



The Devil's River News



Volume 121 • Issue 8

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, February 19, 2009

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High School Debate Team Argue Their Way to State



Photo By James Ricks

The district champion debate team of Alexis Galindo (left) and Kash McGee's (right) next step is state.

By Ben D. Taylor

When people hear the word debate, we automatically associate it with an argument. To compare a debate with an argument would be like comparing a baseball bat with a surgical scalpel. In an argument (or at least every argument I have taken part in), there are no rules or time limit, and the winner is usually not decided by logic but by volume level. The art of debate (as it is competitively practiced) is more appropriately defined as a refined clash of opposing points

of view where success is defined by intelligence and strategy over brute force. A typical round of debate lasts over an hour and is an exercise of mental endurance where picking apart an opposing team's case requires a surgeon's skill of wit and logic. In a sport where the difference between success and failure can be a single phrase, the Sonora High School's debate team of Kash McGee and Alexis Galindo has earned their place among the state's best High School

debaters with a season record of 13 wins and 3 losses.

Kash and Alexis practice a form of debate called Cross Examination, where two different teams of debaters clash over a topic that changes each year. The topic (or resolution) for 2009 is, "the U.S. federal government should substantially increase alternative energy incentives in the United States". The teams are required to prepare for the possibility either supporting the resolution by forming

a plan (very similar to a legislative bill of action), or attacking their opponent's plan. The side a debate team takes is determined minutes before each round, usually by a coin toss (very similar to defense and offense in a football game). In the course of a debate season, the teams spend hours building evidence against any possible plan and building the strength of their own case.

These two Sophomores recently won the district debate tournament and will be representing Sonora at the Class 2-A High School State Debate tournament in Austin March 15th-16th. Sonora Drama Coach Cy Scroggins commented that, "these girls have worked extremely hard to get here. It takes a lot of work (especially in debate) to get this far". Kash and Alexis realize that winning district is just the first part of their road to state as Alexis commented, "We are working harder now that we have made it to state, and right now we are working on our negative strategies and building on our case". A case that would be impressive for a college level student as it combines a solid economic funding plan and breakthrough research in microbiology (even more impressive once you take into account how successful these girls have been

in defending it). In addition to preparation for competition, the team is also planning on participating in mock debates with teams from Iraan and Medina.

The team of McGee and Galindo have made it to state, and know that getting there is only half the battle, "we are going to state biting and scratching. We are going to give everything we have to end up on top", commented Alexis. Kash added that their success was due in part to sacrifice and the help of others, "We have sacrificed tons of time to get here. I am involved in everything from cheerleading to track, and could not have gotten here without the help of so many people. I would like to thank Carol Love, Denise Arispe and Cy Scroggins." Alexis mirrored Kash's humility in thanking those that got them where they are, "I want to thank Kash, Lauren Shaffer, Carol Love and Cy Scroggins."

The success of this debate team at state will be defined by perseverance, logical creativity and above all, teamwork. After speaking with the team of McGee and Galindo I have no reservation that they have all the necessary skills to be a success at state. Congratulations girls, and good luck!

Sonora Graduate Shines at Louisiana Tech



Louisiana Tech Athletics Department

Louisiana Tech head coach Sarah Dawson hopes that 2009 is just a continuation of the success that last year's Lady Techster softball team experienced after they won the Western Athletic Conference Tournament title and participated in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1995.

The outlook for 2009 is bright. After losing only two key contributors from last years team, Regan Clark and Mandi Bertsch, expectations

are high for LA Tech. After posting a 37-29 mark, finishing fourth in the highly-competitive WAC, capturing the conference tournament title, participating in the NCAA Tournament and defeating SEC Auburn twice before falling to eventual national runner-up Texas A&M, Dawson knows her team is eager to do even more. Tech opens its season Feb. 10 at Northwestern State and hopes to be playing well into

late May and early June as they chase yet another tournament berth.

One of the main reasons for LA Tech's incredible run to the post-season last year was a very talented, yet young, pitching staff. As a staff, the LA Tech hurlers recorded a 2.47 earned run average in 2008, more than a run and a half improvement from the previous season. The nucleus of the staff returns are senior Krissi Oliver, and sophomores Meghan Krieg, Wanda Malone and Jordan Simmons.

Krieg was one of three true freshmen pitchers to see action last year and she responded in veteran-like fashion. Krieg, who was named honorable mention all-state by the LSWA, made 27 appearances while registering a 7-3 record and a team best 1.66 ERA. Krieg also tied the LA Tech single season record for saves with four while holding opponents to a .181 batting average. The Sonora, Texas native struck out 99 and walked only 38 in 80.1 innings of action. "Meghan had a very successful year as a freshman," Dawson said. "She worked well as a reliever last year, and we are looking for her to transition into a starter for us this season. Meghan has great movement and has worked hard developing her off speed. As her confidence grows she is going to be tough to beat."



Chamber director Donna Garrett (center) presents a check to Sutton County Arena Improvement Committee President Curry Campbell (right) and Committee Treasurer Elizabeth Schenkel (left).

Chamber of Commerce Donates \$25,000 to Rodeo Arena

Submitted

At the monthly Board Meeting held Thursday, February 12th the Sonora Chamber of Commerce presented the Sutton County Arena Improvement Committee with a check for \$25,000. Proponents of the arena have been hard at work for some time and have completed Phase 1 of this vital improvement project. Phase 2 will involve the construction of new box seats and additional funds are needed to complete that portion of the plan. Recognizing The Sutton County Rodeo Arena as one of Sonora's most valuable assets, and the important economic impact this facility can have on the future of Sonora, the Chamber of Commerce has again partnered with the Arena Committee to help bring their vision to life. Chamber director Donna Garrett commented, "with the current economic downturn, it is more important than ever that we focus on our tourism assets and the arena is a top priority."

