

Edmiston Brothers Still Very Active Despite Age

Almost every one in this day and time looks forward to his retirement, a time when he can take life easy, forget about working every day and sit around resting his tired and aching bones. However, there are two brothers in Schleicher County who refuse to let their age get the best of them or interfere with their ranch work. In fact, Arch and Gene Edmiston seem to defy the fact they are way past the usual retirement age.

The two men are the last living of six sons born to William Frank and Ellen Edmiston who moved to Middle Valley (Close to Fort McKavett) at the turn of the century. The older Edmiston ranches there most of their lives and instilled a fiber of

strength and determination in their sons that is still evident today.

Arch was the oldest of the Edmiston boys and observed his 89th birthday Wednesday. He, like Gene, ranched in and around Schleicher County several years after his marriage. In 1939, he and his wife, Rose, came back to Middle Valley and have ranched there since. They now live in the small modest home his father built so many years ago.

On the other side of the county, Gene, who was the third son, lives in a large rock home on the Big Lake highway with his wife, Dell. They have lived there since 1951.

Both of the men rise early in the morning and start to work, feeding

their registered Herefords or doing whatever else has to be done.

Usually Rose is at Arch's side, but because of a recent car accident, he has to rely on hired help for assistance because she is confined to a wheelchair until her broken leg heals.

Dell is also very active, in spite of her arthritis and cooks for her large family when they all work together, maintains a garden and all she raises from it.

Both of the men have enjoyed good health most of their lives although Arch has been hospitalized several times in the last few years. Gene has spent one night in the hospital during his entire life.

Arch admits that his eyesight is failing and will not drive anywhere except in the pasture. "That fence could be falling down and I wouldn't know it," he says, "But I know where I am by the landmarks."

"You can't lose him in this pasture," quipped Rose, "He's been

here too long."

The older brother quit riding his horse about a year ago, because he "didn't have the occasion to ride anymore." He gets around the pens and water tanks very well, considering he has to use a cane to lean on.

Gene, who is 84, still rides his gentle pony and drives to town for supplies. He raises a large head of sheep in addition to his registered Herefords and trains sheep dogs to help him work.

Whenever he or one of his sons has work to be done, such as marking lambs or shearing, they do it together, usually with "Pa and Gene" right in the middle. In fact, last weekend the family marked all the lambs on their three ranches. And, as usual, Gene didn't stop once until the work was done.

What is their secret to staying so active? Arch says his secret is having a good wife to take care of him and Gene says that once a person retires, that means he is ready to give up everything once and for all.

Whatever, the two are unique in that at age 89 and 84, they remain active and see that all of the ranch work on their places is done. That is how they were raised and that is how they will continue to live, regardless of what the usual retirement age might be.



Arch Edmiston, 89, in Middle Valley



Gene Edmiston and registered cattle

Rain Didn't Hamper District Track Meet

Even if the rain just kept pouring down, activities at the district 7A track meet held here last week didn't slow down. It certainly didn't stop the Ozona varsity boys as they took their division with 144 points, followed by Junction, second, 92; Mason, third, 74; Eldorado, fourth, 71; Reagan County, fifth, 59; and Menard, sixth, 56.

And it didn't stop the Eldorado junior varsity boys who remain undefeated. They had a whopping 180 points for first place followed by Wall, second; 108; Ozona, third, 98; Junction, fourth, 91; Reagan County, fifth, 30 and Mason, sixth.

In the seventh grade division, the Mason boys won with 148 points. Other winners were Ozona, second, 84; Menard, third, 78; Reagan County, fourth, 72; Eldorado, fifth, 52; Junction, sixth, 51 and Wall, seventh, 11.

In the eighth grade division, Junction took first with 148 points; Reagan County, second, 90½; Ozona, third; 89; Eldorado, fourth, 79; Mason, fifth, 33; Menard, sixth, 30; and Wall, seventh, 26.

Varsity Eagles who took first in the 400 meter relay were Brad Thomas, Gregg Davidson, Tommy Martinez and Mike Griffith, with a 44.25 timing. In the 1600 meter relay, Tommy Martinez, John Paul Joiner, Brad Thomas and Ronnie Landis were timed at 3:29.73 for second place.

In the 110 high hurdles, John Paul Joiner won second, Trey Jackson won sixth and Lamar Hardee won seventh. Brad Thomas won third in the 100 meter dash, Tommy Martinez won second, Kirk Griffin won fourth and Gregg Davidson won seventh.

In field events, varsity eagle Kirk Griffin won sixth and Mike Griffith won third in the long jump.

The high-flying junior varsity boys placed in every event in the meet. The 400 meter relay team of Jeff Harlin, Ricky Cathey, James Woodward and Ashley Niblett won first and Luke Brame won fifth. It was a streak of green winning the first three places in the 800 meter run as Douglas Ussery, James Cathey and Clint Bumgardner took first, second and third places.

Sammy Santellano won third in the

100 meter dash and Bill Cawley won fifth. In the 400 meter dash, Ricky Cathey won first and Luke Brame won fifth in the 300 intermediate hurdles.

In the 200 meter dash, Jeff Harlin won first and Sammy Santellano won third. Douglas Ussery won first in the 1600 meter run.

In field events, JV Eagles James Woodward and Gene Edmiston won first and third in the pole vault. Mike Wilks won sixth in the shot put and David Corbell won sixth in the discus. Gene Edmiston won fourth in the long jump and in the high jump Ricky Cathey won first, James Woodward won third and Ashley Niblett won fourth.

Seventh grade Eagles Bryan Gillespie, Danny Kackley, Bobby Parry and Mike Belman won seventh in the 300 meter relay while Jesus Martinez and Jimmy Turbeville won second and fourth in the 110 intermediate hurdles. Steven Santellano, Mike Minica and Eric Cheatham won third, fifth and seventh in the 600 meter dash. In the 300 meter dash, Sammy Santellano won sixth.

In the 210 meter hurdles, Mike Bellman, Jimmy Turbeville and Jay O'Harrow won first, third and sixth. Mike Bellman won fourth in the 200 meter dash. Sammy Santellano won third in the 1200 meter run. In the 100 meter dash, Mike Belman won third and Matthew Dahlberg won sixth.

In field events, Jay O'Harrow, Mike Minica and Steven Saldivar won fifth, sixth and seventh in the shot put. Jimmy Turbeville won sixth in the discus and Jay O'Harrow won third in the high jump.

Eighth grade Eagles Bobby Williams, Chris Woodward, Gene Kackley, and Tim McAngus won fourth in the 400 meter relay and Victor Gutierrez, Tim McAngus, Chris Woodward and Fernando Trevino won fifth in the 1200 meter relay.

Victor Gutierrez won fifth in the 100 intermediate hurdles and Eloy Martinez won seventh in the 600 meter dash. Victor Gutierrez also won sixth in the 300 meter dash and Gene Kackley and Chris Woodward won first and second. In the 1200 meter run Gene Kackley won second and in the 200 meter dash, Tim McAngus won fifth.

Continued Page 6A

The Leader Salutes All Farmers and Ranchers Of Schleicher County

Students in kindergarten through the sixth grade will present a musical program at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday in the high school auditorium.

The students will perform a number of Patriotic Selections, several poems and a one-act mystery comedy play.

Melanie Kring will recite "There Will Always Be America" and Staci Helmers will recite "This Is America". Nick Dacy will recite "To Our Country".

Kindergarten students will sing "America" and first and second graders will sing "Texas Our Text". "America The Beautiful" will

be sung by the third graders and the fourth and fifth grade will sing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Shawn Fimbress will sing a solo and Justin Paxton will accompany the second grade selection on the guitar.

The sixth grade play, directed by Jo Ella Parker, is "Midnight Burial". Characters are Lupe Hernandez, Marcella Martinez, Vicki Barrera, Gloria Barajas, Caryl Franklin, Russ Dacy, Mike Kirkham, Ernesto Arispe, Debbie Bosquez and crew members are Esequiel Martinez, and Silvia Sanches.

Vol. V

Eldorado, Texas (76936)

Thursday, Nov

Schleicher County

25¢

LEADER

Court Finds Use For Old Jail

The old Schleicher County jail building, vacated earlier this year because of the new law enforcement center, will be put into use later this year after action taken during Monday's Commissioners Court meeting.

The court met with representatives of the new tax appraisal district, Billy Williams, Ray Ballew and Ray Willoughby Jr. who asked to use the building for office space. The district's office is now located on the third floor, making it unhandy for handicapped or elderly persons.

The county court agreed to lease the district the building for one

dollar a year with an automatic renewal at the end of the year unless the agreement was rejected by either party.

The tax district will be responsible for remodeling and repairing the building.

Also meeting with commissioners were Otis Deal, Bob Reynolds, Billy Jack Reynolds and Williams, who asked that the road going between their properties be made public

because of increased oil field traffic. Williams told the court he would grant an easement if a fence would

be built on his land, which fronts the road about .8 mile. The court agreed to make the road public, but will be asking oil companies who use the road to pay for the fencing on the Williams place.

Commissioners pointed out that because of a limited budget, the county could not afford to build the fence itself.

The court also discussed a request from L.M. Saul who asked that a road on his place be made public and the county building about three miles of fencing. No action was taken.

Charlie Kincheloe asked the court permission to add on to his existing hanger at the airport and David Vannett asked permission to build

one for his plane. Because he had a hanger already, the court did not grant permission to Kincheloe's request but did okay Vannett's request.

The court also met with a representative of Blue Cross and Blue Shield, accepting a medical policy for county employees. The policy has a \$200 deductible and provisions for employees to pay for dental coverage for their families.

Commissioners worked all of Monday afternoon drafting policies for purchasing, employee absenteeism, vehicle use and other items. The final policies will be reviewed and approved at a later meeting.

Leader and McCalla's Sponsoring Contest

Six local youngsters will be the lucky winners of tickets for Astro World's Thunder River by winning a coloring contest being sponsored by McCalla's Department Store.

The coloring contest will be run in the Leader May 7 and 14 with a top winner and two runnersup being named each week.

The contest will be open to youngsters age 6 to 11, and entries should be turned into McCalla's store. The deadline for the first week is 4p.m. May 14 and deadline

for the second week is 4p.m. May 21. Winners will be announced the following week.

The two top winners will receive 20 Astro World tickets for his/her family and friends. All of the runnersup will receive two tickets each.

The theme of the contest is based on the new Thunder River ride, the world's first man-made river rapids ride that simulates the actual thrill of rafting down an unruly river. (See story page 2).

Grade School Musical Set For Tuesday

Students in kindergarten through the sixth grade will present a musical program at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday in the high school auditorium.

The students will perform a number of Patriotic Selections, several poems and a one-act mystery comedy play.

Melanie Kring will recite "There Will Always Be America" and Staci Helmers will recite "This Is America". Nick Dacy will recite "To Our Country".

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BIG BITE FOR LITTLE BOY - A local youngster takes a big bite of delicious chocolate cake during the old fashioned icecream social and band concert held Sunday. With a little bit of help he cleaned off his plate and loved every bite as did everyone else who attended.

