

Motley County Tribune

Voice of the Foothill Country

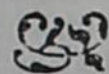
107 YEARS

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1998

ISSUE NO. 18

50¢
per copy

A Look Back



MAY 10, 1951

"Dedication services were held Sunday, May 6, in the Northfield Community's new First Baptist Church building.

Organized in August, 1900 the church has been a consistent influence for good in Motley County's most remote community for more than half a century."

MAY 10, 1951

Mass Meeting Scheduled
County is Faced With Need
For Extra Taxes

"Skyrocketing costs of operation have brought Motley County officials face to face with a serious financial problem. The County does not have enough revenue to continue remaining on a cash basis."

Around Town

No School Friday

This Friday, May 8th, will be a school holiday for Motley County students and staff.

Classes will resume at the regular time, Monday, May 11.

Mini Olympics May 16

Once again, Motley County 4-H will sponsor the Mini-Olympics on May 16, beginning at 10 a.m. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. Kids ages 2 years through 6th grade may participate. Divisions will be 2 years - 1st grade; 2nd - 6th grades. Events will begin with the younger division, and the older division will follow.

Entry fee will be \$5.00. Kids may run in one event or all events for this fee. Awards will be given in all events. There will also be a family relay, and a running event for Dads.

A concession stand will be available.

For more information please call the Extension office at 806-347-2733 or Barbara Sharp at 806-347-2784.

Pre-K Registration May 11-12

Pre-Kindergarten registration for the 1998-99 school year will be Tuesday, May 11 and Wednesday, May 12 from 2:40 - 3:46 p.m.

Students enrolling in Pre-K must be 4 years of age by September 1, 1998. Parents will need to bring birth certificates, shot records and social security number.

Chamber Board Meeting Rescheduled

The Motley County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meeting originally scheduled for this Thursday night, May 7 has been rescheduled to Thursday night, May 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Library.

If there are any questions related to the meeting or other Chamber activities, please call Jeff Thacker, 348-7216/7546 or Charles Keith, 347-2283.

Motley County Museum check point for cyclists



Lee and Dot Connor of Elgin checked off Motley County Museum as they participated in a point-to-point rally in Lubbock.

The Motley County Museum became a check point destination for motorcyclists attending a point-to-point motorcycle rally held at the South Plains Fairgrounds in Lubbock this past weekend.

An Elgin couple, Lee and Dot Connor, members of the Austin Road Riders, visited the museum on Thursday as part of the requirements to gain points within their club. Hosted by the West Texas Road Riders club, the rally

required participants to stop at museums in Matador, Turkey, and Canyon and take a photograph as proof that they had been there. Among the thirty checkpoints required, the couple had already checked off destinations in Midland, Sweetwater, and Anson. During previous trips on their motorcycle, the Connors have visited 14 states and logged 300,000 miles.

Other special guests on Thursday, not traveling by motorcycle, but by foot, by bus and by van, were several classes from Motley County ISD. Students from pre-kindergarten to third grade joined coordinator Judy Cooper and their teachers, Barbara Parks, Donna Hoyle, Karen Davis, Tonya Price, and Pam Thacker in a trip back in time. Helping them explore the heritage of the country were volunteers Winifred Darsey, Lorene Lancaster, Winifred Lee, Geraldine Key, and Marisue Potts.

Mike Hunter, a former resident of Matador in the 1960's, dropped by the museum with friends especially to view the ball-point ink art work of Jess Couch that he remembered from his childhood. He recalled "Old Cannonball" and his talent for training dogs. Mary Pitts and Judy Cruse donated to the museum the Boy Scout collec-

tion of Douglas Pitts, spanning the years he served the community as scout master. In addition to uniforms, badges, books, and other memorabilia, they also gave the museum two photographs that Pitts had taken of Ed D. Smith. One is of particular interest to the museum since it included the

Matador Ranch chuckwagon now located in the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

The museum is open by appointment by calling June or Bill Moss, Charles Keith, or Monte Wike and open every Monday afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m.

Incumbent Candidates Are Voters Choice

Incumbent candidates were the voters choice in Saturday's elections. Motley County Hospital Board and Roaring Springs City Council had canceled their elections due to no opposition.