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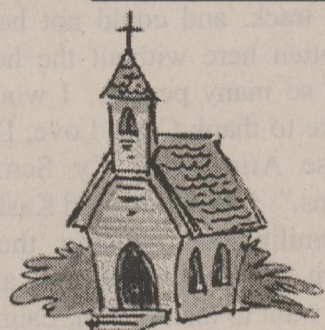
Senior Center Activities

- Thur. Feb. 19- Happy Birthday *Antonia Luna*
Birthday Party for February babies @ noon
- Fri. Feb. 20- Run errands and pay bills after lunch
- Mon. Feb. 23- Bingo
- Tues. Feb. 24- Exercise with video
- Wed. Feb. 25- Happy Birthday Angie-staff, Ash Wednesday

Senior Center Menu

- Thur. Feb. 19- Ground beef w/vermicelli, pinto beans, milk flour tortilla, tossed salad and mixed fruit cup
- Fri. Feb. 20- Chicken fajita salad, tomato wedges and lettuce, macaroni salad, tortilla chips, pumpkin pie and milk
- Mon. Feb. 23- Chicken fried steak w/gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed veggies, rolls, orange and milk
- Tues. Feb. 24- Hot dog w/chili & cheese, chips, pineapple waldorf salad, brownies and milk
- Wed. Feb. 25- Fried catfish, corn, California mix, hush puppies, bread pudding w/raisins and milk

Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older.
Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m.
Donations are accepted
(suggested donation for Seniors is \$1.50; \$4.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go).



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387-9100

St. John's Episcopal Church
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Pentecostal Calvary Temple United
509 Amistad
387-5266

First United Methodist Church
201 N. Water
387-2466

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Letter to the Editor

To whom it may concern,

For four days there has been Raw Sewage coming out of the manhole at the bottom of the draw on Wardlaw Street between the intersections of Mesquite and Orient Ave. We have called everyday and nothing has been done. There is stinky sewage flowing down the draw, seeping into the ground.

Something needs to be done. There aren't even cones put out to stop drivers or children on bicycles from going through the sewage. Not only is this a public health hazard, but an environmental one as well.

Please do something about this.

Brook Wood

Thank You Note

In early December of 2008, our loved one began her journey home to our Father in heaven. We traveled to Sonora as our family gathered to honor and celebrate our mother and grandmother's life. The Castro family shared memories and reminisced about our wonderful times with "our Ama," Ysidra Castro. We whispered our "I love you" in her ear, we gave her our last kisses, and we shed tears as we said our farewell to her.

With gratitude, we would like to thank the Guadalupanas of St. Ann's Catholic Church for their warm home cooked meal.

We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to our family, Alex and Charlotte Castro for their hospitality in the days following Ama's passing. You both were and are of great comfort to our entire family.

God Bless you, thank you and we love you.

Your Grand Prairie, TX. family,

Lydia Castro; Patsy, Adrianna, Stephen and Catie Blackman; Michael Blackman and Courtney Cox; Cissy, John, Greg and Brittany Crimm; Delsa and Ray Gomez; Gloria Vasquez

Obituary



Earlie Williams, III

Earlie Williams, III, age 55, a lifelong resident of Kerrville, passed away Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at his residence. He was born May 22, 1953 in Big Lake, TX to Earlie Williams, Jr. and Patricia Mae Comer Williams.

Earlie was the owner and operator of Big Earl's Bar B Que and Solid Gold Night Club in Kerrville. He was a member of the state champion team of Tivy High School. He was also a member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Survivors include daughters, Vanessa Jeanette Williams of Euless, Patricia Dickerson of Kerrville and Erica Koonce of Norfolk, VA; sons, Earlie Williams, IV and wife, Dora of Sonora and Shafton Dimery of Kerrville; brothers, Gezeta Williams of San Antonio and Shelly Williams of Kerrville; grandchildren, Iris McAfee, Dekota Morrow, William Van Morris and Carlie Madison Williams.

Services were held Friday, February 13, 2009, 2:00 P.M. at Grimes Funeral Chapels officiated by Pastor David Schuler and interment followed at Garden of Memories North.

Pallbearers will be Ralph Hardee, Jim Priour, Stuart Caulkins, Edward Uballe, Bobby Pickens, Frankie Enloe, Clifton Leda, Mark Lemeilleur, Mark Cowden, Harold Hardee and Clifton Fifer, Jr.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 8415 Wurzbach, San Antonio, TX 78229.

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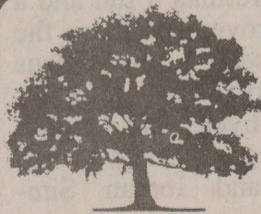
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication. The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of The Devil's River Newspaper.

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Happy Birthday!

February 19

Michael I. Solis, Antonia Luna, John Valdez,
Paul Ramsdell, Curtis E. Lipham, Corbin Geske,
Madison McGavock, Brianna Reyna

February 20

Tyler Paganucci, Dustin Crittendon,
Wilma Villanueva, Curly Faulks

February 21

Jimmy Crowder, Nevada Payne, Owne Freiss,
Hector Michael Garrilo, Amanda Rubalca

February 22

Ben Ingham, Emilce Hernandez, Terri Slaugh,
Kate Jennings, Lewis Baker, Jacque Baker

February 23

Katrina Ramos, Curtis Lipham, Karen Hill

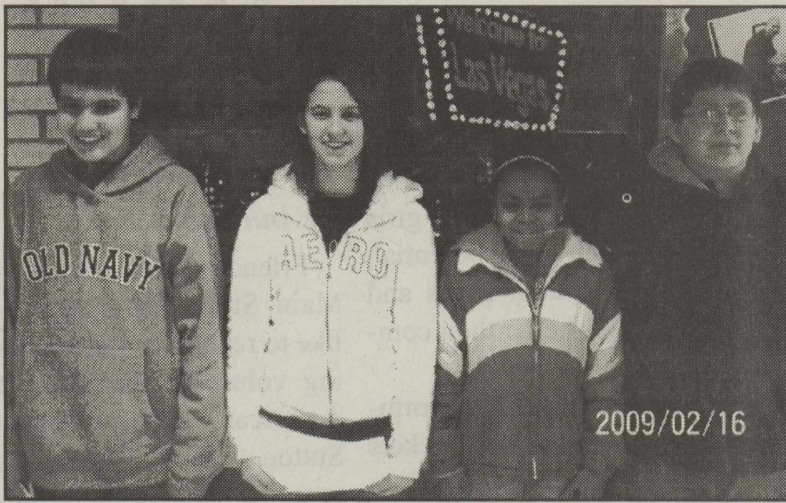
February 24

Carlie Gandar, Chris Castro,
Brad Legan, Elizabeth Zapata

February 25

Abel Longoria, Velma Mata, Ralph Gonzales, Jr.,
Philip Bedwell, Gene Gibbens, Kari Bowers

Sonora Middle School Students of the Week



Sonora Middle School Students of the Week sponsored by Sonic Drive-In. 5th Grade – Juan Gazmin, 6th Grade – Jazmin Ramos, 7th Grade – Harley Johnson, 8th Grade – Mi-caela Moore. Congratulations to these students!