Astro-World Is Great

SCHLEICHER COUNTY QUARTERLY STATEMENT

BY A.G. McCORMACK-COUNTY TREASURER

FUND	CASH BALANCE JAN. 1, 1981	TOTAL RECEIVED (INCLUDES TRANSFERS)	TOTAL DISBURSED (INCLUDES TRANSFERS)	CASH BALANCE MAR. 31, 1981
JURY.....	1,404.00	-0-	1,001.31	402.69
ROAD & BRIDGE.....	24,010.63	38,801.30	32,731.15	30,080.78
ROAD & BRIDGE SPECIAL.....	71,992.75	18,316.93	68,681.74	21,627.94
FARM-MARKET ROAD.....	114,629.03	26,140.53	116,493.00	24,276.56
GENERAL.....	301,216.51	89,743.65	369,169.45	21,790.71
PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT.....	19.14	3,500.00	-0-	3,519.14
OFFICERS SALARY.....	48,720.01	115,281.07	139,222.44	24,778.64
LAW LIBRARY.....	645.22	80.00	60.25	664.97
SOCIAL SECURITY.....	30.08	37,300.00	31,710.86	5,619.22
REVENUE SHARING.....	21,071.13	10,410.00	30,207.57	1,273.56
CONCHO RIVER FLOOD CONTROL..	1,561.91	23,326.10	10,378.41	14,509.60
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER.....	12,654.48	351,606.91	228,371.79	135,889.60
	<u>597,954.89</u>	<u>714,506.49</u>	<u>1,028,027.97</u>	<u>284,433.41</u>
SECURITIES OWNED				<u>350,000.00</u>
TOTAL CASH & SECURITIES				<u>634,433.41</u>

Like a day at the circus, a fourth of July picnic, a state fair all rolled into one and spread out on 75 acres of sunshine and smiles, music and laughter, Astro-World is made for family fun. The Houston theme park has over 100 thrilling rides, shows and attractions, shops and restaurants in 12 themed worlds, so there's something new to do every magic minute of a visit.

At Astroworld, there are all types of rides for all ages. The newest ride is "Warp 10," a space age thriller that simulates a spaceship adventure. With the force of the universe, three long octopus-like arms lift riders high in the sky, whirling the 'round and 'round like a giant, hurling meteor! It's an electrifying ride that would scare the space helmet off of Buck Rogers!

For guests with a spirit of adventure and love of the great outdoors, there's THUNDER RIVER, the world's first man-made river rapids ride that simulates the actual thrill of rafting down an unruly river and encountering swelling rapids and the magnetism of whitewater. Raft-like boats shoot into the river channel, fly through bottleneck canyons, confront rippling lagoons, bulging boulders and stair-step rapids that whisk the boats toward a majestic waterfall, then finally into a calm, clear lake.

Thrill seekers can zoom up, down and around on the TEXAS CYCLONE, the worlds Number One roller coaster--or journey forward, backward and upside down on GREEZED LIGHTNIN', the chilling loop coaster.

At AstroWorld, it's showtime all the time with a variety of shows for all ages, including "Razzmatazz", an old-time vaudeville revue; "The Magic Of Astroworld," a spellbinding magic show produced

by Mark Wilson Productions; Marvel McFey and His Friends, a choreographed musical show for children; a puppet show; a dolphin revue, and "Horizons", an entertaining film projected in Sens-O-Sphere on a 180-degree screen.

To assure complete guest satisfaction; AstroWorld is constantly working to improve guest comforts and convenience. For example, this year a roof has been constructed over Children's World to provide shade and protection from rain. In addition, there has been extensive architectural landscaping, highlighted by increased shade arbors,

giant planter boxes and a wide variety of trees and abundant greenery throughout the park.

AstroWorld is open to the public on weekends through May 31, and will be open Tuesday through Sunday throughout the summer starting June 2. Astroworld is closed on Mondays.

The price of a One-day ticket is \$11.50. Children two years of age and under are admitted free. AstroWorld is located at Kirby Drive and Loop 610 South. Parking is available on a 240-acre lot off of Kirby Drive. For more information, call (713) 748-1234.



Mr. and Mrs. Donald Evans of Vandellia, Ill., announce the engagement of their daughter, Dawn Diehl, to Lynn Whitaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Whitaker of Eldorado. Miss Evans is a 1977 graduate of Vandellia High School in Illinois and her fiancé is a 1977 graduate of Eldorado High School. Both are seniors at Baylor University in Waco. The wedding will be in Waco on July 18.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

To Look At Jesus Is To See God

John 1:1,14 In the beginning was the Word, and the World was with God and the Word was God....And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His Glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

So begins the account of John of the life of Jesus. Jesus was in every way God, and He became in every way a man. In the earthly life of Jesus Christ, and especially in His death, the unseen God of heaven and earth is revealed. To look at a sunset, the clouds, the stars, or any of the things God has made is to see the handiwork of God, but to look at Jesus Christ as He is revealed in the Bible is to see God.

When Jesus was filled with compassion as he saw the multitudes in need of guidance, Mark 6:34, we learn of God's compassion toward men who need help. When Jesus clears the temple of the trade that had been set up there, we see God's zeal for righteousness and sincerity in worship. When Jesus grieves over mens stubbornness and unwillingness to change, Mark 3:5, we see God's grief over sinners who will not repent. When Jesus hangs on the cross bearing the punishment for our sins, we see in a way that has no comparison the great love God has for sinners like us.

We learn about God by learning about Jesus.
Dale Huff

This weekly church feature is sponsored by the following merchants who urge you to attend the church of your choice this Sunday.

WESTERMAN DRUG Cecil Westerman Would Like To Be Your Pharmacist 853-2226	SOUTHWEST TEXAS ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC. Owned by Those We Serve Eldorado, Texas 853-2544
EL DORADO RESTAURANT Steaks-Seafood & Mexican Foods Catering Service Available 853-2818	TREY TRUCKING All Kinds Of Oilfield Trucking Eldorado, Texas 853-2186
BUTLER SUPPLY COMPANY Oilman's Friend East St. Eldorado, Texas Day 853-2503 Night 853-2004	COMMERCIAL RESTAURANT Where Friends Meet To Eat Glasscock & Plum Sonora, Texas 387-9928
FOOD CENTER Herbert & Lois Fields, Owners Les Robertsor Manager Sonora, Texas 387-3438	R & N WELL SERVICE, INC. Complete Oilfield Service Eldorado, Texas 853-2003

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**
Oak and Gillis
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Adult Evening Bible Study
Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:30
- OUR LADY OF GAUDALUPE CHURCH**
Rev. Mark J. Woodruff
Pastor 853-2663
Saturday 7:00p.m.
Sunday 8:00a.m. (Spanish)
9:30a.m. (English)
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Dale Lipsitt, Minister
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
853-2247
- UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**
Rev. Walter Ford
Hackberry St.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sun.Eve.Serv. 7:00 p.m.
Wed.Eve.Serv. 7:30 p.m.
- WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**
HWY. 277
Sun.Morn.Serv. 10:30a.m.
Sun.Eve.Serv. 6:00p.m.
Wed. Eve. Serv. 7:30p.m.
- Primitve Baptist Church**
Menard Hwy
Elder Freddy Boen, Pastor
Services each 2nd & 4th
Sunday at 10:30a.m. and
2:30p.m.
Also on Saturday night
Before 2 and 4th Sun.
Meeting at 7:00p.m.
- ROCK CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Dale Huff, Evangelist
708 Lee St.
Sunday Bible Class 10 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wed.BibleClass 7:30 p.m.
- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Rev. John A. Robinson
Hwy 277 across from
Courthouse
853-2721 853-3010
Sunday School 9:50 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:50 a.m.
Youth Fellowship 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday:
Young Adult Study 7:30
All are welcome.
- CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**
Bishop: Bryan Galloway
San Angelo 658-4797
2817 Christoval Rd.
Priesthood, 9 a.m.
Primary, 9 a.m.
Relief Society, 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sacrament meeting 11 a.m.

In Those Days

FIVE YEARS AGO--Kathy Page was engaged to Joe Ellis Nobles.

Services were held for Bill Fry, Clara Bernice Donat's son and Fred Watson.

Students chosen for National Honor Society were Gina Forlano, Karl Kothmann, Maria Tobias, Jim Bob Byrd, Jimmy Bosmans, Cleve Clark, Barbara Speck, Mark Thornton, Gynna Jay and Lynn Whitaker.

12 YEARS AGO--The Eldorado Hardware Co. was setting an auction sale to close out after 62 years of operation.

Wayne Doyle ran 9.8 in the 100 yard dash at the Little state meet, breaking his own record, but coming in third place there.

Going to state competition in track were Bob Page, Wayne Doyle, Keith Williams and Paul Page.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Tucker became parents of a baby boy, named Joel Keith.

The Rev. Toney McMillan, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, tendered his resignation. He was moving to Kingsville.

The Eagle Bank won first in both concert and sight

reading at competition at Cisco Junior College at Cisco, bringing home the coveted sweepstakes trophy.

35 YEARS AGO--Sheepmen reported that the drought was making shearing a harder job because the wool was dry.

Mrs. N.G. Hodges bought the Ritz Cafe from D.C. Royster.

The senior class was leaving for a sight seeing trip to Galveston.

Mr. and Mrs. T.K. Jones retired from the ranching business, selling their entire head of sheep. They turned over their ranch to two sons, Thomas Richard and Jack.

The Case ranch bought half interest in a head of Suffolk sheep owned by Tom Ratliff.

Bill McWhorter was building a large house on the McWhorter place and Sam Oglesby was remodeling his old ranch home.

The REA line of electricity was energized to W.G. McAlpine, Jack Wad., Dick Bearce, W.J. Steward, J. Tom Williams and C.M. Reynolds.

Schleicher County Leader

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character or standing of any person or firm appearing in this publication will be gladly and promptly corrected upon the calling the attention of the management to the article in question.

NELL EDMISTON.....EDITOR
SHIRLEY OVERSTREET..ADVERTISING MANAGER

Display advertising open rate \$1.56 per column inch. Classified rate is 10 cents per word, per insertion, \$2.00 minimum charge. Classified display is \$2.00 per column inch.

Notices of entertainment, where admission is charged, notices of events of a fund-raising nature, cards of thanks, resolutions of respect, submitted poetry, and all such matters NOT NEWS will be for at the normal advertising earned rates. Volume and frequency rates are available upon written request to the publisher or advertising sales manager. Yearly subscription rate is \$7.50 in county and 8.50 outside Schleicher County.

Holley House
"For the Unique and Creative"
Eldorado, Texas 853-2763

SONIC DRIVE-INN OF SONORA
Hwy. 277 North
Sonora, Texas 387-5292

THE WESTERN COMPANY
Pacesetters in the Oil & Gas Industry
Eldorado, Texas

Schleicher County Leader
Interested persons may submit original church features anytime. 853-2032

Check Soil For Watering Needs

It's safe to say that successful gardening in this area generally depends upon a good source of water. Although gardens can be grown "dry land," your chance of success with vegetable gardening is greatly increased if a water faucet is nearby. To many of us one of the most enjoyable aspects of home gardening is watering. It can be quite enjoyable to see garden vegetables respond to a

"drink" during the heat of mid-summer. Despite the fact that watering can be a great deal of fun, it is often associated with many problems. Many of the things which can plague us each year, such as bitter fruit, sunscald, disease problems, poor fertility, poor quality, poor yields and a dozen other things, can be related to poor and improper watering.

Many of us enjoy watering our garden after a hard day's work or just as a form of relaxation. So it is not at all unusual that many gardens get watered two, three or more times a week. Unfortunately, in most cases this is one of the worst things you can do since it can result in poor root development.

Light, frequent waterings have a tendency to cause a concentration of roots in the top inch or two of the soil. This type of "limited" root system does not pose any real serious problem early in the season when plants are young and sufficient moisture is generally available. However, as the season progresses and moisture becomes less and less available, you may be forced to water the garden several times a week just to keep plants from wilting severely. This practice results in insufficient nutrient uptake, poor growth and disease problems.

Water the garden not by looking at plants but rather by examining your soil. Look at the soil surface. If it appears dry, then scratch to a depth of 1 to 2 inches to determine if moisture is present. If soil is relatively dry beneath the surface, then watering is necessary.

If sufficient moisture is available, wait a couple of days before applying additional water. Another point to consider is your garden soil. Obviously a sandy soil that drains well will require more frequent watering than a heavy soil which holds water.

How much water to apply is another mystery that confronts us. The amount of water to apply must be determined for each and every garden in the county. Apply enough water until you feel your garden is well watered. Then, take a sharpshooter or shovel and dig down and see if the soil is wet to a depth of at least 6 inches. If the soil is wet at that depth, you've watered enough. If it's relatively dry, then water some more. After doing this a couple of times, experience will tell you when you have watered enough.