Results for Motley County School Board:
Bill Luckett, 232
Jeff Thacker, 252

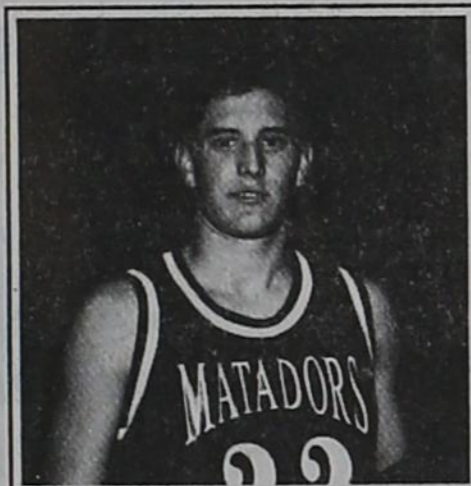
Pat Smith, 115
Hubert E. (Bucky) Marvel, 87

Matador City Council:

Mayor - Gary Lancaster, 162

Council members - Shane Jones, 150.
Don Warren, 115
Doyle Rose, 101

Keane Cruse To Play Basketball In Hawaii



Keane Cruse

Keane Cruse, a Junior at Motley County High School has been chosen for a National Invitational Team Camp Tournament to be held in Hawaii this July 14-21. He was selected by a committee to represent Motley County, Texas and this region at this prestigious tournament.

The tournament will be held during an evaluation period for Division basketball coaches. College basketball

coaches at all levels will watch Keane during the tournament. This is the first year players from all 50 states have been invited to participate in the tournament. It is also the first year that "all college coaches" at all levels in America have been invited to attend.

Over 6000 player nomination forms from high school coaches in the United States were received, but only those players chosen to best represent the states in terms of the best of the basketball class of 1999 will attend.

The host school for this event is the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Keane will depart from Texas July 14 and return home on the 24 of July. He will spend the majority of his time on campus and playing games in and around Hilo. All games will be held on regulation indoor courts. The last two days of the trip will be spent on the "Big Island" in Kona, at a Beach Resort Hotel. A tournament ending banquet will be held there on the night of July 23 before flying home on the 24th.

continued on page 2

Happy Mother's Day



Little 1 year old Katie Ann Barton seems thrilled to wish her mommie, Brooke, a Happy Mother's Day. Brooke and Katie will join other mothers and children all over the United States as they celebrate Mothers Day this Sunday, May 10. Katie's daddy is Bobby Barton. The family lives in Matador.

Matador Couple Killed In Auto Accident

Note: This article is from the *Lubbock Avalanche Journal*, Friday, May 1 edition, by Elizabeth Langton.

A Matador couple was killed in a traffic accident last Thursday afternoon as they headed to a prison ministry retreat.

James "Chip" Maurice Smith, 50, and Ellen Short Smith, 46, died shortly after 1 p.m. when their 1998 Saturn collided with a tractor-trailer rig, according to Department of Public Safety reports.

"The whole town is just in shock here," said the Rev. Monte Wike, minister of First United Methodist Church in Matador. "We're really going to miss them."

The crash occurred when the Saturn, southbound on FM 400, entered FM 40 and slammed into an east-bound truck, reports said. Traffic is controlled by flashing red lights and a stop sign on FM 400.

The Smiths died instantly. Ellen Smith was wearing a seat belt; Chip Smith, the driver, was not, reports said. The truck driver, 37 year old David Wayne Smithers of Brownfield, suffered minor injuries and was treated at University Medical Center. Chip Smith, a salesman, and Ellen

Smith, an obstetrics nurse at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock, were active in church programs and other spiritual activities, Wike said. When they died, the Smiths were headed to a religious retreat with prisoners from the Montford Psychiatric/Medical Unit in Lubbock.

The Smiths regularly attended the Walk to Emmaus, a spiritual renewal program that involves 72-hour retreats on Christianity. The Kairos prison ministry, in which the Smiths partici-

ated, is a part of the Emmaus movement.

Chip Smith was Sunday School Superintendent and sang in the church's choir, Wike said. Smith and Wike prayed together each morning at the church chapel.

"He was so active in everything; he was quite a person," Wike said.

A Sunday School class at the family's church raised money for Ellen Smith to attend a medical missionary trip to Guatemala this sum-

mer. The couple had three children, 20-year-old Jeremy, a student at

Clarendon College; 18 year old Scott, a high school senior, and 13 year old Rachel, an eighth-grader.

