



ABOVE: Jim Blakemore, Jr., visits with former customers and employees of the Blakemore Grocery Co., and Ideal Food Stores Sunday during the opening of the Ideal exhibit at the Coronado Museum. The facility was filled to capacity as Blakemore discussed the early years of his father and uncles working in the grocery business. The Blakemores purchased a dry goods store from J.E. George on Kansas Avenue and turned it into one of the first modern grocery stores, giving birth to what would become known as supermarkets. Blakemore discussed some of the attributes of the Ideal system that made the store unique, and how they were able to create a chain of stores throughout Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. For more photos, see PAGE 3A. L&T photo/Earl Watt