banning county employee Patsy Kellogg from the building. Mrs. Kellogg reported for back for work on Monday morning and by Tuesday, things were getting back to normal.

Judge Griffin said that when TDH personnel ordered the locks to be changed at the Resource Center, he directed the removal of county owned equipment from the building. That prompted calls from several state agencies that current-

ly use the building. The various agencies wanted to know how they could operate in the building without furniture or other office equipment, Griffin said.



photos by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the May 25, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

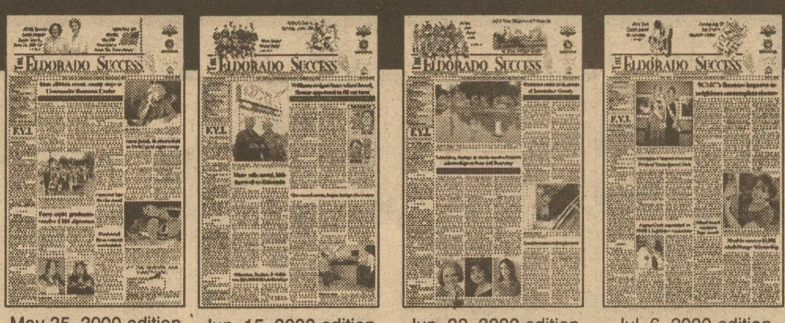
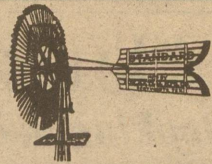
Forty-eight graduates receive EHS diplomas

Strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" filled the air Friday evening, May 19 as the Eldorado High School graduating class of 2000 filed into Eagle Gym for the final time. Forty-eight graduates received diplomas following a salutatory address by Hillary Lane Hodges and a valedictory address by Sarah Ashley Mankin.

Among the graduates were:

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

looking back at the year 2000



May 25, 2000 edition Jun. 15, 2000 edition Jun. 22, 2000 edition Jul. 6, 2000 edition

Ramon Adame, Robert Adame, Jr., Pedro Wayne Mejia Barker, Jackie A. Barrera, Jon K. Calcote, Sonia Covarrubiaz, D.J. Criswell, Marie Edmiston, Patrick Fuentes, Elisa-Beth Garza, Frank Garza, Barbara L. Gault, Gary Gibson, Kary Gibson, Kasey Ann Griffin, Maria Angelica Guzman, Lycynda Lyne Halbert, Maria de Jesus Hernandez, Hillary Lane Hodges, Ricky Huichfapa, Kimberly C. Jones, Andie Kelley, Kayla Kohls, Kathryn Lauren Kosub, Cory Lloyd, Sarah Ashley Mankin, Jess D. Martin, Dee-Anna Arispe Martinez, Ernie Martinez, Michael Mayo, Griselda Medrano Lance Mitchel, Elisa Munoz, Larry Wayne Nicholson, Jr., Asa Nixon, Alana Oliver, Anthony Pina, Casey Allen Poyner, Evelyn Quintana, Jennah Leah Richters, Maria Judith Sanchez, Louis Santellano, Lynn Sloan, Sandra Torres, Steven Valero, Crystal Gail Vallejo, Mitch Wilkerson and Chad Williams.

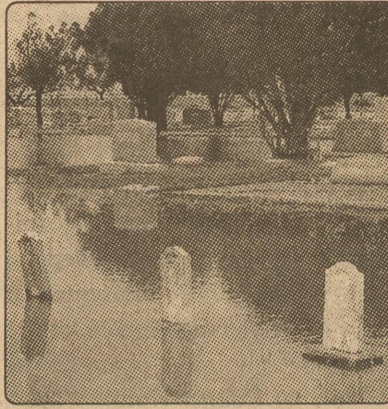


photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Jun. 22, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Weekend rains soak much of Schleicher Co.

Thunder rumbled across the central portion of Schleicher County on Tuesday and early morning showers deposited as much as a half-inch of rain on an already soaked countryside. Only two days before, rainfall totals ranging from 5 to 12 inches were reported across the county when a slow moving cool front collided with warm gulf moisture over the region.

The tri-county area of Schleicher, Sutton and Crockett counties received the lion's share of the moisture. Forty-five miles to the north, the National Weather Service station at Mathis Field reported receiving only .80 of an inch.