4-H Building Renovation Project Gets More Funding

Rip Griffin, a native of Motley County and President/CEO of Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Centers, has donated a significant amount of funding to assist this worthwhile project for the youth of our County.

For more information on this

County Extension Service, 347-2733. Your contributions and/or help are greatly appreciated.

project or providing other assistance to Motley County 4-H, contact Janie Campbell at 347-2657 or the Motley

Attention Parents:

Important MCYO Meeting Monday

Attention parents and all concerned with MCYO:

A Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner are needed for the upcoming MCYO Summer Baseball program. Volunteers are also greatly needed and appreciated.

A meeting will be held in the School cafeteria, Monday, May 11 at

7:00 p.m. If at least 10-15 people do not attend this meeting, the Summer Baseball program will not be held this year, due to lack of participation of parents.

Please attend this meeting, so that our children will not be deprived of this important part of their summer.

Traffic Signs Vandalized

With the arrival of Spring, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has noted an increase in traffic sign theft and vandalism.

Although the signs are quickly replaced, and no one has been injured due to missing or damaged signs, the costs associated with this crime are high. Damaged signs pose a danger to the traveling public, and the funds spent to replace them could be spent elsewhere.

Statewide, taxpayers spend more than \$8 million annually replacing signs damaged by natural disasters, accidents, and vandals.

Wood and metal signs cost approximately \$10 per square foot to produce. The costs to install replacement signs vary depending on the amount of time and equipment

needed.

People are reminded that in Texas it is against the law to possess a sign without a permit, and the state does not sell signs or issue permits to possess them. In addition, if the loss to TxDOT is more than \$1,500 it is a felony.

Counties included in TxDOT's Childress district include: Briscoe, Childress, Cottle, Collingsworth, Dickens, Donley, Foard, Hall, Hardeman, King, Knox, Motley, and Wheeler.

Local Maintenance Supervisor, Douglas Campbell, reports that "missing signs can endanger travelers. The vandalizing of certain signs can risk persons safety."

Motorists are encouraged to write down the license plate number and

contact their local law enforcement official if they see anyone tampering with a traffic sign.

For more information contact, Barbara Seal, TxDOT Public Information Officer, (940) 937-7145.

Keep Texas Beautiful License Plate Available

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) announces the availability of Keep Texas Beautiful specialty plates for passenger vehicles and light trucks.

The license plates cost \$50 annually in addition to the regular registration fee.

These specialty plates feature the "Don't Mess With Texas" slogan and the words, "Keep Texas Beautiful."

House Bill 2681, passed by the 75th Legislature, created the Keep Texas Beautiful license plate. TxDOT will deposit \$5 from the sale of each set the State Highway Fund to cover administrative costs. The department will use the remaining \$45 for the purpose

of supporting TxDOT's litter prevention and community beautification programs.

Applications are available at county tax assessor-collector offices statewide.

The 75th Legislature created 12 new specialty plates. There are now 79 specialty license plates available to the general public. In some cases, applicants for special plates must meet certain qualifications as specified by law.

License plate issuance is administered by TxDOT's Vehicle Titles and Registration Division. There are 15.3 million vehicles registered in Texas.



Among the classes that visited the Museum last Thursday was the first grade class of Karen Davis who walked from the school to the Museum for their field trip.



Motley County students are fascinated by the replica of historic Matador made of cast off materials by the expertise of Joy Archer and Lorene Lancaster.



CAPITOL COMMENT
U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



TAKING A TEXAS LEGACY INTO THE FUTURE

One of the most vivid memories from my childhood is visiting the San Jacinto Battleground and hearing the story of the stirring events that took place there in 1836. I imagined I could hear the guns and cannon roaring; I envisioned General Sam Houston and his adversary, General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, facing off in a contest that would determine Texas' destiny.

To this day, reading about that historic battle brings a lump to my throat. It was a visit which sparked my lifelong fascination with Texas history and all things Texan.

I didn't know it at the time, but the San Jacinto battleground is part of a state historical park, which in turn is part of one of our state's greatest assets: the Texas State Parks and Wildlife system. This year, we are celebrating the 75th anniversary of this Texas resource made up of 123 state park sites, including 41 historical parks.

There were more than 20 million visits made to the state parks system in 1997 — due in large part to the fact that the system offers something for just about everyone. In addition to the historical sites, where we can learn what life was like for the Texans who came before us, the state parks system offers opportunities to study plants and animals in a wide range of habitats.