How you water the garden is important, but adequate watering at the right time and in the right amount is more important than the method used. Most gardeners prefer the furrow or flood system as a means of applying water. Others prefer to use a sprinkler.

There are advantages and disadvantages to each method. The primary advantage of flood or furrow watering is that individual rows can be watered while this is not generally possible with a sprinkler. The main advantage with a sprinkler is that large areas of your garden can be watered without moving the hose form row to row or from area to area. One disadvantage of the sprinkler system is that wet foliage can lead to disease problems. If you prefer to use a sprinkler, then water

in the morning to allow foliage to dry off before cooler evening temperatures set in.

Another method gaining in popularity is drip or trickle irrigation. This system is an effective and efficient means of watering your vegetable plants but it's initial cost is high.

Proper use of water in the garden will be relected in the amount of produce that you take from the garden to the kitchen.

Next I'll discuss some ideas on equipment for controlling garden pests.

Ranchers Watching Local Area

Continued surveillance is the key to holding the line on new screwworm cases in Texas this year.

Two cases have been confirmed in the Lone Star State thus far in 1981. Texas' second screwworm case of the year was confirmed recently from larvae samples collected in a sheep at the Texas A&M University Research Center near Sonora, in Sutton County. Earlier, screwworms were confirmed in a dog at El Paso.

The county agent explained that a 25-mile-square area around Sonora is being "hotspotted" with about 1.5 million sterile screwworm flies, and the treatment is to continue for a month to six weeks.

Additionally, the are is being treated with pellets which contain an insecticide, insect attractant and feeding material. This system is known as SWASS and stands for Screwworm Adult Suppression System.

Senior Citizens Plan Spring Fling

The spring fling senior citizens party will be at 7 p.m. May 6 in the Memorial Building. Those attending will play cards, dominoes and bingo.

Refreshments will be served by the Schleicher County Aging Committee and the Home Demonstration Clubs in the county which host the quarterly events.

Horse Judges Win Second at San Angelo

A team of Schleicher County 4-H youths won 2nd place Tuesday at San Angelo in District Horse Judging.

Cindy Hausenfluck won high individual honors for the senior competition. Other team members are Mary Lisa O'Harrow, Mitzi Mittel and Donna Willeke. This team will represent the district at the State Round-Up in June.

The Junior Team of Jay O'Harrow, Ron Mittel, Jeff Hausenfluck, and Jan Edmiston placed 5th. Jay O'Harrow was 5th high individual for the Junior competition.

Other individual honors went to Dan Willeke who was 5th in the open competition.

Other individual honors went to Dan Willeke who was 5th in the open competition. Other Horse

Judges who competed in the contest were Ashley Johnson, Kin Scott, Clint Griffin, Brant Ward, Wendi Dunagan, Staci Helmers, Michelle Moore, and Brent Moore.

The Schleicher County teams are coached by Melissa O'Harrow. Other adult leaders who accompanied the group to San Angelo were Danny Dunagan and Billy Hausenfluck.

To Please the Bride & Groom

Judy Pitts Bride-Elect of Franz Suaschka
Dawn Diehl Bride-Elect of Lynn Whitaker
Heidi Church Bride-Elect of John Pickel

Make your selections at
Western Auto
Eldorado

Bridal Critique
holley house

Judy Pitts Bride-Elect of Franz Suaschka
Dawn Diehl Bride-Elect of Lynn Whitaker
Heidi Church Bride-Elect of John Pickel

For the unique and creative
853-2763 Hwy 277 Eldorado

Make your bridal selections for

Judy Pitts Bride-Elect of Franz Suaschka
Dawn Diehl Bride-Elect of Lynn Whitaker
Heidi Church Bride-Elect of John Pickel

Westerman Drug

Bridal Selections for

Heidi Church - John Pickel

McCalla's
Downtown Eldorado

McGinnes Is On New Panel

Elton McGinnes, manager for Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, has been invited to serve on the Geothermal Review Panel of the Texas Energy and Natural Resources Advisory Council.

The panel is looking for input to the Radian study that seeks to evolve a geothermal RD&D program plan for the state, which would provide a basis for optimal geothermal resource utilization.

The first of two meetings will be held May 4 in Austin.

Yard Clinic Is Tuesday

A luncheon program on gardening will be given next Tuesday in the Memorial Building by Dr. Tom Fuchs of the Texas Extension Service.

The program will begin about 12:30 p.m. and from 1-3 p.m., he will have a clinic.

Anyone needing advice about bugs, fruit tress, shade trees or other problems is encouraged to attend and bring samples of their plants if possible.

Davises Attend Recent Funeral

Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Davis have returned from Ferris where they attended the funeral of Davis's brother, Paul. With them were Mr. and Mrs. James L. Davis of Humble, Mr. and Mrs. B.I. Rutledge and Jeremy of Weatherford and Mrs. Charles Wilson, Jana Lynn and James Charles of Pearsall.

Mr. Davis, 58, died April 19 in a veterans hospital in Dallas after a brief illness.

He is survived by his wife, three children, five grandchildren, five brothers, and 14 nieces and nephews.

Nephews were pallbearers.

Open House Being Planned

An open house for the new law enforcement center for Schleicher County will be held sometime in May or June, says Sheriff Orval Edmiston.

Law enforcement officials moved into the new facility March 15. It holds cells for 16 inmates and has offices for all law enforcement officials in the county.

A definite date for the open house will be announced later.

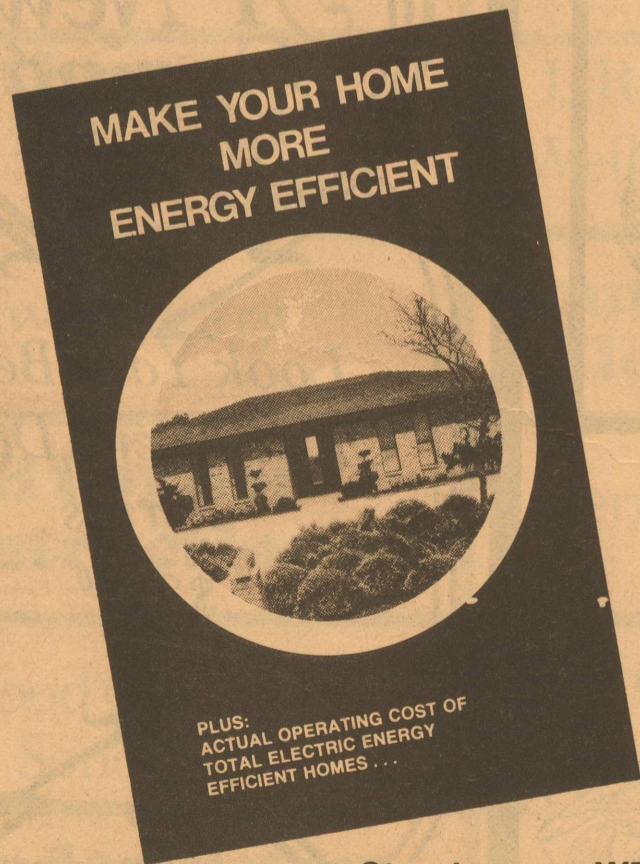
42 Club

Mrs. Jewel Van Dusen was hostess for the 42 Club on April 23 in the club room of the El Dorado Restaurant. Present were Jake Spencer, Bessie Doyle, Maudie Bassinger, Opal Parks, Lois Etheredge, Virginia Griffin and Annie Speck.

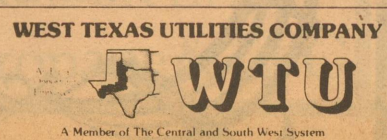
Guests were Erma Fuller Margaret Frost, Natalie Stockton and Florence Hinton.

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Bratton's brings Microwave Magic to San Angelo with a gigantic 2 day MICROWAVE EXPO at the Convention Center. Everything you want to know about microwave ovens accessories, utensils, carts, new models, new features. They're all at the Expo and also, factory representatives and cooking demonstrations around the clock. Over 350 microwave ovens have been shipped in from leading microwave oven manufacturers, including Amana, Quasar, Litton, Tappan, Hotpoint, and Toshiba to be offered on SALE at some of the lowest prices ever. Representatives from most suppliers will be on hand to answer questions and factory trained home economists will be demonstrating the various brands on an around the clock schedule. Possibly the largest display of microwave oven accessories, utensils, cookbooks, and roll-a-round carts has been assembled for this gigantic MICROWAVE EXPO. Manufacturers and suppliers have brought in large quantities of microwave ovens and utensils that will be offered at "one time" low, low EXPO prices during this giant event. So don't miss it. Bratton's MICROWAVE EXPO this SAT. and SUN. at the Convention Center on Rio Concho Dr.

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Council Officers Attend Convention

Several local high school students, all newly elected officers of the EHS Student Council, attended a convention of Texas Association of Student Councils last week in Dallas. They attended several informative meetings and heard discussions about what a student council can do, how to help teachers and improve a school system.

Students attending the meeting were Eddie Montalvo, president; Gregg Davidson, vice president; Margie Logan, corresponding secretary; Stephanie Thomas, recording secretary; and Bill Clark, parliamentarian. Sponsors who also attended the convention were Melonie Reynolds and Maureen Hodges.

School Menus

Monday May 4th Baked Ham Baby Lima Beans Candied Sweet Potatoes Pineapple Chunks White Cake/Chocolate Icing	Friday May 8th Apple Pie Barbecue-on-a-Bun Potato Rounds Ranch Style Beans Brownies
Tuesday May 5th Beef Tacos with Cheese Pinto Beans Lettuce & Tomato Salad Cornbread Chocolate Pudding	Monday May 4th Breakfast Peaches Pancakes-Syrup
Wednesday May 6th Spaghetti & Meatsauce Cream Style Corn Peach Halves Cowboy Cookies	Tuesday May 5th Apricot Halves Buttered Rice-Toast
Thursday May 7th Fried Chicken & Gravy Creamed Potatoes Buttered Spinach Strawberry Jello	Wednesday May 6th Pineapple Juice Hot Biscuits-Sausage-Jelly
	Thursday May 7th Apple Juice Cinnamon Rolls Friday May 8th Banana Choice-of-Cereal

Two EHS Seniors Going To State Meet

Two EHS seniors won the right to go to the state literary meet in Austin in May by winning in the finals in the regional meet last week.

Sandy Willeke will be competing in feature writing and Mike Griffith will compete in news writing. Becky Simmons placed 18th and Nancy Turbeville placed tenth in typing. Mark Wallis placed fifth in science and tenth in ready writing. Kim Payne made the finals in persuasive speaking and Anna Robledo placed fifth in poetry interpretation while Mitzi Mittel won fifth in calculator.

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Girls 880

Going To State

The varsity girls 880 relay team of Sherri Walling, Linda Gentry, Lori Whitaker and Silva Guana ran 147.4 to win first at the regional track meet last week. That place earns them the right to go to state competition May 9 in Austin.

At the regional meet, Kim Payne threw her shot

put 31 feet, six inches but did not place.

Linda Gentry did not place in the long jump but took a fifth in the triple jump.

Whiteright won the meet, Eldorado was second and Junction was third.

The girls will be going to a state qualifiers meet in Hamlin this weekend.

Seventh and Eighth Boys Take Second

Both the seventh and eighth grade boys placed second in the Junction track meet held recently.

The seventh grade gathered 138 points, with the 400 meter relay team of Matthew Dahlberg, Jay O'Harrow, Jimmy Turbeville and Mike Belman placing second. The 1200 meter relay of Joe Fuentes, Jay O'Harrow, Jimmy Turbeville and Mike Belman won second, also.

Mike Minica, Steven Santellano and Erik Cheatham won first, second and fourth in the 600 meter dash. Mikell Minica and Jesus Martinez won sixth and fourth in the 100 meter hurdles, while Jimmy Turbeville won second in the 100 meter dash.