Locally, the rain came as a welcome relief to the Schleicher County's farmers and ranchers. Clovis Olsak reported receiving 12 inches at his farm 5 miles southwest of Eldorado. Neighboring

places belonging to De Lux and Ray Ballew received 11 inches and 9.25 inches, respectively.

Meanwhile, several area residents, who found their homes inundated with water, learned that their homeowner's insurance did not cover flood damage.

Reported in the Jul. 6, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

SCMC's finances improve as neighbors contemplate closure

Schleicher County Hospital District closed out the first five months of 2000 with a positive cash flow, thanks in great part to the hospital being enrolled in the federal government's new Critical Access Program. Andy Freeman, a partner in Preferred Management, the company which oversees day-to-day operations of the district's hospital and nursing home, met with hospital trustees last Thursday to go over the numbers. It was explained that the district's revenues exceeded expenses by \$7,642.05 in May. Year to date, the district has posted a gain of \$60,510.98.

The good economic news comes as neighboring facilities contemplate closure. The hospi-

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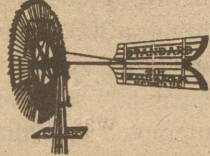
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THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

looking back at the year 2000



Jul. 27, 2000 edition Aug. 3, 2000 edition Aug. 24, 2000 edition Aug. 31, 2000 edition

Reported in the Aug. 24, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Exemplary! SCISD and its three campuses earn state's top rating

Schleicher County Independent School District (SCISD) and its three campuses, Eldorado High School, Eldorado Middle School and Eldorado Elementary, were each honored this week by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) with the agency's highest possible recognition, the coveted 'Exemplary' rating as part of the state's ongoing accountability system. It is the first time since the accountability ratings were established in 1993 that the local district and its three campuses have all earned the honor in the same year.

Reported in the Aug. 31, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

City enacts Stage 1 drought plan

by Pat Ragsdale

The City of Eldorado adopted a state-mandated 'Drought Contingency Plan' on Monday evening, August 28. The plan consisting of six triggers which require six levels of response, was mandated by the state and had to be adopted before a Sept. 1, 2000 deadline.

Mayor John Nikolauk noted that the plan's adoption automatically placed the city's water customers in Stage-1, which calls for voluntary water conservation.

Reported in the Jul. 27, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

School board calls on Blanch to lead SCISD

by Pat Ragsdale

It isn't official, and won't be until the legally imposed twenty-one day waiting period expires on August 3, but Schleicher County I.S.D. trustees have chosen a new superintendent, George Blanch of Hebronville. Blanch served as superintendent of schools at Jim Hogg I.S.D. in Hebronville for the last two years. Before that, he was superintendent of Sabinal I.S.D. for two years, Motley County I.S.D. for five years and Lueders-Avoca I.S.D. for three years.

Reported in the Aug. 3, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

San Angelo man hospitalized following highway construction zone collision

Roxanne Arispe, 26, of Eldorado was driving northbound on U.S. 277 last Thursday when she approached a highway construction zone approximately 13 miles north of town. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) summer employee Anthony Leal, who was working as a flagman at the site, directed Arispe to stop and wait as southbound traffic was allowed to pass through the zone.

However, Joe Hudson, 43, of San Angelo, did not see the construction zone. His 1997 Chevrolet pickup struck the back end of Arispe's 1997 Ford pickup which at the time of the impact was at a complete stop.

Hudson was taken by AirMed-1 helicopter to Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo where he was hospitalized overnight. Arispe and her children were taken by ambulance to Schleicher County Medical Center where they were treated and released.



photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Jun. 15, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Shaw sells motel, bids farewell to Eldorado

by Kathy Mankin

After 37 years, Shaw's Motel is changing ownership. On June 13, 2000 Janet Marlow, a retired teacher from Mertzon, took over operation of the motel.

Edith Shaw and her sister, Christine Hodges will be leaving Eldorado to live in Granbury where they have relatives living nearby.

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photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Sept. 14, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

WIND! Much needed rainfall accompanies damaging wind

A line of thunderstorms pushed through Schleicher County about 4:00 p.m. Tuesday afternoon, bringing desperately needed rain to much of the area. Lightning triggered at least two grass fires as the storm pushed southward but the fires were short-lived as heavy rain quickly extinguished them.