Our parks offer recreational opportunities galore, including fishing, hiking, hunting, rock-climbing, star-gazing, cycling, boating, bird-watching, swimming, horse-back riding, camping — and places to just plain kick back and relax.

That was the wind-up, here is the pitch: Our state park system belongs to all Texans. And we can help support it in many ways, by spreading the word, by volunteering, by forming park/community partnerships and by providing financial help.

Unlike many state agencies, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department receives very little undedicated general fund tax revenues, relying instead on user fees and licensing fees. As part of this year's 75th anniversary celebration, the Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas has launched a funding initiative, the Lone Star Legacy Campaign.

The goal of this drive is to create a permanent endowment fund for every state park, wildlife management area and fish hatchery operated by the department. Endowment funds will underwrite future park operations and maintenance. Contributions to this fund are tax-deductible, and may be matched by the foundation. Because only the interest generated from these funds can be used, contributions will benefit state parks for generations to come.


Seventy-five years ago, at the behest of Governor Pat Neff, the Texas Legislature created the Texas State Parks and established the State Parks Board to accept donations of land for park use. The foresight of Governor Neff and those Roaring 20s legislators ensured that many of our state's most remarkable, memorable places remain available to this day for all Texans to enjoy. It is our job to preserve that legacy of a strong state parks system and pass it on to Texans of the future.

Thank you for reading the Motley County Tribune

Mother's Day Weekend Special
2-for-1 Steak Dinner ~ \$12.95
Country Music Artist
MIKE PORTER
Saturday, May 9th, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
\$5.00 Cover
the Feed Trough Steakhouse
Roaring Springs ~ 806-348-7906

Job Announcement - Full Time Position
Court Coordinator For the 110th Judicial District Court
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING
Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent with four years of experience or any combination of education and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities and be able to perform the duties detailed in the job description. College degree would be beneficial. Previous experience with district court system helpful. Position requires secretarial and telephone skills. Knowledge of Wordperfect, spread sheets, data bases, and PC Anywhere beneficial. Keyboard skills in excess of 30 wpm and spelling skills required. Some travel involved. Applicants must comply with the Judicial Code of Conduct. Salary based on experience. Benefits the same as Floyd County Employees. Employment will begin approximately June 1, 1998 and end on May 30, 1999, unless grant is extended. The job description and application may be obtained from Linda Turner, Floyd County Budget Officer, Room #102, Floyd County Courthouse, Floydada, Texas. Applicants must submit resumes and applications to be received not later than May 15, 1998, at noon, to: Linda Turner, Floyd County Budget Officer Room #102, Floyd County Courthouse Floydada, TX 79325 EOE

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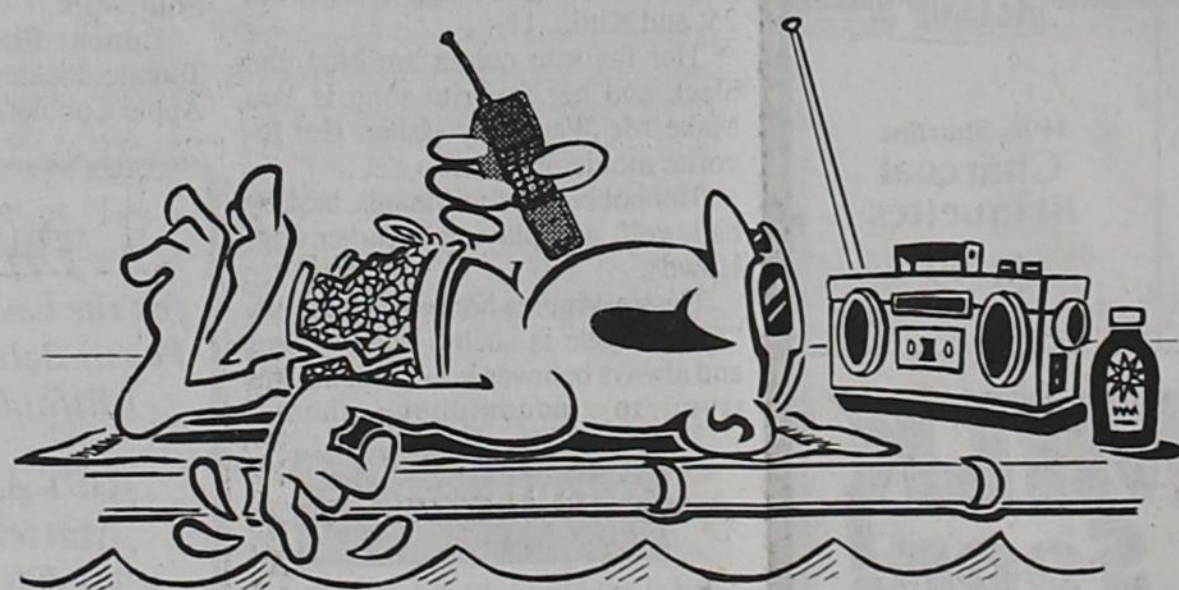
Your Choice:
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**Applies to Caprock Cellular Home Area Only.