A Blonde Kidnapping

Submitted

A blonde, out of money and down on her luck after buying air at a real bargain, needed money desperately. To raise cash, she decided to kidnap a child and hold him for ransom.

She went to the local playground, grabbed a kid randomly, took her behind a building, and told her, "I've kidnapped you." She then wrote a big note saying, "I've kidnapped your kid. Tomorrow morning, put \$10,000 in a paper bag and leave it under the apple tree next to the slides on the south side of the playground. Signed, A blonde."

The blonde then pinned the note to the kid's shirt and sent him home to show it to his parents. The next morning the blonde checked, and sure enough, a paper bag was sitting beneath the apple tree.

The blonde looked in the bag and found the \$10,000 with a note that said, "How could you do this to a fellow blonde?"

Hobbs Graduates From Texas A&M



Sonora Graduate Morgan Hobbs receives her degree in Kinesiology from Texas A&M University December 2008.

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F.Y.I.

The Sutton County Commissioners Court has enacted a Burn Ban and a Fireworks Ban, prohibiting all outdoor burning and all fireworks until further notice.

Interested in Emergency Medical Medicine? Sutton County EMS and BSA are looking for youth between 14 and 20 years of age to participate in a local Emergency Medical Exploring Post. Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults in a certain career. For more information, please contact: Roberta Tanguma 325-277-7189.

Depot is now ready for rent!
For more information please call 387-5084. Tues. & Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Survivors & Caregiver Registration: Sutton County Relay For Life will be on May 8 - 9, 2009. Come join us for the ACS Relay For Life Celebration for Survivors & Caregivers. If you wish to register as a Caregiver or Survivor for this event, please call Marisa Faz 325-387-2041 or Dani Dillard @ 512-633-0069.

Fundraiser for Liberty Park Veterans Memorial Wall-Buy a permanently engraved brick for the new sidewalks at Liberty Park. We are raising money for the engraving of the names to go on the Memorial Wall. 4x8 brick \$35.00, 8x8 brick \$60.00, 12x12 \$150.00-with logos. Pick up forms at The Bank & Trust or City Hall.

Liberty Park Veterans Memorial Wall-Submit a veterans name to be engraved on the wall-Include the name of the veteran, branch of service, submitted by, mailing address. Veterans must be a residents or former residents of Sonora or Sutton County. Mail to: Liberty Park Veterans Wall, PO Box 824, Sonora, TX 76950. You can also pick up a form at The Bank & Trust or City Hall.

2009 Sutton County Relay for Life - If you are interested in having a team or would like to walk at the Relay for Life, Please contact Mariah at mariah.castro@fnbsonora.com or 325-226-0680.

The Daddy Daughter Date Nite will be held on February 20, 2009 at the Sutton County Civic Center from 7-9 pm. Tickets will be \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. The theme for this event will be "Rock Star Diva". FMI contact the Sonora Chamber of Commerce at 325-387-2880.

Sonora Woman's Club will meet at noon on March 5th.

If anyone has any information about the break-in of the Relay For Life storage shed at the Frontier Mini Storage please contact Stacy Fisher (325) 226-4453. Many items that we need to put on a successful event this year were taken and we would love to have them back.

Ft. McKavett State Historic Site will be hosting the Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society's Spring Star Party on March 21, 2009. The Star Party is FREE.

Fellow Friends and Co-Workers. A trust fund has been set up at the First National Bank of Sonora. Anyone interested in making a donation (Tax Deductable) to Roy J. while he is recovering from his accident can do so by Cash or Check. Make checks payable to: Sutton County Community Trust, and on the memo line write: Roy J Eisenbach Jr. Drop payments off at the bank or give them to Pat Day or Randy Sparks. Thank you Very Much.



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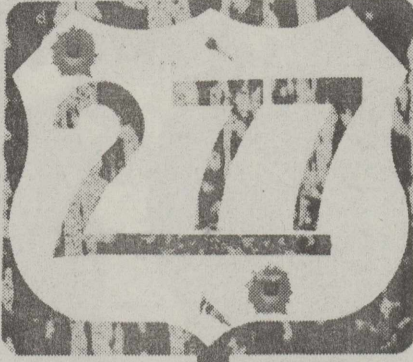
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Women of Distinction Honorees Announced

Tickets currently on sale for March 12 awards luncheon



Sonora resident Linda Love was recently honored as a Woman of Distinction for her work with the Girls Scouts of Central Texas.

Austin, Texas, February 12—The Girl Scouts of Central Texas is proud to announce the 2009 Women of Distinction honorees for the San Angelo area. We will celebrate the accomplishments of the following distinguished women at the annual awards luncheon on March 12, 2009 at the San Angelo Convention Center:

- Helen Adams, San Angelo
- Antonia "Toni" Gonzales, San Angelo
- Barbara Hesse, San Angelo
- **Linda Love, Sonora**
- Margaret Mallard, San Angelo
- Monette Molinar, San Angelo
- Kary Wilshusen Rawlings, Bronte
- Brownie Roberts, San Angelo

The Women of Distinction luncheon celebrates distinguished women who are outstanding members of the community. The honorees demonstrate individual excellence and are role models for all of our members, girls and adults alike. Their achievements illustrate that with hard work and perseverance, anything can be accomplished.

"By recognizing these women, we provide our members with positive role models," says James Pidgeon, Development Executive, Girl Scouts of Central Texas, San Angelo, "Our honorees have made the Concho Valley a better place to live, and they will leave a legacy not only for Girl Scouts but for everyone. I cannot think of a better way to honor these women for making right choices and for serving their community."

Main Street Traffic

"Pray for A Cure"

By Ann Kay

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program would like to recognize the outstanding volunteer for 2009: The American Cancer Society Sutton County Unit. Each year we look for the group or person who has given their time and talent to the community. As you all know, cancer takes away and robs us of our loved ones. The Sutton County Unit plans the successful "Relay for Life" each year. The funds go to find a cure for Cancer and also to support the loved ones we have in our community and all around the world. I have been told that if you are kind to each other and care for each other, God smiles and blesses you. I would like to express my appreciation to the folks who work hard every year planning these events; Noemi Samaniego, Linda Fisher, Loma Surber, Ada Castilleja, Kelly Thorp, Betty Stephen, Smith Neal, Maria Carrasco, Erika Morriss, Dr. Kristy Edwards, and Stacy Fisher.