In the 300 meter dash, Steven Santellano, Matthew Dahlberg and Joe Fuentes won second, third and fourth. Mike Belman won first in the 210 low hurdles and Jay O'Harrow won second, Mike Belman won sixth and Jimmy Turbeville won fourth. Eighth graders Victor

Gutierrez, Gene Kackley, Chris Woodward and Tim McAngus won second in the 400 meter relay. Fernando Trevino won first in the 600 meter dash, Eloy Martinez won second and Frank Barajas won fourth.

Victor Gutierrez won fourth in the 100 meter hurdles while Fernando Trevino won third in the 300 meter dash, followed by Brett Nilolauk, fifth and Lonnie Jarrett, sixth. Gene Kackley won fourth and Chris Woodward won third in the 210 low hurdles. Ron Sauer won fourth in the 200 meter dash and in the 1200 meter run, Gene Kackley won first and Eloy Martinez won second. The 1200 meter relay team of Victor Gutierrez, Fernando Trevino, Chris Woodward and Tim McAngus won second.

In field events, Brett Nikolauk won sixth in the shot put.

Victor Gutierrez and Chris Woodward won fifth. John Griffin won third in the pole vault and Wade Wallis won fourth.

Golf Team At Lake Proctor

The EHS golf team is at the Par Country Club at Lake Proctor this week, competing in the regional golf meet. They will be playing 18 holes of golf both Wednesday and Thursday.

The team qualified for the regional meet by scoring 1742 total points in the district golf meet held here recently for the second place. The team is composed of Gene Edmiston

who led the EHS team with 415 points; Wray Crippin, 460; John Mitchell, 466; Kelly Kerr, 482; and John Griffith, 489 points. Keith McCormack also scored 415 points, but will not be playing in the regional meet.

Reagan County won the district meet with 1605 points overall. Their lead players were Torin Burleson with 389 points; Craig Bagley with 394 and Jack Blakely with 398.


Sport Events

- May 1-2 Boys Regional Track Meet
- May 4 FFA Banquet
- May 5 Elem. Music Program
- May 7-8-9 Girls State Track Meet
- May 7 Senior Cookout at Willoughby Ranch
- May 8 Dance Rehearsal
- May 9 Dance Recital
- May 9 8th grade End of Year School Party

Willoughby Going At Regional

Senior EHS tennis buff Ed Willoughby will be in Stephenville this week competing in the regional tennis meet.

Willoughby, coached by Johnny Clawson, advanced to the regional meet by placing in the district meet recently.

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From Page 1

Varsity
 Pole Vault—Mike Davis, Junction, first. Mitch, Davis, Junction, second. D. Simon, Junction, third.
 Long Jump—L. Payne, Ozona, first. D. Woodward, Reagan County, second. Mike Griffith, Eldorado, third.
 High Jump—S. Mc Horse, Menard, first. B. Eppler, Mason, second. D. Hiends, Junction, third.
 400 M Relay—B. Thomas, G. Davidson, T. Martinez, and M. Griffin, Eldorado, first. Wall, second. Menard, third.
 3200 M—Ozona, second. Mason, third.
 110 Hurdles—Junction, first. Eldorado, second. Ozona, third.
 800 M Run—Ozona, first. Mason, second. Ozona, third.
 100 M Dash—Menard, first. Mason, second. Brad Thomas, Eldorado, third.
 400 Meter Dash—Ozona, first. Wall, second. Reagan County, third.
 300 Int. Hurdles—Junction, first. Reagan County, second. Ozona, third.
 1600 Meter—Ozona, first to Crawford, second. Mason, third.
 200 M Dash—Menard, first. T. Martinez, Eldorado, second. Mason, third.
 1600 M. Relay—Ozona, first. T. Martinez, J.P. Joiner, Brad Thomas and Ronnie Linds, Eldorado, second. Reagan County, third.
Junior Varsity Boys
 Pole Vault—James Woodward, Eldorado, first. T. Overstreet, Junction, second. Gene Edmiston, Eldorado, third.
 Shot Put—d. Tijerina, Ozona, first. E. Baker, Reagan County, second. S. Grambort, Junction, third.
 Discus—J. Osborn, Wall, first. B. Osborn, Wall, second. S. Ford, Junction, third.
 Long Jump—T. Houston, Wall, first. Ashley Nibblitt, Eldorado, second. L. Powell, Wall, third.
 High Jump—Ricky Cathelon, Eldorado, first. M. Flores, Junction, second. James Woodward, Eldorado, third.
 400 M. Relay—J. Harlin, J. Woodward, r. Cathey, A Nibblitt, Eldorado, first. Junction, second. Ozona, third.
 3200 M—Wall, first. Wall, second. Junction, third.
 800 M. Run—Douglas Ussery, Eldorado, first. James Cathey, Eldorado, second. Clint Bumgardner, Eldorado, third.
 100 M. Dash—R. Cathey, Eldorado, first. Reagan County, second. Wall, third.
 300 Int. Hurdles—Junction, first. Ozona, second.

Ozona, third.
 200 M. Dash—Jeff Harlin, Eldorado, first. Ozona, second. S. Santello, Eldorado, third.
 1600 M. Relay—Jeff Harlin, rickey Cathey, James Woodward, and Ashley Nibblitt, Eldorado, first. Ozona, second. Junction, third.
 200 M Dash—Jeff Harlin, Eldorado, first. Ozona, second. S. Santello, Eldorado, third.
 1600 M Run—D. Ussery, Eldorado, first. Ozona, second. Santello, Eldorado, third.
 1600 M. Run—D. Ussery, Eldorado, first. Wall, second. Wall third.
 1600 M Relay—Jeff Harlin, Rickey Cathey, James Woodward, and Ashley Nibblitt, Eldorado, first. Ozona, second. Junction, third.
 600 M. Dash—Menard, first. Ozona, second. Steven santellano, Eldorado, third. 300 M. Dash—Ozona, first. Wall, second. Reagan County, third.
 210 Meter Hurdles—M. Bellman, Eldorado, first. Junction, second. J. Tuberville, Eldorado, third.
 200 Meter dash—Reagan County, first. Junction, second. Ozona, third.
 1200 M. Run—Ozona, first. Ozona, second. S. Santellano, Eldorado, third.
 1200 M. Relay—Junction, first. Reagan county, second. Ozona, third.
 100 M. Dash—Junction, first. Eldorado, second. Eldorado, third.
8th Grade
 Pole Vault—T. Schulze, Junction, first. J.D. Mansell, Mason, second. A. Rameriz, Ozona, third.
 Shot Put—J. Marshall, Ozona, first. B. Patterson, Mason, second. C. Costillo, Junction, third.
 Discus—C. Castillo, Junction, first. D. Menchaca, Junction, second. Dely Evans, Reagan County, third.
 High Jump—H. Williams, Reagan County, first. K. Evans, Reagan County, second. A. Rameriz, Ozona, third.
 High Jump—H. Williams, High Jump—H. Williams, Reagan County, first. K. Evans, Reagan County, second. A. Rameriz, Ozona, third.
 400 M. Relay—Menard, first. Mason, second. Reagan county, third.
 100 I Hurdles—Mason, first. Mason, second. Menard, third.
 300 M Dash—Menard, first. Mason, second. Reagan County, third.
 210 M Hurdles—G. Kackley, Eldorado, first. C. Woodward, Eldorado, second. Mason, third.
 1200 M. Run—Ozona, first. G. Kackley, Eldorado, second. Ozona, third.
 200 M. Dash—Menard, first. Mason, second. Mason, third.
 1200 M. Relay—Menard,

first. Mason, second. Reagan County, third.
7th Grade
 Pole Vault—D. Abilen, Junction; First D. Lovell, Ozona, second. C. Armes, Mason, third.
 Shot Put—F. Boone, Junction, first. B. Boone, Junction, second. Robert Cope, Mason, third.
 Discus—B. Boone, Junction, first. C. Hernandez, Ozona, second. J. Hernandez, Junction, third.
 Long Jump—T. Thompson, Reagan County, first. M. Walker, Junction, second. Jay O'Harrow, Eldorado, third.
 High Jump—T. Thompson, Reagan County, first. J. Hernandez, Junction, second. D. Gonzales, Menard, third.
 400 M. Relay—D. Agalez, J. Hernandez, M. Walker, F. Boone, Junction, first. B. Perez, s. sunneis, M. Men-dey, T. Thompson, Reagan County, second. J. Everett, D. Lovell, S. Sanchez, P. Vasquez, Ozona, third.
 1101 Hurdles—Junction, first. Jesus Martinez, Eldorado, second. Mason, third.

Oilfield Locations Can Recover In Time

The oilfield industry has provided a tremendous economic boost to West Texas and Schleicher County in particular. Many local landowners are accumulating a lot of wealth and can afford luxuries that were beyond their means. Our tax base and local businesses are booming because of this energy exploration growth.

But this oilfield growth has some people concerned about the permanent damage we may be doing to our land and water. Among those most concerned are the directors of the Eldorado-Divide Soil and Water Conservation District and the Eldorado Water Conservation District.

David Lloyd, director of the local soil conservation district explained the problem. "With all the drilling activity going on in the county we felt we should try to estimate just how much land has been taken out of

agricultural production by the oilfield. Reliable sources estimate that there have been between 1400 and 1500 oil and gas well dug in this county."

"We measured a few well location pads and found them to average about eight-tenths of an acre in size," Lloyd continued. "The access road to the location also must be taken into account. Well over half of these roads are used by ranchers in their day-to-day operations so not all of these roads can be considered lost to agricultural production. Including well locations, one-half of the access road acreage, and major oilfield service areas; there is at least 2750 acres of land taken out of agricultural production by the oilfield industry in Schleicher County. But this

represents four square miles with no vegetation of any kind growing on it now. This amount of bare soils grows with each well dug. The productivity of the land is hopefully not lost forever, as Fred Stumberg with the local Soil Conservation Service office explained.

"Abandoned oilfield locations can normally recover by letting nature take its course in five to ten years. Recovery depends a lot on how much the caliche has been packed by traffic and how much salt, oil, and chemical has spilled onto the soil surface. Salt and chemical spills take years to leach out enough so that plants can grow on the area again."

"Mechanically ripping up the packed caliche pads and roads will speed up reclamation considerably. This helps get water into soil so that seedling plants can get started," Stumberg continued. "Hand seeding

grasses like Sorghum al-mum and K.R. Bluestem on the disturbed ground will get a cover of vegetation started."

"All the residents of Schleicher County have benefited from the oil and gas production of recent years," Lloyd pointed out. "But we all need to remember that we're going to have to use this land long after the oil and gas are gone. Every land manager should study his own land to make sure he can reclaim it after the mineral production is gone. Perhaps the oil company can help out if reclamation work is necessary."

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Judgers Win At Alpine

Eldorado FFA judging teams competed in the Sul Ross State University Livestock and wool judging contests at Alpine, April 2. The wool team consisting of Clint Bumgardner, John Griffith, John Sparks, and Dan Ray won the wool judging contest. Clint Bumgardner was high point individual in judging wool fleeces and Kelly Griffin was third high individual. The Eldorado team was high individual.