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RS Cafe
downtown Roaring Springs — 348-7205

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2 OLDER MODEL CHEVROLET PICKUPS 1 is a 1977 - The Other is a 1985 Both are Long Beds - Automatic	2 - 1995 CHEVROLET ASTROS Loaded Vans Both Area Owners!
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1996 CORSICA 12/12 Warrant - Tilt - Cruise 1 Red - 1 Teal	1993 OLDS ACHIEVA Power Windows & Locks Tilt - Cruise - RED!!!!
1995 S10 EXTENDED CABS 2 To Choose From - 1 Standard Shift - 1 Automatic...	1998 BUICK LeSABRE Loaded With Options - Low Mileage - Solid White!
1996 CHEVROLET EXT. CAB 2 WD - Local One Owner Solid RED!!!!	1997 Z71 3 DOOR One Owner Solid Red - NICE!!!!

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HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY

Eleven Time World Champion Wins Burleson Drag A Roping

Guy Allen, eleven time World Champion steer roper won the Drag A Steer Roping at Flomot.

Novice and professional steer ropers gathered at Burleson Arena, Flomot, April 25 and 26 to compete in the 12 annual steer roping. A total of 140 ropers roped in six ropings over the weekend.

Saturday one could watch the ISRA Steer Ropers participate in Spring competition. Winners of the "A" event were Bill Pearson, Happy, with an average time of 64.21. Second best time was Leo Campbell; third place time was Dale Robbins.

Randy Wadsworth with an average time of 48.65 had the best time in the ISRA "B" event. John Rae Powell and Keith Swain were second and third. In the "C" Roping, John Rae Powell with an average time of 51.92 was followed by Erik Wash and Monty Elliott.