Tickets for the Women of Distinction luncheon are now on sale. Proceeds from the event will benefit local Girl Scout leadership programs that are designed to help girls discover their own potential, connect with their peers and take action to better their communities.

For sponsorship opportunities and to purchase tickets for the Women of Distinction luncheon, contact James Pidgeon at (800) 688-2845 or JamesP@gscctx.org. For Girl Scout membership information, contact Mary Elva Luna at (800) 688-2845 or MaryElvaL@gscctx.org.

About Girl Scouts of Central Texas:

Girl Scouts of Central Texas serves more than 20,000 girls in grades K-12 and nearly 12,000 adult volunteers across 46 Central Texas counties. Headquartered in Austin, Girl Scouts of Central Texas has program centers in Brownwood, Bryan, Killeen, San Angelo and Waco. Through outcomes-based leadership opportunities, girls discover their own potential, connect with others and take action to improve their communities. Girl Scouting offers an array of fun, educational programs focusing on fine arts, science and technology, math, the environment, community service and life skills. Girl Scouts lead with courage, confidence and character, to make the world a better place. For more information, visit www.gscctx.org.

May we take a moment out of our day and "Pray for a Cure" to end terrible cancer. There will be some pink ribbons around town to remind us to "Pray for a Cure". If you meet some of the outstanding folks who have supported and worked very hard to plan the "Relay For Life" event, please tell them how much you appreciate them.

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Submitted

Three people were on a plane. One said to the pilot, "I have a glass bottle. What do I do with it?" The pilot told him to throw it out the window. The second one asked the same question and the pilot also told him to throw it out the window. The third one asked the pilot, "I have a bomb. What do I do with it?" The pilot told him to throw it out the window. When they landed they met a man crying. When asked why he was crying, he replied, "Because I got hit in the head with a glass bottle. They met a woman who was crying for the same reason. Then they met a man laughing. They asked him why he was laughing and he replied, "Because I walked by a building and passed gas. Then the building blew up."

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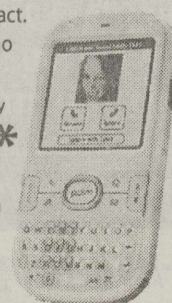
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Feral Hog/Vehicle Collisions Up

Vehicle damage averages about \$1,200 per incident

By Robert Burns

OVERTON – Last November, over a period of a couple of days, Armon Hewitt counted at least six road-killed feral hogs on the 10-mile stretch of state highway he drives daily to and from the Texas AgriLife Extension Service office for Trinity County in Groveton.

“Evidently, the deer hunt-

ers were driving them out of the woods during hunting season,” Hewitt said. “There’s a deep ditch alongside the highway, and the hogs, being usually black, are hard to see at night. They try to outrun the cars and lose.”

And there are other signs of hog-car “interactions,” Hewitt said.

“I was seeing a lot of cars bashed up,” he said. “When one of those little cars, like a Honda, hits one, it pretty much demolishes the front end.”

Hewitt isn’t the only AgriLife Extension agent to report an increase in feral-hog vehicle collisions.

“There was one hit right across from the high school

the other day,” said Blaine Jernigan, AgriLife Extension agent for Rusk County in Henderson. “And before that there was one on the loop. It’s getting pretty common.”

Last fall, Palestine residents were seeing lots of hogs. They were coming into the center of town and getting hit by cars, said Mark Price, AgriLife Extension agent for Anderson County.

“Then about deer-hunting season they disappeared,” Price said.

But Price, who is no stranger to the activities of feral hogs is sure, that like Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Terminator, “they’ll be back.”

“One morning, we’ll wake up and they will have rotated back to Palestine,” he said. And lightweight cars aren’t the only vehicles at risk to hog collisions.

“A buddy of mine who drives a logging truck hit one last fall,” said Crispin Skinner, at Prairie View-Texas A&M Cooperative Extension agent in Nacogdoches County.

“He hit that 400-pound bad boy and had to have the whole front end of his truck rebuilt,” Skinner said.

Feral hog/vehicle collisions seem to be increasing in Texas, said Dr. Billy Higginbotham, AgriLife Extension fisheries and wildlife specialist based in Overton.

“Common sense dictates that as feral hog populations in Texas have increased over the past two decades, so have hog/vehicle collisions,” he said.

In addition to many feral hogs being out at night, there are other reasons why they are particularly prone to be a road hazard, Higginbotham said.

“Feral hogs lack the ‘eyeshine’ that reflects the light

from headlights that deer and many other vertebrates have,” he said.

This eyeshine is caused by a reflective layer behind the deer’s retina called a tapetum lucidum, Latin for “bright tapestry,” he said. It can make the difference between the motorist seeing the animal in time or not.

“Take a scenario where you have a black hog on a black-surfaced road on a moonless night, and sometimes the motorist just does not have time to react and take evasive action,” Higginbotham said.

Another factor at play in increased collisions is the continued encroachment of urban development into rural areas, he said. Wooded areas, which make new housing divisions attractive to home buyers, offer cover for feral hogs too.

Higginbotham cited a 2007 study by John Mayer, Washington Savannah River Company, Aiken, S.C. and Paul Johns, Carolina Wildlife Consultants, that characterized vehicle-hog collisions over a 38-year period on the Savannah River Site in South Carolina.

Findings included: – Ninety percent of the accidents involved single animals.

– Most of the accidents occurred in the summer and winter months.

– Forty-five percent of all accidents occurred at night,

with dawn and dusk accidents second (morning and evening commutes) and broad daylight accidents a distant third.

– Several studies report that collisions increase during times of drought and during breeding season as a result of increased hog movements. – Six percent of the accidents caused human injuries. However, some secondary accidents occurred as drivers took evasive action to avoid hitting hogs that were already road killed.

– Vehicle damage averaged \$1,173 per incident.

“Based on this study, potential annual cost of wild pig/vehicle collisions (vehicle damage and occupant injury) in the U.S. would be approximately \$36 million annually,” Higginbotham said.

Higginbotham noted that in Texas alone, agricultural damage – primarily destruction of crops and pastures – caused by feral hogs is estimated to be \$52 million annually.