The Eldorado team was high team in judging fleeces and third high team in grading fleeces. Clint Bumgardner was high point individual of the overall contest. The second Eldorado wool team number consisted of Kelly Griffin, Sherry Powell, Bill Clark and Kelly Kerr. This team placed seventh in the wool judging contest. The Eldorado number one livestock judging team

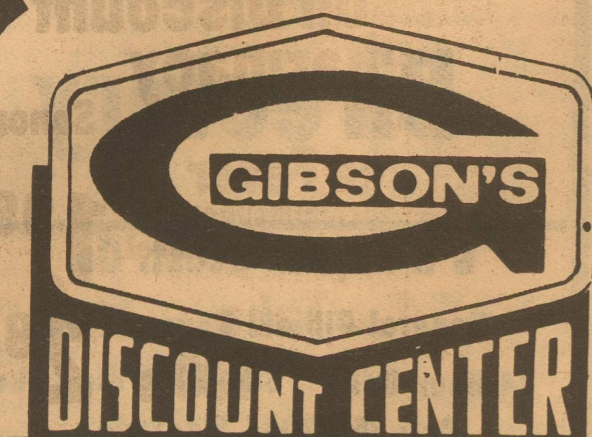
was composed of Kirk Griffin, Nicky Dahlberg, Eddie Harris and Shane Wells. This team was second high team in judging sheep and eleventh high team in the overall contest with a score of 1,126. The Eldorado Number two livestock judging team was composed of Craig Griffin, Mitzi Mittel and Melissa Sauer. This team placed ninth overall with a score of 1,137. Craig

Griffin was eleventh high individual in the contest with a score of 399 points out of a possible 450 points. Eldorado FFA livestock, wool and dairy cattle judging teams competed in the Texas Tech University judging contests at Lubbock on April 11. The livestock team composed of Eddie Harris, Kirk Griffin and Brian Gawrychowski placed seventh in the overall competition. They were fifth place team

in Area II, which qualifies them to compete in the State FFA livestock judging contests. Brian Gawrychowski was 18th high individual in the overall contest with a score of 440 out of a possible 500 points. Eddie Harris was 19th high individual in the overall contest with a score of 440 also. Kirk Griffin scored 429 in the contest. The team scored 297 out of a possible 300 points in judging sheep. They scored

ed 283 out of a possible 300 in grading 10 head of market barrows. The Eldorado FFA wool judging team composed of Clint Bumgardner, John Sparks, and Kelly Griffin were the third place team in wool judging at the Texas Tech contests. Clint Bumgardner, was sixth high overall individual and John Sparks was seventh overall high individual. John Sparks was fifth high individual in judging fleeces

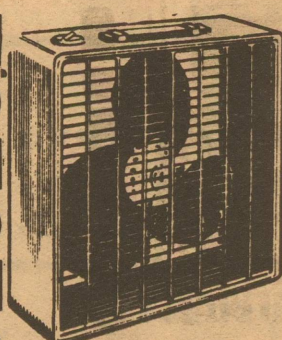
and Clint Bumgardner was third high individual in grading twenty wool fleeces. Craig Griffin, Mitzi Mittel and Sherry Powell were the Eldorado FFA Dairy Cattle judging team. They ranked 72nd out of a field of 123 dairy cattle teams in the contest. Mrs. Walter Powell went with the FFA members to the Texas Tech contest as chaperone for the girls who made the trip to Lubbock.



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TOM LOEFFLER
Congressman 21st District-Texas
Reports from Washington

The Space Shuttle's Future

Six years have passed since the last American manned space flight and films like "Star Wars" and computer games such as "Space Invaders" have created a new level of fantasy.

The reality of man's exploration outside the Earth's realm was demonstrated once again when the space shuttle Columbia left the Earth in a litany of thunder, light and sound. An estimated 80,000 Americans watched the shuttle launch at Cape Canaveral and millions more watched the billion-dollar spectacle on television sets around the world.

Getting a spaceship up is a task of near maximum risk and anxiety. All the fire, thunder and vibration carry a message of manifest peril. But getting a spaceship down can be equally risky and never more so than in the case of Columbia, which had to slow down from a velocity of 25 times the speed of sound, drop like a rock out of orbit, and glide to a perfect touchdown on a runway in the California desert.

Where the space program goes from here remains to be seen in this time of fiscal austerity.

But the impact of two decades of space technology has touched our lives in countless ways: Sophisticated weather satellites show us in detail what tomorrow's weather will be and why — as well as giving us storm warnings that save untold lives. Earth mapping satellites show us within inches where we are on this globe, and reveal to us previously hidden energy and mineral resources. Today's tougher-than-metal plastics, kitchen food wrap — even our freeze-dried coffee and juice crystals — are products of this technology.

The flight of the good ship Columbia was widely interpreted as a successful resurgence in space flight. Ironically, it came on the 20th anniversary of the first manned space flight by the Soviet cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin.

Unlike the earlier Mercury and Apollo launchings which generated so much initial excitement and a clear sense of American technological achievement, the shuttle takeoff was viewed by many with far more confidence that it would succeed and with a quieter sense of pride and accomplishment when it did.

The launching signaled America's entry into a huge laboratory that will enable the country to travel where we've never traversed before. With the shuttle comes the opportunity for new technology the creation of which is one of those milestones in the history of the United States.

The shuttle means the military can make more use of space, flying bigger navigation, communication and surveillance satellites into Earth orbit than ever before.

Science also benefits: Projected to be among the satellites the shuttle will take into space in the next five years is a 54-foot-long telescope that will peer 10 times deeper into the heavens than the largest telescopes on Earth.

That the shuttle exists gives testimony to the very spirit of America and its ability to accomplish any mission it so desires.

The 4.5 million-pound, 184-foot-high complex of machinery and electronics was fitted together by 49 different companies. The launch itself was the first time human pilots have gone into space on an untested new spacecraft.

This shuttle launching was not to achieve novelty but to institute routine — a continuous American presence in space.

Some compare the shuttle's forthcoming career with the mail planes that opened the first air routes in the 1920s and 1930s; To embark in the shuttle, astronauts John W. Young and Robert L. Crippen therefore needed as much courage and intelligence as the pioneers of civil aviation.

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I want to thank everyone who helped me when I had my accident--Bill Maness, Orval, Carolyn Porter, John Callison, Rusty Meador, and all the doctors and nurses. Also, everyone who sent flowers, candies and other gifts, prayers and love and all who visited me in the hospital. Your thoughtfulness was really appreciated. Rose Edmiston

Thanks to each of you who expressed concern or love in any way during the long illness and death of our sister. The cards and prayers, foods and flowers have made our burden easier to bear. May God be near and dear to each of you is our prayer. Lois and Jack Eteredge

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Spotlight On Business



NEW PECAN ORCHARD--John Edward Meador and some hands plant one of 1400 pecan trees on his place east of Eldorado. This will be the fourth major pecan orchard in the county. The three major and three minors orchard in the county produced over 60,000 pounds of pecans in 1979.

Donaldson's Have A Girl

Sabrina Dawn Donaldson was born at noon April 27 in Angelo Hospital in San Angelo. She is the daughter of Bill and Cathy Donaldson of Eldorado.

The baby weighed six pounds, 11 ounces.

Grandparents are Ed Hicks of San Angelo, Erlene Keeney of San Angelo and Clara Mae Donaldson of Eldorado.

A brother, Chauncey will welcome the baby home.

Calendar

Sunday, May 3--Community singing 2 p.m. Memorial Building.
 Saturday, May 2--District 4-H Method demonstration Contests, San Angelo.
 Monday, May 4--FFA parent-member banquet, 7:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 5--Home gardening program noon luncheon, Memorial Building; school musical program, 7:30 p.m., high school auditorium.
 Wednesday, May 6--Senior citizen party, 2 p.m., Memorial Building; Probation officer, 9-4, courthouse.
 May 7-9--State UIL contest in Austin.
 May 8--Deadline for buying tickets for all-sports banquet.
 Tuesday, May 12--All-Sports banquet, 7 p.m. school cafeteria
 Wednesday, May 13--Golf Club bingo, 7:30 p.m. clubhouse
 Saturday, May 16--Golf Tournament.

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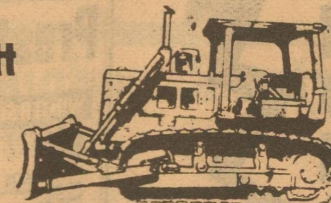
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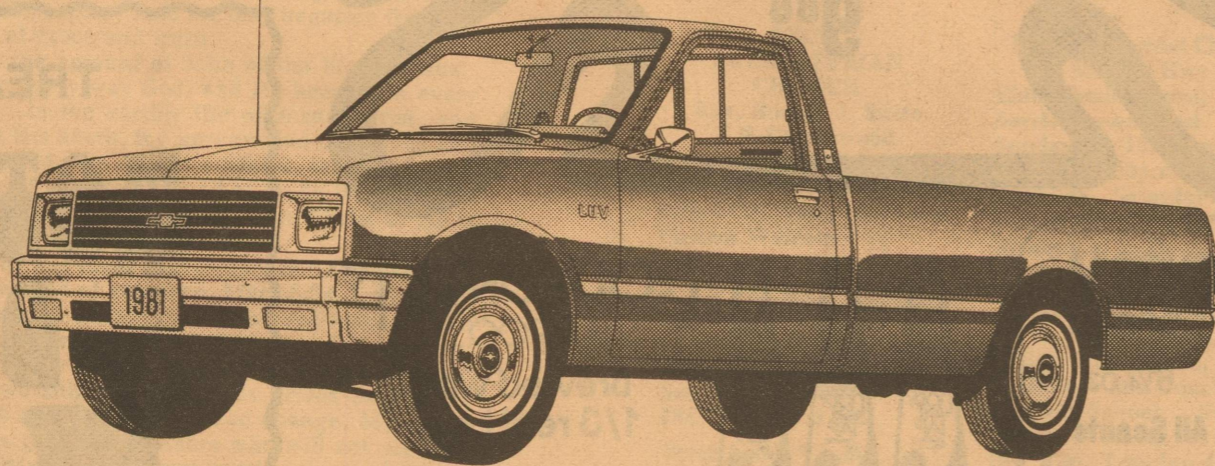
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Cotton Gin Plays Vital Role In Community

A cotton gin plays a vital role in the agriculture picture of a farming community, especially if cotton is the best money crop per acre of land, as it is in Schleicher County. Mikeska Gin, Operated by Kenith Homer, has fulfilled that role for many years. However, Homer is now wishing to sell the opera-

tion and because an individual has not been found to buy it, local farmers are trying to form a cooperative to buy the gin.

A four man committee of Hyman Sauer, Duwain Sauer, David Lloyd and Steve Williams has been busy for the past several weeks trying to draw up arrangements and draw up

a sales contract for the organization.

Much progress has been made on the transaction. If it is completed, a charter and by-laws will have to be written and individual farmers will be contacted to give a pro rata contribution based on his production to raise money to begin the operation. After the

money is collected, long term financing will be arranged through the Texas Bank of Cooperatives in Houston.

Producers here are hopeful the cooperative will be formed because if there is not a gin in the county, cotton producers will have

to haul their cotton to the nearest gin at Wall, which is 60 miles away. Those who can afford it will have to invest in larger trailers or expensive modular cotton builders. Those who cannot afford it will not raise cotton but turn to small grains.

At the present time, there are 63 cotton farmers in the county who planted a total of 8098 acres of cotton this year. Therefore, it is especially important to them that the gin here remain a part of the agriculture picture in Schleicher County.

From page 10



Cotton growers on Duwain Sauer farm

led through the state of Texas and across the nation. He says his best trip with the group was the one they took to Alberta, Canada last summer. He reported the Angus cattle were larger than those here because of the higher elevation, better feed and better climate.

Deal says he tries to keep cattle with a good disposition and those who have bought his bulls brag on that quality. He never sells a bull less than 18 months old or older than 36 months. Several of his heifer calves have been sold for show purposes and many of them have won top awards in local and area shows.

Deal now has extra help with his operation, his daughter and son-in-law have now moved back to the Mund place. Their daughter, Amy, got into the picture last year and show-

ed one of her grandfather's calves, which took top honors in the Schleicher County, San Angelo, and Houston shows.

Because of his reputation in the cattle business, Deal

has been invited to put his brand, which is a combination of the letters in his name, at Texas A&M University, the Texas Angus Association Building in Fort Worth and the Iron County Community Center in Mertzon.

From Page 9

Brangus cattle, which he says does well in almost any kind of environment. He says they do not have trouble calving and the calves develop quickly.

Cawley's five children have all shown Brangus calves in livestock shows and they have brought

home top honors many times. The youngest, 15 year old, Bill is still going "hot and heavy" says his dad.

The Cawleys feel that the good Schleicher County soil and climate are part of the reason the Brangus cattle are some of the best in Texas.