South of Eldorado, Schleicher County ISD's exhibit building lost its roof as violent easterly winds peeled the sheet metal off the structure at about 4:25 p.m. Most of the metal was blown across U.S. Highway 277, coming to rest in and around Halbert Propane's yard.

Jack Halbert, who was in his office at the time of the storm said that he was trying to close the office door when it blew open, sending him flying across the room. About then, a piece of lumber crashed through his office window and sheet metal from the Ag barn across the road began piling up just outside the building.

"It sounded like a freight train," Halbert said. "I just waited for it to blow over."

Jane Kosub, who watched a similar storm take the roof off of a barn at her family's ranch on April 19th of this year, witnessed this event, too. According to her husband, Jim Kosub, as she approached the Ag barn on U.S. 277, high winds blew the roof across the road in front of her.

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS looking back at the year 2000



Sept. 14, 2000 edition Sept. 21, 2000 edition

Medicare ruling forces end to SCMC contract with Shannon

The Schleicher County Hospital District and Shannon Medical Center have jointly consented to end the 2½ year agreement, under which Shannon has operated the Schleicher County Family Clinic, located at the hospital. Both sides are saying that the move became necessary after a ruling by the Health Care Finance Administration (HCFA), the agency that administers the Medicare program. That ruling, which is slated to take effect on Oct. 10, 2000, requires that outpatient departments of hospital's such as Shannon send 75 percent of referrals back to the parent hospital. In the case of the local clinic, the bulk of the hospital,

Solution to puzzle on Page 2

S	O	P	B	A	G	S	A	T	A	C	T	
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X-ray and laboratory referrals are being made to Schleicher County Medical Center.

"It just became impossible for Shannon to continue here in light of the new HCFA ruling," Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook stated. "We looked for ways around the rule but there aren't any."

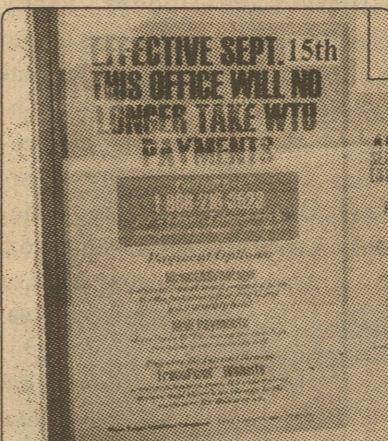


photo by Kathy Mankin

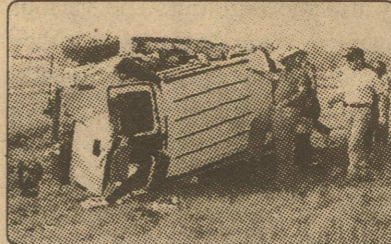
Reported in the Sept. 21, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

WTU office closed

West Texas Utilities office in Eldorado closed its doors on Sept. 15, 2000 and will no longer handle customer transactions

"While we announced in February that the office would remain open until Sept. 30, 2000, personnel changes have made it necessary for us to discontinue taking 'walk-in' payments sooner than we had originally planned," said Sharon Tinsley, WTU area business manager.

All local phone calls to the Eldorado office are being forwarded to the WTU customer service representatives who will handle requests for service connection or disconnection, account information, outage reports or to answer other questions. For customer service, the toll-free number to call is 1-888-216-3523.



courtesy photo

Reported in the Sept. 28, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Head-on collision claims life of Ozona woman

An Ozona woman was killed last Thursday in a head-on collision with an Eldorado man on State Highway 163, eight miles north of Ozona.

Sue Burns, 60, was pronounced dead at the scene by Crockett County Justice of the Peace James Hearne, according to a report from the Department of Public Safety.

Merced Solis, 33, was transported to Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo in critical condition. Early reports that he suffered a broken leg, have not been confirmed.