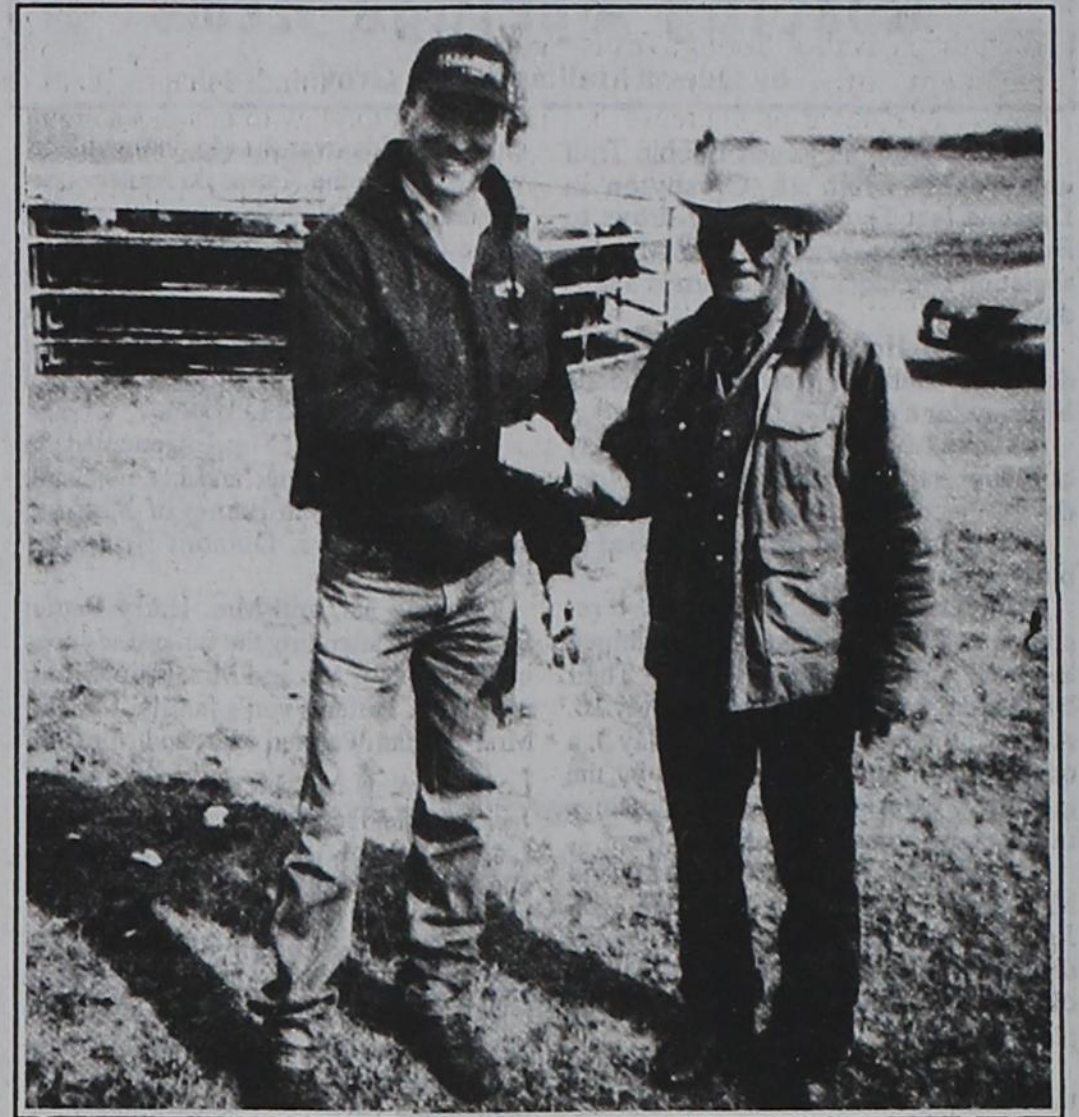
On Sunday the Senior and "Super" Senior Steer Ropers who are members of the ISSRA Organization gathered from Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, and New Mexico to compete against each other. Winners in the "Super" Senior Roping were James Allen with an average time of 75.26, followed by Joe Green. In the Senior Roping, George Ganoung had the best average time

of 82.70 followed by A.R. Northcutt.