First Annual Farm And Ranch Edition



A Supplement To The

Schleicher County Leader

April 30, 1981

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Cox Was Wrong About This Area

In 1849, a man named C. Cox was on his way to the California gold fields. He travelled through an area of Texas which he described as destitute and poor, because of the sparsity of water and barren prairie. He believed that this area would always remain uninhabited.

However, a few years later, several cattlemen moved into the area, followed closely by sheepmen. After the turn of the century, they were joined by hundreds of settlers who helped form and organize the city of Eldorado and Schleicher County.

By 1901 these settlers had proved Cox's theory wrong. There was really a lot of water, not on top of the ground in the form of springs or rivers, but underneath. They also proved that the grassland was very rich and excellent for cattle. The grassland mixed with the dry and arid climate proved excellent for raising sheep, also.

On the western part of the county another kind of settler put his theory to rest when they began the farming communities at the Bailey Ranch area and the Reynolds Community. They soon found out the land was good for both cotton and grain.

And now, 132 years after Cox passed through this county, and when the county is experiencing a boom in oil and gas production, the people who live here are for the most part agriculturally minded. Many of them are descendants of those original settlers who had so much to do with the settlement of the county. And they are still proving that Cox's theory was wrong.

Sheep production is a large part of the agricultural picture of Schleicher County. According to agricultural statistics released by Reagan Brown, director of the Texas Commission of Agriculture, there were 77,000 sheep in Schleicher County in January of 1980. About 54,000 of these animals were ewes one year and over. Schleicher County ranchers produced about 654,000 pounds of wool in 1979, according to the statistics. (Note: statistics for 1980 have not been released as of press time.)

Cattle are also a large agriculture product, with 32,000 cows numbered at the first part of 1980. Out of that number, 15,000 were beef cows that had calved.

There were about 11,000 Angora goats in the county in 1979 and they produced about 95,000 pounds of mohair that year.

In 1979, local farmers and ranchers received \$12,643,000 for livestock and livestock products and \$2,279,000 for all crops, making a total of \$14,922,000 received for both livestock and crops. Government payments amounted to \$361,000.

Most of the farming in Schleicher County centers around the city of Eldorado and in the western part of the county in the Bailey Ranch area and Reynolds Community. Dryland farmers planted about 8,200 acres of upland cotton in 1979 and harvested 8,000 of them. They produced about 6,200 bales of cotton in 1979.

Wheat is a major farm product with about 4,700 acres of the crop planted in 1979. About 3,700 acres were harvested for a yield of 93,700 bushels. Oats also figures into the farming picture with farmers harvesting about 3,100 acres of this crop and producing about 142,000 bushels.

Another large product is grain. Farmers produced about 94,640 bushels of 5,500 acres of harvested land. They also produced 2,400 tons of alfalfa hay from 2,000 acres of land.

Another crop that has just come into the picture during recent years is

pecans. There are three major and three minor pecan orchards in the county. Together they

produced about 60,000 pounds of pecans in 1979, although the following year production was cut consi-

Schleicher Products Sold For \$9.7 Million

The market value of agricultural products sold by the 257 farms in Schleicher County amounted to \$9.7 million for 1978 or an average of \$37,562 each, up from \$6 million in 1974 with an accompanying increase in production costs, according to a preliminary report of the 1978 Census of Agriculture released today by the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

A breakdown of the county's total agricultural sales for 1978 followed by that for 1974, is as follows: Crops, \$513,000 compared with \$1.1 million; livestock, poultry, and their products, \$9.1 million in 1978.

While the value of gross sales rose, the farmers' costs also climbed since 1974. For example, expend-

itures for feed for livestock and poultry for 1978 were \$1.7 million compared to \$1.1 million; costs of gasoline, diesel and other petroleum products were \$628,000 compared to \$438,000. Farm energy costs of all types totaled \$814,000 for 1978. The estimated market value of machinery and equipment per farm increased from \$15,140 to \$22,543.

Of the total farms in the county, 21 had gross sales of \$100,000 or more and 103 had sales of under \$10,000. Farms operated by individuals or families represented 87 percent of the total; farms operated by corporations accounted for 2 percent. Some 82 percent of the operators owned all or part of the land they operated.

they made another kind of "gold", the kind that makes some of the best farming and ranching country in Texas. No wonder those first settlers named their city Eldorado, for the City of Gold.

In 1978 the average age of a farm operator was 52.9 years. Since 1974 the proportion of operators listing farming as their principle occupation changed from 48 percent to 53 percent.

Data in the reports for acreage and inventories for 1978 and 1974 are generally comparable; however, improved coverage in 1978, especially of smaller farms, should be taken into consideration in making direct comparisons of farm counts. Dollar values have not been adjusted for changes in price levels.

Other results of the census show the 257 farms counted in 1978 had an average size of 2,957 acres. For 1974, 264 farms were counted with an average

Continued on Page 4

Agent Here To Help

"We are A&M in the counties," stated Jerry Swift, extension agent for agriculture in Schleicher County while explaining his role in the farm and ranch picture here.

Swift explained that the Extension Service is totally educational as agents provide information on anything pertaining to farming and ranching. That includes information on gardening, commercial projects, livestock, field crops, orchards, range management, predator control, rural development, community development, civic club programs, youth activities and energy conservation, just to name a few.

"We get people to help themselves through requests for information," Swift explained. "We are not a service, we are totally educational and only supply advice for anyone who asks for it."

In the rural development field, Swift helped local people rebuild the 4-H show barn and is working on a program concerning income taxes and another on oil and gas leasing.

They also present programs to civic clubs such as the Lions Club, sorority, Jaycees or school clubs on topics of interest to them.

The local extension agent also works with area, state and Texas A&M specialists

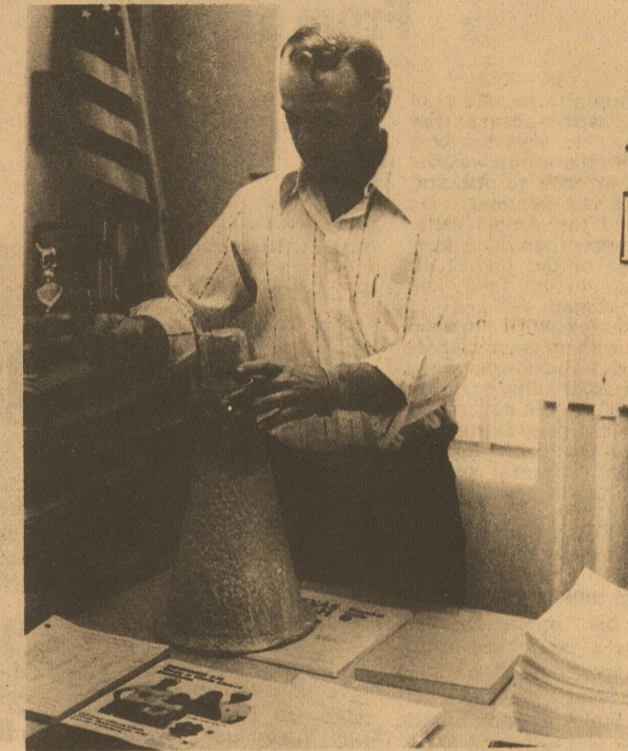
when he is confronted with special problems. He can call on any of them to help him at any time.

He also cooperates with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office and the Soil and Water Conservation Service. Representatives of all three serve on the County

Administration Committee in case of a disaster such as a drought, tornado or flood.

They also serve on the Rural Civic Defense committee.

With all of this combined, Swift stays a busy man, always on call for anyone who needs information on any subject dealing with farming or ranching.



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Otis Deal Learned To Like Angus Cattle

Otis Deal has long been known in the circle of Angus breeders in Texas as well as in the nation. But Deal was not always an Angus breeder as he began ranching in Schleicher County with Hereford cattle in 1938. However, most of his herd had to be sold during the drought of the 1950's. "In 1953, I thought the drought was over, so I bought the Mund place (in the northwest part of the county). With the place came 20 Angus cows, nine heifers and one bull, all subject to registration," he explained. He added that he became very fond of this small herd of Angus cattle because they did not have to be dehorned, did not have trouble with pink eye, cancer eye, or bad udders, but did have larger calves and better percentage or calving rates.

In 1959, he decided to register his herd because he liked them so well. He now has about 90 head of Angus cattle, 75 of which are registered.

He has sold many Angus bulls in auctions the last 18 years. At first, he began with Gerald Hardgraves and Dr. D.D. Wall of San Angelo. Then he worked with Herman Allen and Henry Moore. But in the last six years he has had individual sales, all at Producers Livestock in San Angelo.

Deal is now serving his fifth three year term as a director of the Texas Angus

Association and is a member of the American Angus Association.

He served four years on the County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service Committee, and 13 years on the board of directors for the Eldorado-Divide Soil and Water Conservation district and has been superintendent of the Junior Angus Heifer Show in San Angelo for the

past eight years.

He has also been a director for the Federal Land Bank for the past 18 years and is serving his second three year term as a member of the stockholder committee of that organization.

As a member of the Angus Association, he and his wife, Ora, have traveled
Continued Page 12



Angus calves on Deal ranch

Moore's Operate Only Hog Farm In County

The next time you eat Gooch brand sausage, think of Mike and Henry Moore because chances are the pork that went into that sausage came from their hog farm located in the western part of Schleicher County.

Mike and his father went into the hog business eight years ago when raising hogs was a money-making proposition, and an alternative to raising sheep on their land which was covered with bitterweed.

They began with 200 sows and now maintain between 450 and 500 breeding mother sows. Their offspring number between 3500 and 4000 and range in age from one day old to six months old, said the younger Moore who explained the operation.

All of the sows and their babies are kept in total confinement in a farrowing house until the babies are six weeks old, he said. At that time they go to a nursery for three or four more weeks.

They are then taken to another confining barn and kept on concrete floors which are heated by hot

water. They stay there until they are five or six months of age and ready for market.

At that time, they usually weigh about 220 pounds and are sold to Gooch Packaging Company in Abilene. From 75 to 200 head of pigs are transported at a time by a triple deck cattle trailer.

Mike noted that when they began their business, pigs sold for 60 cents a pound although the lowest price they received for them during the years was 22 cents a pound. Right now they are selling for a break even price of 42 cents per pound.

"But this isn't something you get into and out of, though." "We just have to hold on until the price goes back up," Moore said, saying they hoped the price would reach 50 cents per pound during June or July.

Investment on the hog buildings is minimal as the two men built them themselves out of used oil field pipe, building barns as their operation grew.

Moore said the hog operation can be a real bonus at times because in the dry years, cows usually have to

be sold because of the lack of grazing. However, pigs eat maize and feed which can be found either locally or at another area. Also, the operation keeps freezers at both homes full of fresh pork.

Of course, there are problems, also. The Moores have to hire enough help around the barns to assure that none of the mother sows lay on her babies or attack them. Sometimes the mother sows who are having their first litters need medication so they settle down and accept their new charges.

There is also a lot of cleanup work and maintenance work in the barns.

Pigs farms can cause quite an odor but since the barns are located to the east of Henry Moore's, the smell is not too much of a nuisance, unless, of course, the wind is blowing from the northeast.

This doesn't seem to bother the two men very much. They just keep on working with their mother sows and counting on their offspring to bring them a good price and profit this summer.

