

A day after the "kid" game, Baltimore ties series 1-1 Sports • 1D

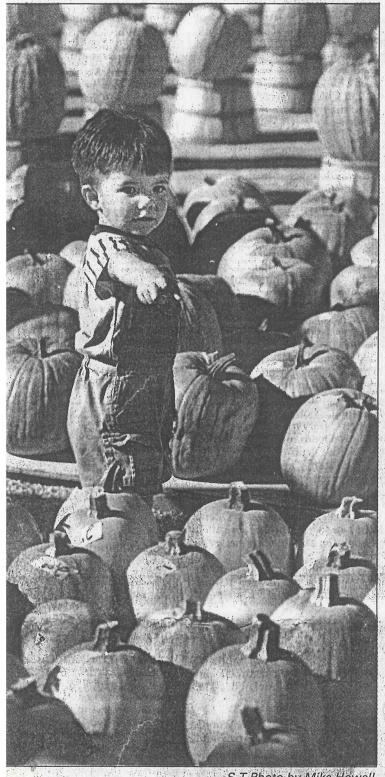
Serving West Texas Since 1884 Serving west to

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that one?



S-T Photo by Mike Howell

umpkins has arrived at area groceries and fruit markets. elps his parents pick out the right pumpkin Thursday at an Cox Fruit Market.

Angelo, Brady officials set for mediation

By JOEL SHULER

In less than three weeks, attorneys and representatives of two cities and a water district will try to sort out their water feud with the help of a mediating judge.

Representatives from the city of San Angelo, the city of Brady and the Hickory Underground Water District are scheduled to meet Oct. 29 and 30 in Austin to resolve what has become a lengthy and costly water-rights dispute.

The parties recently agreed to a mediation session to be presided over by Judge James R. Meyers. San Angelo City Manager Tom

Adams said he hopes the mediation will allow the parties to reach a suitable compromise that will a suitable compromise that win protect the city's Hickory Aquifer water rights while protecting Brady's water supply.

"Mediation is an alternative to a judge making the decision in court," Adams said. The judge

court," Adams said. The judge "will work between the different parties to see if there is middle ground where we can come to an agreement, a settlement.
"It will be a lot better situation

to come to an agreement as opposed to a court imposing a settlement on us."

Adams last week traveled to Austin to meet with Meyers. The purpose of the visit was to present San Angelo's arguments so Meyers will be familiar with the issues when the mediation begins. Adams said representatives of Brady and the water district would have similar meetings with Meyers before the actual media-Meyers before the actual mediation session.

The water dispute stems from San Angelo's intent to drill 19 water wells that will tap water from the Hickory Aquifer. The city owns water rights to 37,633 acres of land over the aquifer in

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– San Angelo City Manager Tom

Concho, McCulloch and Mena counties.

San Angelo officials have sa the wells would be connected to pipeline which would in turn connected to the O.H. Iv Reservoir pipeline. The wat wells then would serve as an eme gency source of water to be use when all of San Angelo's outsic water sources are depleted.

San Angelo officials earlier th year applied for a permit to pun 15,000 acre-feet of water each year from the aquifer. In March, how ever, water district officials decided ed San Angelo can pump on 2,750 acre-feet annually from the aquifer.

Brady officials oppose Šan Angelo's pumping at water from the aquifer witho strict restrictions to limit tl amount of water that can

The aquifer is Brady's prima source of water and also suppli

water to Mason.