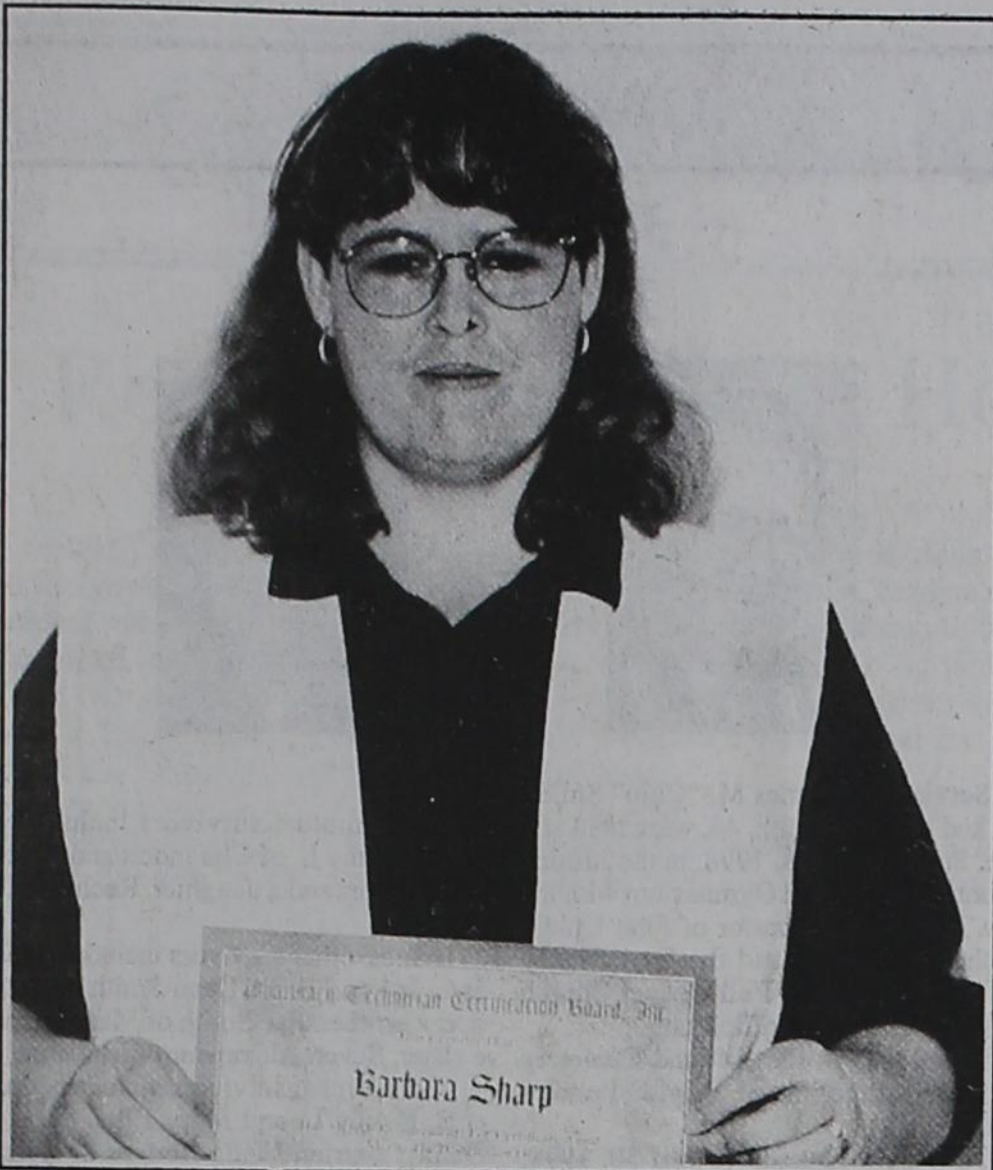
At noon on Sunday, Benny Reagan introduced the ropers for the Tri-State (New Mexico, Oklahoma, & Texas) matched roping competition. Representing Oklahoma were Buster Record, Buck Hefner, Clay Cameron, Jason Cooper, and C.A. Lauer. Representing New Mexico were Marty Jones, Ike Good, Lionel Burns, Mark Milner and Guy Allen. Representing Texas were James Allen, Sid Howard, Jim Davis, Colby Goodwin, and Todd Gasebolt. For some of the team members it was not their best day but the competition was strong and the Tri-State match ended with an average time of 217.28 for the Texas team.

The event of the day was the "Open" Roping. Benny Reagan introduced the nineteen competitors who love the challenge of "tough" competition. Eleven time World Champion Steer Roper, Guy Allen, Lovington, N.M. had the best average time for this event, 55.23. Guy has roped in all twelve of the Drag A Steer Ropings at Flomot and meets tough competition from his challengers.

Also a winner for the weekend was Hayden Walters, Allison, Texas, gate winner drawing for a pair of Wayne Dollar, Hereford, Spurs.



Guy Allen, eleven time World Champion Steer Roper, won the Drag A Steer Roping at Burleson arena last week. He is pictured here with S.C. "Teen" Burleson.



Barbara Sharp recently received her Pharmacy Technician Certification. Barbara works at the Motley County Clinic and lives in Matador with her husband, Phillip, and three children.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I am not personally involved with the subject that has been such a topic at school, and did not intend to be, but when a family member has been personally attacked, I must voice my concern over the anonymous letters sent around town.

We are all entitled to our opinions but honesty is still the best policy, and should be carried out this way. This controversy was approached with both sides being up front and honest, therefore these unsigned letters are viewed as small thoughts from weak minds.

This subject has been closed, so if it is still causing such distress, maybe the person or persons responsible for the letters should get professional counseling.

Thank you for letting me speak through this letter.

Kathleen Wason

To the Editor:

As the time draws closer for graduation and our last child will be leaving Motley County School, we wanted to publicly thank the past and present administration, teachers, coaches, and support staff that have contributed to both of our children's education.

We thank Mr. Copp and Mr. Morren for their positive Christian influence in making decisions and running the school to benefit all the students.

To all the teachers (too numerous to list individually) who have taught them on a day to day basis - we never felt there was ever a time we could not come in and visit with you if there was a problem. You were always willing to listen to our side of the story and we could always work through it. On the other hand, when our children

worked hard or did something extra, you always took the time to call us or stop in the hall to compliment our children. For all the big and small things, we thank you.