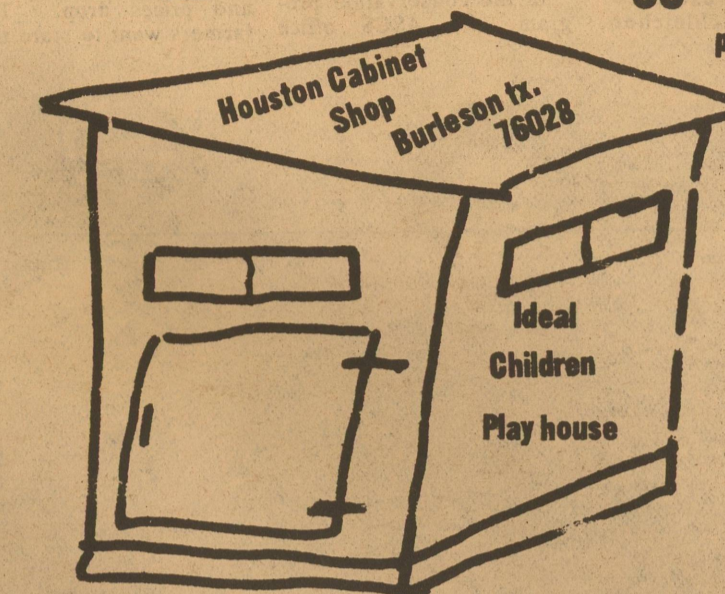
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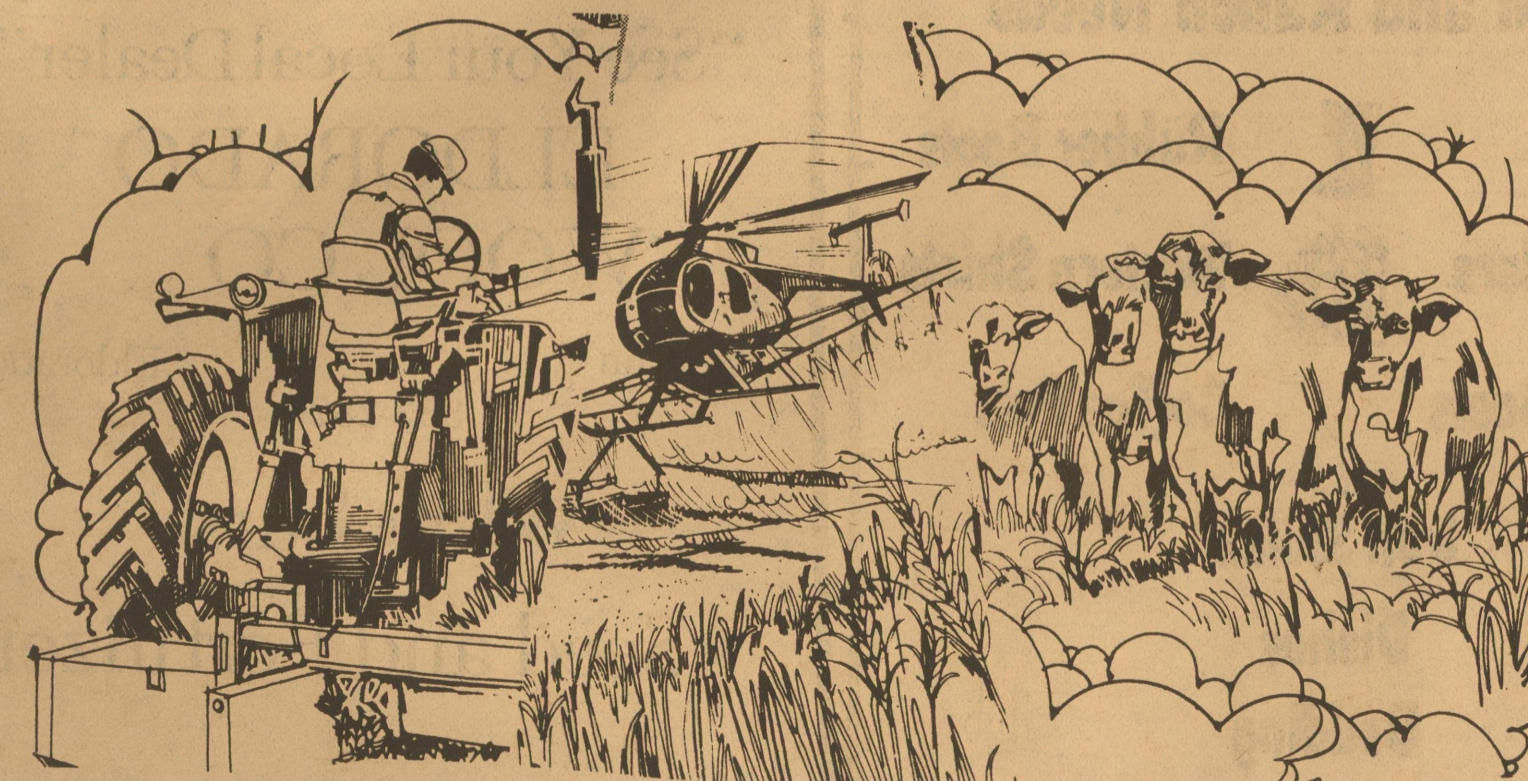


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ASCS Office Administers Several Programs

When it comes to farm and ranch programs, the local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office does a little bit of everything.

The purpose of our office is to administer farm programs legislated or passed by Congress," explained Ronnie Mittel, executive director for Schleicher

County. Five of the farm and ranch programs most popular in this county are the agricultural conservation program, the storage facility loans, disaster payments, wool incentive program and the price supply program.

In the conservation program, the ASCS office

works with the producer with a cost-sharing program for conservation projects such as brush control, building fences, building water systems, building tanks, drilling water wells and building terraces.

There are times when farmers make large crops and prices drop. Then farmers want to store their

crops until the prices improve. The ASCS office offers a loan program where by loans can be obtained on a grain bin or building to suit the needs of the farmer. Eligible producers pay 25 percent of the cost and the ASCS will finance the balance for a period of five years. One installment payment is made each year. Interest is 14.5 percent on the unpaid balance.

Along the same lines, the price support program is really a loan program in which farmers can store excessive crops when prices are low and keep them until the price increases. The farmer takes out a loan against the crop and when the crop is sold, he pays back the loan plus interest.

On the other hand, if crops are not good because of a disaster such as hail storms or droughts, farmers can receive payments for low yield crops through the ASCS office.

The wool incentive program is a widely used program in which sheep raisers receive incentive payments for raising more and better quality wool in the county. Producers are paid a set amount which is derived from a support level per pound and an average national selling price. The incentive pay-

ment, is the difference between the two figures multiplied by a given percentage. Payment in 1981 is \$39.6 per each \$100 worth of wool sold last year.

Almost every county has its own ASCS office. The local office has three employees, Mittel, Becky Jones and Ruth O'Harrow. They work with a county committee which is composed of Mike Moore,

chairman; Earl Lloyd, vice-chairman and Duwain Sauer, member. They are elected to three year terms.

Mittel has been with the local ASCS office for 18 years. He is a native of Eldorado. He and his wife, Sharon have two children, Ron and Mitzel.

The office is located at 105 1/2 E. Calendar street in Eldorado.

From Page One

size of 2,868 acres. The land in farms totaled 759,964 acres in 1978 and 757,032 acres in 1974. Crops were harvested from 12,132 acres in 1978 and 16,111 acres in 1974.

The inventory of cattle and calves changed from 30,080 in 1974 to 28,406 in 1978. The number of sheep changed from 105,271 to 83,505 in 1978, while the number sold changed from 74,680 to 56,078.

Acres of crops harvested for 1978 and 1974 were as follows: sorghum for grain, 4,701 acres versus 5,328 acres; cotton, 1,978 acres versus 4,538 acres; hay, 3,859 acres versus 2,918 acres; land in orchards, 269 acres versus 249 acres; oats, 460 acres in

1978. The figures are for farms qualifying under the definition: any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.

The agriculture census was conducted in 1979 to obtain data on the Nation's farm production and sales for calendar year 1978. Information from the farm census, the 21st of a series which began in 1840, will be used by Federal, State and county agencies, agricultural colleges, agricultural and business groups, and farmers to help make a variety of decisions about agricultural programs and policies.

Certain Of Benefits

Bobby Helmers Believes Conservation Is Worth It

"I started becoming concerned about the carrying capacity of the land several years ago when it looked as if the brush were going to take over the ranch," stated Bobby Helmers, rancher of 14 years in northern Schleicher County.

"When I read about the ASCS office's ACP practices in their monthly newsletters, I went in and visited with them to find out more about their available funds," he added.

The Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service provides a variety of help-programs for the producer to cost-share on conservation practices such as establishing permanent vegetative cover, improving permanent vegetative cover, cross fencing, brush control, constructing wells for livestock water, storage facilities, spraying to control mesquite, and others.

Helmers had actively participated in several types of these practices over the past six years.

"Of course, they only help with a percentage of the cost on conservation work but the encourage-

ment of that helps the producer to get the seemingly monumental task of something like bulldozing cedar into perspective. With the conservation guidelines set forth by the ASCS office, I have improved my ranchland more than you could imagine. Now, I can grub and use my own bulldozer to control the brush in problem areas to improve grassland for the livestock," stated Helmers.

"I think that their requirement of deferral of the land when doing something such as bulldozing cedar helps the grassland as much as anything," he said.

In 1975, he bulldozed 150 acres of cedar with the aid of the ASCS office.

In 1977 and 1978, he bulldozed some more acreage of mainly mesquite. Again in 1980, he was able to bulldoze cedar in other areas of his ranch.

"In retrospect, I think that without the brush control made possible by the encouragement and guidelines of the ASCS office, I would have had to just sell of some livestock during the drought of last year.

However, I do not think that the drought affected us as much as some because of the conservation practices we incorporated during the previous years," Helmers added.

In 1976, he was aided by the ASCS office in building a storage tank and cross fence. These helped by allowing him to graze the livestock in a wider area for longer periods of time.

Also, the cross fence helped him to keep from overgrazing in certain areas.

He plans to continue using conservation methods on his ranchland and is certain of the benefits.

Brangus Are Popular

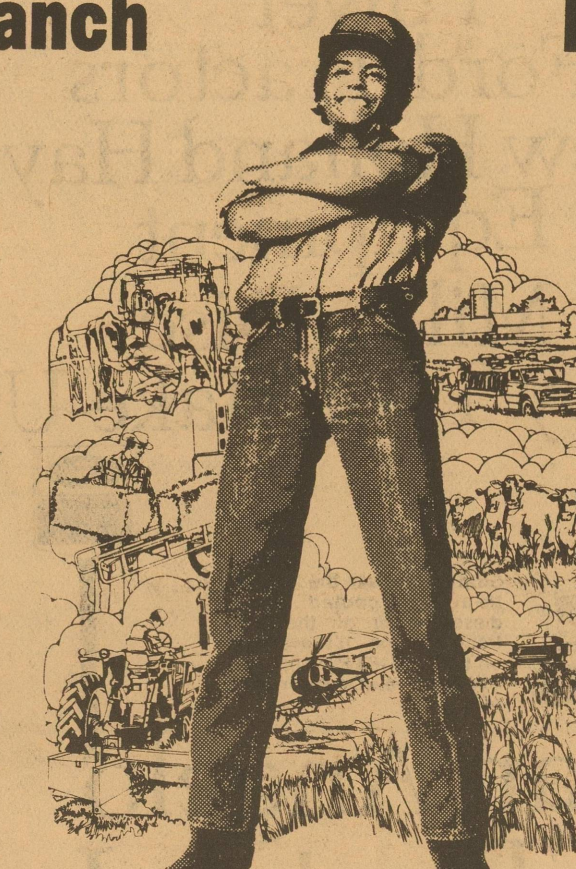
At this moment, the Brangus cattle is the hottest breed of cattle in America," said Jim Cawley who has ranched four miles southeast of Eldorado on the old Fort McKavett highway for the past 23 years.