“This does not include vehicle/hog collisions and damage to urban/suburban areas including recreational areas like parks, golf courses and landscapes,” he said.

Consider Wildlife When Planning Herbicide Use

By Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County Agricultural Extension Agent

Herbicides are an important part of ranching practices to control brush or weeds that limit forage production and hamper livestock handling. Sometimes, however, herbicides may reduce the value of rangelands as wildlife habitat. As stewards of the land and natural resources, ranchers should strive to use pesticides properly in order to minimize environmental risks on their land.

Rangeland supports native plants such as grasses, forbs (herbaceous broadleaf plants), cacti and woody shrubs. These are food for both livestock and wildlife. Rangelands also are important as watersheds and recreational areas.

Herbicides affect wildlife directly when animals are exposed to chemicals, or indirectly when wildlife habitat is altered. The toxicity of a herbicide is usually expressed as its LD50 (lethal dose). The LD50 of a particular chemical is the dose that kills 50 percent of the animals exposed to it. For any species, the lower

the LD50 the more toxic the chemical. With the exception of paraquat (Gramoxone®), all herbicides registered for use on rangelands in Texas are of low toxicity to birds and mammals. Only 2,4-D and paraquat are moderately toxic to fish.

The main risk to wildlife from herbicides is habitat alteration. Wildlife rely on rangelands for food and shelter. Many “weeds” in the agricultural context are important food sources for a variety of birds and other animals.

The needs of wildlife should always be considered when planning brush control programs. Before using chemicals, ask yourself some questions. Is herbicide use the most appropriate control method considering the site, the wildlife species present and the land manager’s goals?

What amount of land and what density, composition and arrangement of brush are necessary to provide the desired wildlife habitat? What management actions are needed to

improve vegetation, and are these actions used for the sake of livestock, wildlife or both?

Woody plants and forbs react differently to various herbicides, especially to foliar broadcast treatments. Choosing the appropriate herbicide, herbicide rate and application method will ensure control of problem plants while lessening the effects on desirable plants and wildlife habitat.

An advantage of herbicides over mechanical brush control methods (from the wildlife perspective) is that herbicides rarely kill more than 65 percent of the plants in a site containing mixed brush. Species such as lime pricklyash and lotebush are especially resistant to herbicides.

Some mixtures of foliar herbicides will control mesquite while having much less effect on important wildlife food plants. However, some mixtures such as triclopyr plus picloram may be more damaging to species such as hackberry than triclopyr alone. Similarly, commercial mixtures such as Weedmaster® (Banvel® +2,4-D) or Grazon P+D® (picloram + 2,4-D) may be more damaging to desirable perennial forbs than 2,4-D alone. Pelleted herbicides (Spike 20P®) control various species of oak and whitebrush but have minor effects on other important wildlife plants. When possible, select the herbicide that will pose the least risk to plants important to wildlife. A good source of information is Extension publication B-1466, “Chemical Weed and Brush Control: Suggestions for Rangeland,” to select appropriate herbicides for particular plants.



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February 13, 2009

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1 APPROACH OPERATING 9000' UNIVERSITY 45-8 #2 DW NABORS DRILLING (O) 353 01/12/09 19 DRLG AHEAD
NEW 2 APPROACH OPERATING 9000' BAKER -A- #102 DW NABORS DRILLING (O) 709 01/28/09 3 DRLG AHEAD
NEW 3 OXY PERMIAN/HOUSTON 5800' SOUTH CROSS UNIT #255 DW HELMERICH & PAYNE/S 344 01/27/09 4 DRLG AHEAD
NEW 4 FIML NATURAL RES 5500' BAGGETT OZ -B- #1-165M DW PATTERSON DRILLING/A 721 01/28/09 3 DRLG AHEAD

SUTTON
NEW 1 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 8975' JOE M VANDERSTUCKEN #16 DW HELMERICH & PAYNE/S 302 01/30/09 1 DRLG AHEAD
NEW 2 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 7500' CANYON RANCH -114- #19S DW HELMERICH & PAYNE/S 305 01/29/09 2 DRLG AHEAD
NEW 3 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 7050' H C EPPS -49- #5 DW HELMERICH & PAYNE/S 304 01/25/09 6 DRLG AHEAD

TERRELL
1 OXY USA/MIDLAND 12500' MITCHELL -8- #11 DW HELMERICH & PAYNE/S 370 12/26/08 36 DRLG AHEAD
2 ENCORE OPERATING LP 12500' BANNER ESTATE #96 H DW PATTERSON DRILLING/H 19 11/10/08 82 DRLG AHEAD 13641'
3 NEWFIELD EXPLORATION 11500' POULTER -28- #1 DW PATTERSON DRILLING/A 471 12/26/08 36 DRLG AHEAD

EDWARDS
1 CHARIS ENERGY INC 4000' HYDE #2 FT HOPE DRILLING 1 01/12/09 19 RUN CASING VAL VERDE
1 ELM RIDGE EXP CO LLC 17000' CARSON -10- #1 DW AQUILA DRILLING 10 01/01/09 30 DRLG AHEAD 11387'
2 PARADISE OIL 3500' ROSE #1 HINZ DRILLING 1 02/01/09 RIGGING UP

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Submitted By:
Kelly L. Thorp, MS
 County Extension
 Agent- FCS
 Texas AgriLife Extension-
 Sutton County



Tips to Ease the Bottom Line at the Grocery Store

It's not just shock at the price of gas making headlines. Food costs at the grocery store are getting our attention as well. On a recent trip to the store I left with four small bags of basic groceries for nearly \$100! Reporters talk about the parallel rise in the cost of gas and milk in the same sentence.

The Department of Agriculture is predicting a 4 to 5 percent rise in food prices this year. Now consumers are searching out bargains at the grocery store - certainly an about-face from the previous norm of relying on

convenience foods. The search for a bargain may seem to force shoppers to look less at healthier choices and more at the bottom line in search of bargains.

Benefit your health and your pocketbook

Check this list of tips for ideas to benefit your health and your pocketbook in your trips down the grocery store aisles:

* Make a list and stick to it. With a list, you are less likely to buy on impulse. You'll also save by avoiding extra gas-guzzling trips back to the store when you've forgotten something you need. I keep a running list of what I need. I go over the

weekly grocery ads when they come out, and with my running list, it's quick and easy to finalize what I need.

* Shop the specials. Canned goods have a long shelf life.