To the coaches, we want to thank you for your hard work and dedication. Even though Jill was never directly under Coach Cox, his decisions as Athletic Director affected all areas of athletics and Jill always enjoyed all her sorts involvement. We thank Coach O'Pry for the hours he unselfishly has volunteered to make the highlight vide each year. To the Ridgeley's, thank you for being such a good friend to our daughter. And last, but not least, to Coach Kim - We thank you for the encouragement you have given Jill to keep trying to do her best in cross-country, track, and basketball. Because of your concern and support, she never gave up and was willing to push herself to do her best. For this we will always appreciate you.

To the aides, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, and janitors - thank you for all you do. A very special thanks to Carolyn Johnson for being our children's "other Mother".

To past and present school board members, we thank you for your hours of work to make Motley County School a place of which to be proud. Most people don't realize how much time you give away from your jobs and families to help our school.

We apologize that this is so long, but for the past 20 years, our children have been part of this school. Sometimes all we hear about is the negative and we just wanted to let everyone know how pleased we are with the education and love our children were given as students at Motley County School.

Again, we thank you,
James & Margaret Stanley

Spectacular Wildflower Season Predicted

(Austin) -- Texas roadsides will soon take on the appearance of bouquets due to a blanket of wildflowers expected this spring, according to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Warm temperatures and a tropical weather pattern in Texas during the past six months have made conditions right for a banner and early wildflower season.

"El Nino was certainly bad news for the West Coast, but in Texas, it's ushering in an abundance of wildflowers," said Herb Neimann, TxDOT's acting director of landscape design. "The extra rain may even let us keep the wildflowers around a little longer this year, maybe into the summer months."

Buttercups, sunflowers, goldenrods, even the state's perennial favorite -- the bluebonnet -- are destined to make extended appearances this

season.

Nature aside, wildflowers also get a helping hand from TxDOT's maintenance crews.

"Wildflowers may be wild, but they don't happen by accident. Our maintenance forces work very hard every season getting them to flourish," Neimann said.

Each year, TxDOT crews sow 60,000 pounds of wildflower seeds on Texas roadsides, he said.

The color is seen in every region of the state from Central Texas where Bluebonnets, even Primroses, and Indian Paintbrushes dot the roadsides to East Texas Dogwood trees, to West Texas where the Prickly Pear makes an appearance.

"There's no place like Texas to see the best nature has to offer," Neimann said.

Wildflowers will also compete

with other Texas natives -- grasses and shrubs, which may make wildflower sightings a challenge in some areas.

"The two really go hand in hand. The same tropical conditions that give us our wildflowers, created the right environment for other vegetation to grow," Neimann said.

Where it doesn't impact motorist safety, mowing may be delayed, he said, to allow for the growth and re-seeding of the wildflowers.

"We want the wildflowers to grow and be enjoyed, but we'll have to find the right balance with the grasses that compete with them," he said.

Where it doesn't impact motorist safety, mowing may be delayed, he

said, to allow for the growth and re-seeding of the wildflowers.

"We want the wildflowers to grow and be enjoyed, but we'll have to find the right balance with the grasses that compete with them," he said.

Locally, Barbara Seal, Childress District TxDOT Public Information Officer, predicts a good crop of wildflowers. Seal said, "the Rolling Plains region had a relatively mild winter and abundant winter rainfall, we are expecting a colorful display."

Information on wildflower sightings is available on TxDOT's automated wildflower hotline at 1-800-452-9292. Last year, TxDOT logged more than 25,000 wildflower calls.

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Motley County Abstract Office
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Katherine Russell has sold the business to
BILL HEATLE & NELDA HIGHTOWER
of Paducah

Kay Heatly will manage the office

See us for all your Abstract & Title Insurance
needs for Motley County
347-2720 — P.O. Box 730
if no answer call 806-492-3573 in Paducah

You may see Mr. Heatly in Paducah for all your legal work

LONE
STAR 4

Hwy. 287 & 83
Childress, TX

Monday - Ladies Night - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday - Bargain Night - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday night - Free Small Popcorn - 7 p.m.
Thursday - 7:00 p.m.
Friday - 7:00 & 9:30 p.m.
Saturday - 4:30 & 7:00 & 9:30 p.m.
Sunday - 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

MAY 8 - 15

DEEP IMPACT - PG 13
PRIMARY COLORS - R
BLACK DOG - PG 13
MY GIANT - PG

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