According to a DPS accident report, at around 5 p.m., Solis was driving north along the shoulder, on the wrong side of the road. Burns, driving a 2000 Chevrolet Suburban was headed south on 163 when she apparently saw Solis' vehicle and attempted to avoid the collision. The pickup then struck the suburban on the left front causing it to turn counterclockwise and roll into the ditch, the report stated.



courtesy photo

Reported in the Sept. 28, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Lane shoots Hole-In-One

Barry Lane made a Hole-In-One last Friday at the Eldorado Golf Course. He scored his ace on the first hole using a nine iron. The shot was witnessed by Tip Finley, Tommy Hunley and Tom Gray.

Barry is the new rural carrier for the Eldorado post office.



photo by Kathy Mankin



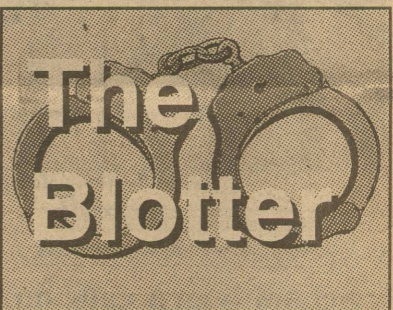
photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Oct. 5, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Vernell McCalla honored for 10 years as an ombudsman by TDoA

"Tough Enough To Care! Be There" was inscribed a plaque Vernell McCalla received during a luncheon recognizing Nursing Home Resident's Rights Week. The luncheon held on September 27, 2000 was sponsored by the Regional Advisory Committee on Aging. McCalla is a certified ombudsman who has given her time and love to the many Schleicher County Nursing Residents. She began serving in 1990 after responding to a plea from Governor Ann Richards for volunteers for this honorable service. She traveled to Austin to take the course to be certified. Time has change things for the better now the course is offered in San Angelo, Texas.

Vernell was presented a plaque from the Texas Department on Aging in Austin, recognizing her 10 years of commitment. She is one of the many certified volunteer ombudsmen who focus on the resident's right to be treated with dignity and to listen to the family concerns, resolve complaints or provide information and assistance.



Due to the holiday schedule at the Success office, there will be no Blotter in this week's issue. Please look for the Blotter to return in next week's edition.

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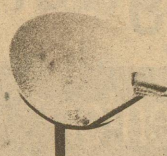
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Thank You!

As the Eldorado Success completes its 99th year in print, we wish to thank our loyal advertisers who have made the Success a success. Without your continued support, a weekly newspaper in Eldorado would not be possible. We greatly appreciate each of you and wish you all the best in the New Year. We look forward to 2001 when we will be celebrating our 100th anniversary and invite each of you to come by the Success office for a visit. Once again, thank you, and may God bless each of you.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of John Daniel Atkins, Deceased, were issued on November 28, 2000, in Cause No. 74625, pending in Probate Court 1 of Travis County Texas. The resident and post office address of the Independent Executrix is 8403 Staunton Drive, Austin, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Claims may be presented in care of Kay Lively, Attorney at Law, 3300 Killingsworth Lane, #252, Pflugerville, TX, 78660, and the attorney for the Estate. Dated this 1st day of December 2000.



photo by Randy Mankin

Reported in the Oct. 19, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Blazing tank battery

The first firefighters on the scene at this tank battery fire Sunday, sprayed water on an adjoining tank to cool it down while awaiting for other units to arrive. The fire, believed to have been caused by lightning, occurred on Discovery Operating Company's "Box A #1" lease. In all, four units responded to the scene and the fire was quickly extinguished with foam.

Reported in the Oct. 19, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

FSA announces new wool & mohair program

The Schleicher County Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced a new, one-time only, wool and mohair program created to assist sheep and goat producers endure the low prices they are receiving for the sale of their shorn commodities.

The Wool and Mohair Market Loss Assistance Program (WAMLAP) provides 20 cents per pound for wool and 40 cents per pound for mohair to farmers who shorn their livestock during the 1999 marketing year and are still correctly in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products.