* Buy on sale and stock up. If you have room in your freezer to store extra food, over-wrap items to keep air out and extend the life and protect the quality of things you get at a deal.

* Buy seasonal vegetables and fruits. Buy only what you'll use - fresh produce has a short shelf life. Be creative with your produce if it's nearing the end of its shelf life. If

the bananas get too ripe, for example, make banana bread. We lose money when we have to toss food because it was left too long and ends up in the garbage.

* Avoid shopping when you're hungry. You'll likely wind up putting "extras" in your grocery cart and eventually on your waist line if you get a snack attack. If you aren't sure you spend much on snacks, try keeping a tally of all the snack foods you buy in one week. It may surprise you how much you are spending.

* Shop alone. Leave the kids and other family members at home. Too many "gotta haves" can drive up the total grocery bill in a hurry.

* Use coupons for items you typically buy. You can find coupons in newspaper ads and online, too. Keep a list on the back of an envelope and tuck the coupons inside where they're easy to retrieve at check out. If the grocery store you frequent has double or triple coupon days, take advantage of it.

* If you don't already have a store discount card, sign up.

* Plan meals ahead and try planning your meals around sale items. Not only does this help with making the grocery list, but it also helps you plan leftovers for lunches, which saves money over going out to lunch. Leftovers also can be used for a quick dinner when your time is limited and you may want to grab fast food instead. Knowing in advance you can count on leftovers also keeps you from overbuying foods which have a limited shelf life. Remember to check expiration dates.

* Choose less processed food and cook from scratch more often. Cooking from scratch is better for both your health and budget. Processed food is often high in sodium, fat and calories. A recent study showed that more than half of consumers are buying fewer prepared meals and cooking more often from scratch.

As one example, look how much you can save per pound by buying raw potatoes over processed ones:

- o Fresh russet potatoes, 3 cents
- o Frozen French fries, 6 cents
- o Frozen mashed potatoes, 13 cents
- o Instant mashed potatoes, 21 cents
- o Potato chips, 32 cents

* Buy food in bulk when it's cost effective. You can do some simple math to determine the unit pricing, and some stores list unit prices on the shelf tag along with the overall item price. It's cheaper to buy larger quantities of some foods. If you want smaller packages of food for convenience, repack-age them at home in smaller bags. But check your prices carefully; sometimes the bigger size isn't a bargain and the cost of several smaller bags or boxes may actually be less.

* Consider store brands. Name brands are found at eye-level-prime real estate in the grocery aisle. Look high and low for store brands - on the lower and higher shelves - often for less money. Source: Shirley Perryman, MS, RD Food Science and Human Nutrition Specialist, Colorado State University Extension



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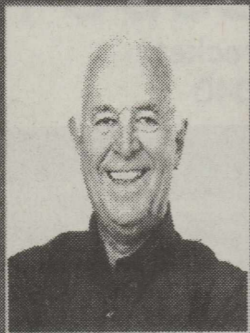
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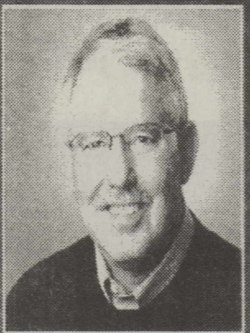
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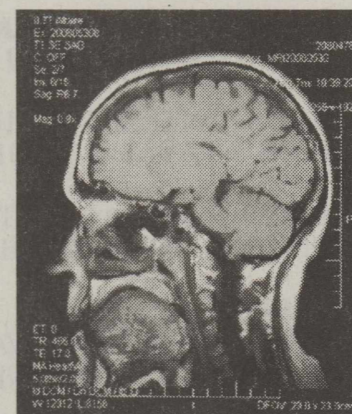
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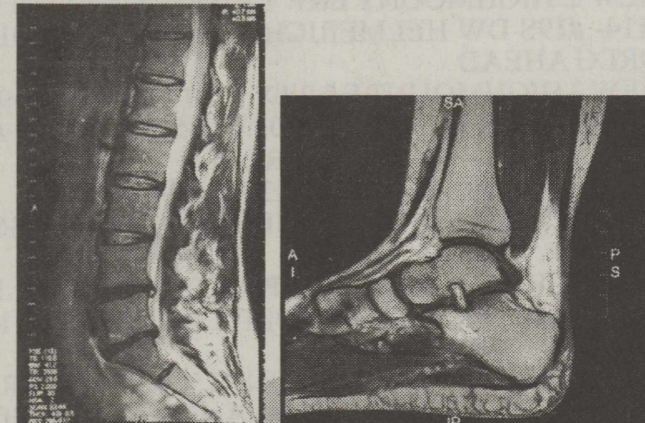
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For Sale: 1991 Isuzu Amigo (pink) good condition, \$2500, FMI call 325-277-1834 or 325-450-3747.

For Sale: 2003 Kawaski KFX 50, childs 4-wheeler, very good condition, \$850.00. FMI call 325-206-1620.

For Sale: Elderly woman's 1999 Chevy Suburban and a 2004 Ford Expedition. FMI call 325-206-1124.

For Sale: '97- GMC Crew Cab Pick-Up, 2 wheel drive, 350 automatic Engine, 8' Long Bed, 150,000 miles, Runs good, Cold AC, New tires, New brakes and New compressor, \$4,000 FIRM call 337-298-7735 - Truck is in Sonora.

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Houses for Sale: Sonora VFD is accepting bids on 2 houses to be moved. Each is a 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Sealed bids will be accepted thru March 4, 2009. Contact Don Reese 325-206-1718 or Carl Teaff 325-226-1110.

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Public Notices
PUBLIC NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that the City of Sonora has made a submission to the US Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Voting Section to make a required determination pursuant to Section 5 with respect to submitted changes affecting voting: The changes are as follows: The conduct of a special election to fill an unexpired term in Ward 1 and for Mayor At-Large
 A complete duplicate copy of the submission is available for public inspection at City Hall during regular business hours. Comments for the consideration of the Attorney General are invited.