Cawley took over the ranch from his father and now has 250 registered



ASCS' personnel-Becky Jones, Ruth O'Harrow, Ronnie Mittel




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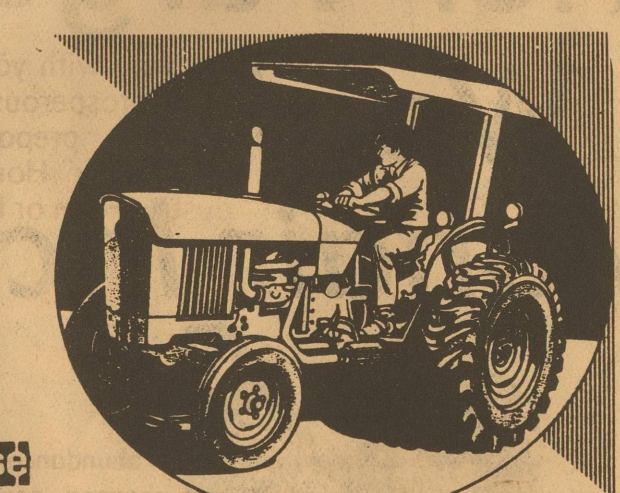
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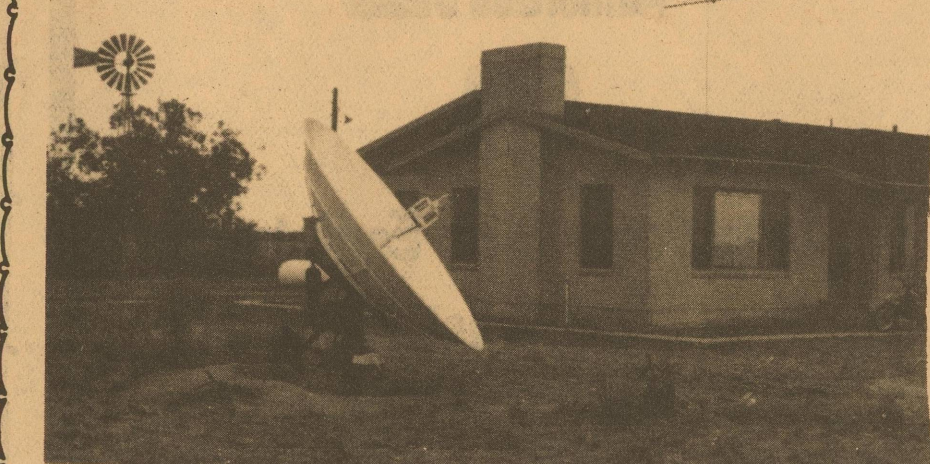
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And vice versa Freitags Are Proud Of Their Brangus Cattle

Bill and Mabel Freitag had very often admired the Brangus cattle on the Robert O. Anderson ranches between Roswell and Ruidoso, New Mexico. A friend, Glaze Sacra, who helped start the Anderson herd, was visiting in their

home one day, and, as always, ranching was the main topic of conversation.

That day, in 1972, the Freitags made a deal with Glaze to buy some of his Registered Brangus cows. They have added to their

herd, keeping the best heifer calves each year. They try to add a new bull to the herd each year which are purchased from Brangus breeders in Texas. They sell bull calves when they are yearlings to two years old at the ranch to commercial and registered breeders.

Their cattle are gentle, they are changed from pasture to pasture with a feed sack and at marking and branding time they are penned the same way. At weaning time the calves are put in pens and fed for about ten days. They are then put in a small trap and come in to their feed each day, so they are all gentle when they are turned to larger pastures. If there happens to be a wild, "snuffy" one in the herd, it goes to sale because one wild one can ruin an entire herd.

The Freitags are always happy when people come to the ranch and want to look at their cattle. They are proud of them, and really, they think the cattle are proud of them, especially when they see them coming with the feed trailer and a sack of feed.



L&L General 9/9

In Schleicher County

Cases Celebrating Centennial Year

Two Wisconsin investors came to Schleicher County in 1881 to begin the Case ranch which was then a large track of land they purchased from the railroad. They were Jerome D. Case who is credited with inventing the threshing machine and founding the Racine, Wisc. based J.D. Case Company and Eli Stilson who invented the pipe wrench that bears his name.

The two jointly operated the Texas ranching operation until the early 1900's when the Stilson family sold their interest to Case.

In 1937 P.F. Case, the youngest grandson of J.D. Case moved with his wife, Ruth and their three children to the new ranch home built on the Case Ranch 15 miles northwest of Eldorado on the Mertzon Highway. Together with his son, Fred, a registered Hereford herd was established in 1941.

The Hereford breeding establishment, now in its 40th year, is presently operated by Fred Case and his son, Pete. Besides bulls and females that are sold at

the ranch, bulls are consigned each fall to the Concho Hereford Sale in San Angelo. Since 1968, when the ranch first began selling in the Concho hereford sale, Hereford bulls produced by this Schleicher County ranch have captured ten championships in pre-sale judging as well as several top selling bulls.

In 1975, Case Hereford bulls were entered in a performance treating program that was started in Lovington, N.M. and is now conducted annually near Monahans, as the Lone Star Testing Center. This allows the comparative measurement of some of the important economic factors essential to profitable beef production and has been a useful selection tool for the ranch as well as for its bull customers.

An annual bull sale is held at the Lone Star Testing Center at the completion of the 112 day test each February. Case bulls out of this testing program have been very popular and the ranch has had several divisional leaders in the test over the six years of performance testing.



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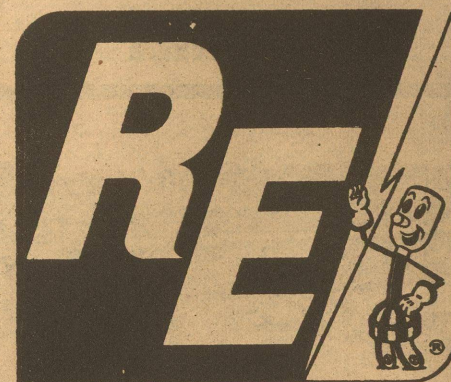
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Cattle on Sykes ranch

Sykes Herd Now Numbers 300

A native of Runnels County, Bobby Sykes began his registered Hereford cattle herd in Schleicher County in 1951 with 221 head from a herd owned by his father, O.C. Sykes.

Today, Sykes and his family have about 300 head on their ranch, located on Rudd Road.

He is now using his Hereford cows with Angus, Brahma, Red Brangus and Hereford bulls.

The family also raises registered quarterhorses, Rambouillet and Suffolk sheep and Angora goats. Several of their horses have won top prizes during previous years.

Sykes and his wife live in Eldorado. They have two sons, Bobby who lives in Midland and Steve who lives on the ranch.

The Schleicher County Leader is happy to support farming and ranching in our County!

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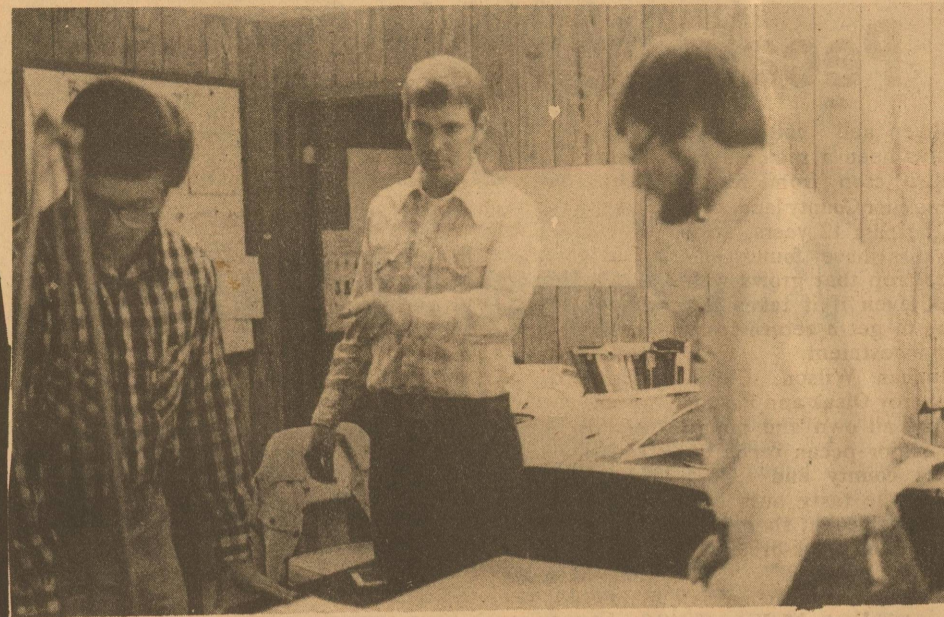
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John Wimberly, Fred Stumberg Lynn Gilpin

SWCS Helps Save Valuable Water, Topsoil

During the late 1940's and 1950's West Texas farmers and ranchers lost a large amount of precious topsoil to wind and drought. After that time, they gave considerable amount of thought to saving those valuable natural resources.

The local office has three employees, Fred Stumberg, director and Lynn Gilpin and John Wimberly. They work with directors elected by landowners in

five zones, David Lloyd, Ross Whitten, De Lux, Johnny Griffin and Jimmy O'Harrow. Each has to be a landowner in the zone he represents.

The local district provides assistance to landowners free of charge. They try to help them get the best production out of livestock and at the same time keep the land in good productive shape.

Their advice has to be practical from both a conservation and economic viewpoint, especially in this time of inflation and high interest rates.

The district helps ranchers with such programs as laying out crossfencing, brush control, reseeding land, laying out water systems and developing grazing plans.

They help farmers design and lay out parrallel terrace systems, irrigation pipelines, contour lines and furrow irrigation systems.

Some of this kind of work is done through the Great Plains Conservation program, which is a cost-sharing program funded and administered through the district. It pays from 50 to 80 percent of the cost of carrying out a conservation practice.

Since the 1950's 64 Schleicher County landowners have worked through this program to do brush work, build fences, reseed land, build stock tanks, establish

1981 Wheat Crop Looks Promising

The wheat crop for Schleicher County has a lot of promise in 1981, noted Ronnie Mittel, executive director for the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

He said that about 10,000 acres of wheat had been planted in the county, with most of that located around Eldorado and in the Bailey Ranch and Reynolds community areas.

The reason behind the large wheat crop, he said is that last year, several crops failed and much land laid idle so farmers seeded wheat in September and October, knowing that if the wheat crop made it would be an early money crop. The large wheat crop will be harvested in June and with any luck at all, it may one of the largest wheat crops in several years.

Pecans Are New Crop

Sheep and cattle have always been a major agriculture crop from fertile Schleicher County land, but in the past 12 years, area growers have found another crop that grows well here, even if it takes ten years to get a return from your investment.

Duncan Wilson, Clovis and Leroy Olsak and Patton Enochs all own and maintain major pecan orchards in the county and report raising the tasty nuts can be profitable but time-consuming and back-breaking business.

Wilson, whose orchard is close to Fort McKavett, began his business about 12 years ago and gradually added to it until he had about 1600 Wichita and Western Schley trees. He got into the business because "I was always interested in raising pecans."

The Olsak brothers began their orchard ten years ago on their place on the Bailey Ranch Road. They added to it four years ago, making a total of 1800 Wichita and Western pecan trees. They went into the business "so we would not have to rely on only one or two crops each year and to better utilize good Schleicher County water," commented Clovis.

The third major orchard in the county belongs to Patton Enochs who has about 1,000 Western Schley, Sioux and Western pecans. Their orchard, about 11 years old, is on the Old Angelo Highway.

Pecan growers all agree that the easiest part of

raising a pecan crop is planting the trees and it is all hard work from then on. Upkeep is constant and expensive as the trees have to be irrigated, fertilized and sprayed for insects several times a year. And even if a crop looks good, there is still a chance it will be lost to a late freeze in the spring or an early freeze in the fall.

But this county can raise bumper crops of pecans. In 1978, there were 60,000 pounds of pecans raised here, according to a report from the commissioner of agriculture. Olsak reported that his crop last year was good because his orchard is

on high ground and escaped an early freeze.

However, Wilson and Enochs were not as fortunate because their crops were on lower ground and were damaged by the freeze. Wilson reported he made 27,000 pounds of pecans in 1979 and 5,000 pounds in 1980.

Other minor orchards in the county belong to Darrell McDonald, Joe Christian and Frank Perkins. A fourth major orchard, with 1400 trees, was planted earlier this year.

With good spring rains this year, there is a chance 1981 will see a bumper crop of pecans from Schleicher County.



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