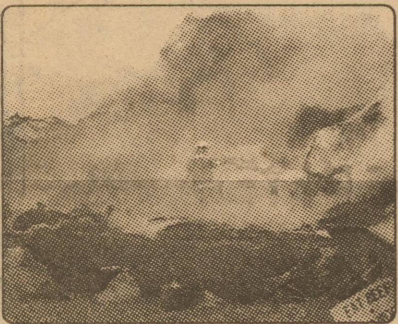


photo by Gerry Gamel, Mason County News

Reported in the Oct. 19, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

One killed in Mason wreck, Case Ranch loses 7 bulls in fiery crash

One man was dead and another remains in serious condition after a truck driven by Francisco Diederna, 45, of New Burg, New York, collided with a 1-ton flat bed pickup truck and trailer hauling 8 bulls from the Case Ranch in Schleicher County, on Friday, October 13, 2000. According to investigators, Diederna's truck turned in front of the flat-bed truck at the intersection of State Hwy. 29 and U.S. Hwy. 377, 5 miles west of Mason.

Billy Joe Haney, 76, former Sheriff of Menard County, drove the 1-ton Dodge pickup. He was hauling 8 bulls from the Case Ranch in Schleicher County to a sale in Fredericksburg. Haney was taken by Starflight helicopter to University Hospital in San Antonio, where he remains in serious condition. His passenger, Guillermo Lopez, 45, of Menard, was treated for head injuries and released from Heart of Texas Hospital in Brady.

Diederna, was trapped in his burning truck. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Diederna was employed by Anderson Trucking. He was hauling a load of empty bottles at the time of the wreck.

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Reported in the Oct. 26, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Mighty Eagle Band...a tradition of excellence

The Mighty Eagle Band took to the field under a glooming sky last Saturday to claim their 17th consecutive Division "1" rating at the Region VII Marching Contest in Brady's Bulldog Stadium.

The 94-member Eagle Band was the first to compete in the AA conference and turned in an near perfect performance as heavy rains approached the stadium from the southeast. Just as the band completed its three selections and exited the field to the cheers of Eagle Band fans, the sky opened and a two hour long downpour followed, forcing the remaining seven bands in the contest to march and played in the rain.



photo by Randy Mankin

Reported in the Oct. 26, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

School will replace damaged Ag building

SCISD trustees opted Monday evening to accept an insurance settlement of \$62,147.00 for wind damage to the school's agriculture exhibit barn and to invest that money in completely rebuilding the structure. The board was in general agreement to tear down the barn's remaining walls and roof structure and replace it with a larger (60 ft. X 75 ft.) single-span steel building. The board voted unanimously to call for bids on the project with final design approval to come at a future meeting.

In a related matter, the board agreed by consensus to give all the damaged sheet metal from the barn to the Eldorado Woolen Mill, a local non-profit corporation. County Agent Nancy Lester had offered a request on behalf of the Woolen Mill foundation.

Reported in the Oct. 26, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

EHS C-Country teams advance to Regional

Eldorado High School's boys and girls Cross Country teams will each advance to Regional Cross Country meet in Lubbock, after a strong showing at the District 2-2A meet in Carlsbad on Monday, Oct. 23. The meet, held in the San Angelo State School Park was hosted by Grape Creek High

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS
looking back at the year 2000



Oct. 19, 2000 edition Oct. 26, 2000 edition Nov. 9, 2000 edition Nov. 23, 2000 edition

Reported in the Nov. 9, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Doran, Mayo, Griffin win local races

As Election 2000 lingered into the early morning hours on the national level, here in Schleicher County the story was much the same as election workers toiled into the wee hours of the morning counting nearly 500 ballots cast in early voting. When the counting was done however, Republican Sheriff David Doran won re-election over Democratic challenger Joe Dombroski by 741 to 434 votes. In Precinct 1, Democratic County Commissioner Johnny Mayo defeated Republican challenger Ricky Fuessel by a vote of 198 to 59. Precinct 3 went to Democrat Kirk Griffin who polled 96 votes to Republican Ronnie Mittel's 94 in the race to replace incumbent Commissioner Steve Minor, who chose not to seek re-election.

Reported in the Nov. 9, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Game Dinner held on courthouse square

A crowd of 400-450 enthusiastic sportsmen and women gathered last Saturday on the Courthouse Square to enjoy the annual Eldorado Game Association Annual Dinner. Excitement grew as the draw-

School where Athletic Director Doug Kuhlmann presented 1st Place medals to the boys and girls teams from Wall. Eldorado's boys and girls teams each received 2nd Place medals and the right to advance to the Regional Meet on November 4.