Sonora ISD is accepting bids for paving work at Sonora High School. Bids will be accepted until 2 PM on Friday, February 27, 2009. The bid will be awarded at the regularly scheduled board meeting to be held March 9, 2009 at 5:30 PM at the Vocational Building, 805 Prospect, Sonora, Texas. For further information, contact Danny Hardin, Director of Maintenance, at 206-0330. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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Public Notice
 The Board of Trustees of the Sonora Independent School District posts this notice in compliance with 28 C.F.R. 51.28(g) as follows:
 On January 28, 2009 the Sonora Independent School District Board of Trustees sought approval from the Secretary of State's Office to reduce the number of HAVA-compliant election machines it is required to use during elections. This change is sought pursuant to Texas Election Code, Section 61.013 beginning with May 9, 2009 trustee elections. As required, the change was submitted on February 11, 2009, to the United States Attorney General for preclearance consideration. Copies of the preclearance submission are available for public review during business hours at the business office of the Sonora Independent School District located at 807 South Concho, Sonora, Texas. Any persons wishing to make comments for the consideration of the United States Attorney General may submit such comments to:
 Chief Christopher Coates
 Voting Section
 Civil Rights Division
 Room 7254-NWB
 Department of Justice
 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20530

Notificación Pública
 El Consejo Directivo del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Sonora hace este anuncio de la siguiente manera, en cumplimiento con el 28 C.F.R. 51.28(g):
 El 28 de enero, 2009, el Consejo Directivo del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Sonora buscó la aprobación de la Oficina del Secretario de Estado para reducir el número máquinas de elección HAVA-compliant que se exige usar durante sus elecciones. Este cambio se buscó de acuerdo con el Código de Elecciones de Texas, Sección 61.013 comenzando con la elección de miembros de la Junta Directiva del 9 de mayo, 2009. Como lo es requerido, el cambio fue presentado al Procurador General de Justicia de los Estados Unidos el 11 de febrero, 2009, para la consideración de una preautorización. Las copias de la presentación de la preautorización están disponibles para la revisión pública durante los horarios de oficina en la oficina de administración del Distrito Escolar independiente de Sonora ubicada al 807 South Concho, Sonora, Texas. Cualquier persona que desee hacer comentarios para que sean considerados por el Procurador General de Justicia de los Estados Unidos puede presentar tales comentarios al:
 Chief Christopher Coates
 Voting Section
 Civil Rights Division
 Room 7254-NWB
 Department of Justice
 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20530

Main Street REALTY
 Anita Hudson, Broker ~ Stacy Turney, Broker
 215 E. Main * Sonora, TX 76950
 325-387-6115
 www.SonoraTexasRealEstate.com

PRICE REDUCTION
 105 Sawyer Ct., Sonora, TX
 • 2354 sq. ft.
 • 2-story, 3BR 2BA
 • \$205,000 \$199,500

Residential Properties

502 Martin St.	\$30,000	
708 S. Concho	\$80,000	Sold
712 S. Concho	\$82,000	
1107 Glasscock	\$86,500	Contract Pending
106 Oakwood	\$122,500	New listing
208 S. Concho	\$130,000	Price Reduced
1740 CR 243, Schleicher Co.(10acres)	\$153,500	
2553 PR 1152 (10.97 acres)	\$169,500	
433 PR 2205 (10 acres)	\$189,500	
107 Draw St.	\$195,000	
105 Sawyer Ct.	\$199,500	Price Reduced
312 Edgemont Rd.	\$210,000	
115 Manor Ave.	\$250,000	Sold
1893 S. Service Rd. (17.569 acres)	\$298,000	

Commercial

226 E. Main	\$110,000
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Acreage & Lots

128 Deerwood Dr.	\$9000
25 Acres-Sutton Co.	\$3000/Acre
25 Acres-Sutton Co.	\$2750/Acre
50 Acres-Sutton Co.	\$2500/Acre
80.383 Ac. w/home-Schleicher Co.	\$130,000
88.036 Acres - Schleicher Co.	\$125,000
83.875 Acres - Schleicher Co.	\$115,000
42.320 Acres - Sutton Co. Estates	\$2500/Acre
50.003 Acres - Sutton Co. Estates	\$2500/Acre
1332 Ac. w/lodge - Sutton Co.	\$1795/Acre

Real Estate
Bobbie A. Smith (325) 387-2728
Dave Hernandez-Salesman
 325-206-0572
New Listing
 102 Sawyer Ct.
 • 3BR/2 BA
 • Double Garage
 • Covered Patio
 • Swimming Pool
 • Fenced Backyard
 Call for details.

Rio Diablo Realty
 (325) 387-2537
 www.riodiabl Realty.com
 Stacy Fisher---Broker/Owner

***** Ranch Listing *****
 1339 Ranch Road 864
 300 acres for \$750,000
 or
 3-100 acre plots @ \$2500 per acre
 1/2 mile road frontage
 5 miles from Sonora

*****Commercial Listing*****
 208 E. Main St.
 2245 Square Feet
 Hardwood Floors
 Great Location
 Only Building
 \$140,000

Best Western
Help Wanted: Housekeeping
 Apply in person @ Best Western
 270 Hwy 277 N.
 Sonora, Texas

Sonora Office Supply
 228 E. Main St.
 Sonora, Texas 76950
 325-387-2498
 For all your Office Supply Needs!

Caruthers Realty
 "The Best of the Best"
 Drive a little, Save a lot
 Sutton Co. acreage close to I-10 with highway frontage.
 2300 ac. east of Sonora, large live oaks, deep soil, very little cedar, abundant wildlife, white tailed deer and turkey, highway frontage, some minerals. Camp house, barn, pens, water wells, partial new low fence. \$1395/ac.
Buffalo Well Division
 523 ac. Camp house, well, large live oaks and white tailed deer and turkey. 15 miles east of Sonora on paved road. \$1495/ac.
 650 ac. Highway frontage, deer, turkey, large live oaks, very little cedar, electricity. \$1495/ac.
 These properties are 15 minutes from I-10 on state highway less than 1 1/2 hr. from the Kerrville area.
Bob Caruthers - Broker
 325-226-3003 Anytime
 email: bobc@sonoratrix.net

Counts, Inc.
 "A Tradition of Excellence"
 Residential Painting & Decorating
 Repairs & Remodeling
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 Daniel ~ 234-8776 • Wayne ~ 234-5173
 Daniel Counts & Wayne Counts

Scott Jacoby Real Estate
 www.scottjacobyrealestate.com
 P.O. Box 295
 802 S. Concho
 Sonora, TX 76950
325-226-2768
 sjacoby@dishmail.net

Western Heritage Builders, LLC
 Custom Homes, Remodel, New Addition,
 Metal Buildings, Metal Roofs, Fence
 2,098 Squ. ft.
 2 car garage
 3 BD, 2BA, Office
 12' ceilings
 fireplace
 Patio Home
 102 Kings Ct. Dr.
 Sonora, Texas
 9 more sites to build
 w/ 3 plans 1800 - 2098 sq. ft. to choose from
Craig Nolen 325-650-0219

Bronco Golf State Preview Tournament



Team Totals

1. Paris North Lamar, 316-312-628; 2. Wolfforth Frenship, 313-322-635; **3. Sonora, 319-323-642**; 4. Snyder, 329-331-650; 5. Texarkana Pleasant Grove, 312-339-651; 6. Andrews, 325-340-665; 7. Pecos 330-351-681; 8. Sour Lake Hardin-Jefferson, 335-364-699; 9. Monahans, 346-359-705; 10. Seminole, 356-350-706; 11. Fort Stockton, 348-363-711; 12. Level-land, 355-366-721.