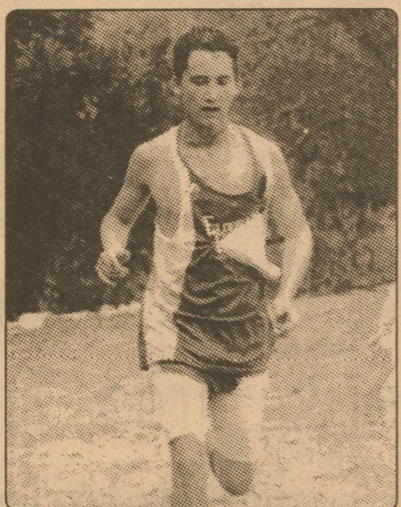


photo by Kathy Mankin

Reported in the Oct. 26, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

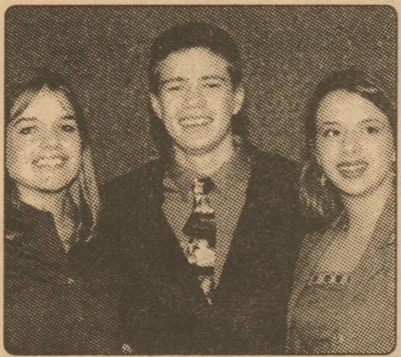
Local youths claim 4-H Gold Star Awards

Three Eldorado 4-H members were among 37 youth honored October 30 during the annual District 7 4-H Gold Star Banquet in Abilene's Briarstone Manor.

Brittany Key, Kayla McCravey, and Dest Sudduth, all members of the Schleicher County 4-H Club were joined by 34 other area 4-H club members at the ceremony.

The Gold Star Award is the highest honor given to a 4-H member on the county level by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Winners were picked by a local committee based on their personal development, leadership, achievement in 4-H projects and on activities and contributions made to the overall 4-H program.

Reported in the Nov. 9, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success



courtesy photo

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ings for various sports related merchandise, including 42 rifles and shotguns began at approximately 12:00 noon. Cloudy skies and a little mud didn't dampen the spirit of those in attendance. The dinner was relocated to the square due to the Ag Barn having been destroyed by high winds a couple of months ago.

championship. The first half was all Eldorado as the Eagles found the end zone on three occasions. Offensively, the Eagles moved the ball very well, both on the ground and through the air. Defensively, the Eagles contained an explosive Badger offense.

Reported in the Nov. 23, 2000 edition of the Eldorado Success

Eagles maul McCamey 30-6 to win Bi-District championship

The Eldorado Eagles took on the McCamey Badgers last Friday night and came away with a 30-6 Bi-District win. Statistically the game appeared to be much closer than it was. However, Eldorado took full advantage of McCamey miscues and controlled the game from start to finish. The Eagles will travel to Coahoma tomorrow to take on the New Deal Lions tomorrow at 2 p.m. for the Area Cham-



photo by Randy Mankin

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PURE RESOURCES, L.P., 500 WEST ILLINOIS, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for Capacity Oil Allowables for Secondary or Tertiary Recovery Projects as stated by SWR 48.

Request is made for the Wade Lease, RRC ID Number 12283, in the Ramon (Leonard) Field in Schleicher County, RRC District 7C. This Field is located approximately 4 miles west of Eldorado.

Company contact for Pure Resources, L.P. is Laura Clepper, 915/498-8600.

Protests of this application, requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be addressed to the Railroad Commission of Texas, Engineering Section, Oil and Gas Division, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512/463-1825).

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During 2000

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



published 52 weekly issues containing 452 pages

On those pages were reported the happenings in and around Schleicher County. There were births and deaths...car wrecks and house fires. The Eldorado Eagles athletic achievements were detailed, as were the academic accomplishments of Eldorado students.

Important issues addressed by the local governing bodies were reported in detail. Crime reports and arrests were outlined each week in "The Blotter".

Club activities were spotlighted and community gatherings promoted. Church functions were announced as were numerous charitable events.

The Success kept its readers up to date on Eldorado students attending college and regularly printed "Military News" to spotlight the whereabouts and accomplishments of our young men and women serving in the armed forces.

In short, the Eldorado Success covered Eldorado. It has been our pleasure and we look forward to doing it all over again in the year 2000!

Happy New Year!