Top 10 Medalists

1. John Duke Hudson, Sonora, 69-68-137; 2. Jay Cox, Paris North Lamar, 70-72-142; 3. Sean Romero, Texarkana Pleasant Grove, 71-81-152; 4. Brett Holly, Andrews, 74-80-154; 5. Tanner Bragg, Snyder, 80-76-156; 6. (tie) Josh Mahan, Wolfforth Frenship, 79-78-157; and Tanner Clemons, Paris North Lamar 79-78-157; 8. (tie) Tanner Lowe, Sour Lake Hardin Jefferson, 76-82-158; and Blake Crowder, Wolfforth Frenship, 78-80-158; 10. (tie) Tristan Plaute, Wolfforth Frenship, 76-83-159; and **Caleb Gonzales, Sonora, 78-81-159.**

Bronco Baseball Fires Up This Thursday!

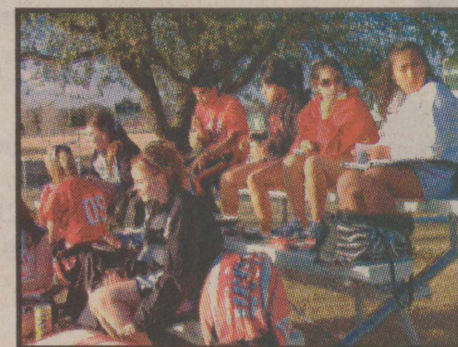
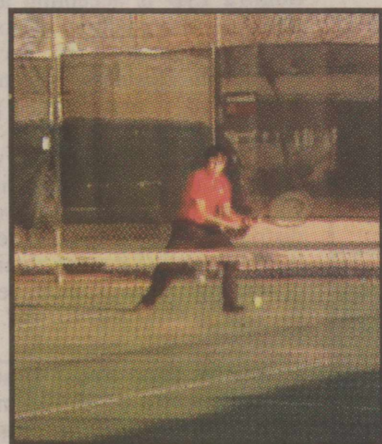
Bronco Baseball Season Kicks off with a Triple Header Scrimmage this Thursday, February 19

Mason vs. Sonora @ 4:00

Mason vs. Blanco @ 5:45

Sonora vs. Blanco @ 7:30

2009 Tennis Season Opening Serve in Eldorado



Sutton County Steakhouse

1306 N. Service Road

Sonora, Texas

325-387-3833

(located right next door to the Days Inn-Devil's River)

Featuring:

the freshest, most delicious new Garden Fresh Salad Bar on Interstate 10

Cheeseburger "sliders" platter -

4 mini ground sirloin burgers (your choice of Swiss or American cheese) on delicious baked bread, served with green leaf, roma tomatoes, dill spear, purple onion on side and your choice of fries or chips for only \$6.50 (easily feeds two people!)

chicken fried rib eye steak dinner

unbelievably tender and good!

\$13.95 and can easily feed two!

also serving:

sweet potato fries instead of regular fries for only \$.75 extra with any order 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sutton County Steakhouse

Where we are always bringing you something new to the table!

Plan Today for Better Tomorrows

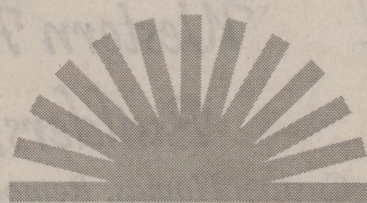
Put an IRA to work for you.

Many people think they can't afford to save for retirement. The fact is, they can't afford not to!

There's never been a better time to start thinking about an IRA for your future. Everyone wants to be ready to enjoy those retirement years, and, if qualified, an IRA is a logical, first step to realizing those dreams. Give John Owens or Kevin Ward a call, weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., they'll be happy to show you how to plan today for better tomorrows.

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First National Bank of Sonora

SAN ANGELO BANKING CENTER

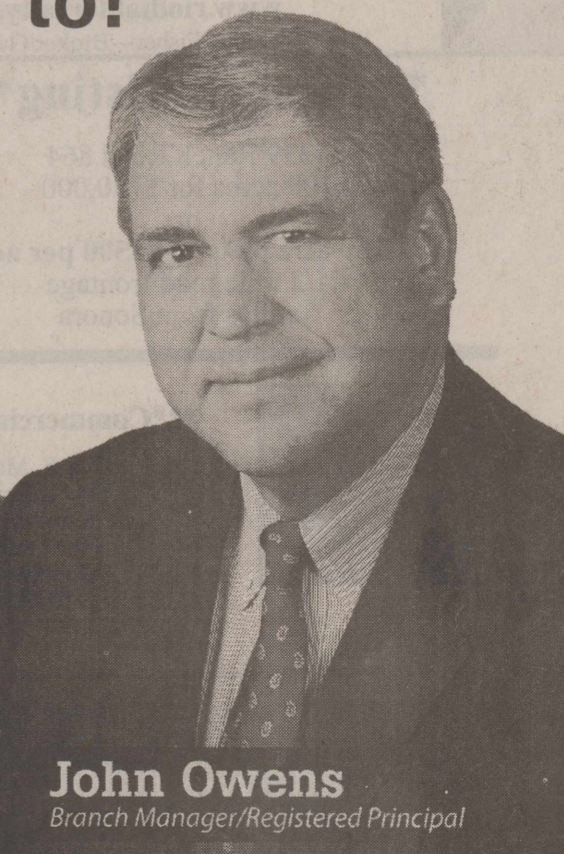
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Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-3861
www.fbsonora.com

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San Angelo, Texas 76901
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