



THE SPEARMAN JUNIOR HIGH BAND shown here playing one of their selections, "The Blacksmith and His Son," written by Chester Osborne during their

recent band contest. The 39 members of the band put on quite a performance for the audience that night.

Music awards held Senior and Junior high

The 1988 Spearman Music Awards Banquet was held May 10. Awards for Choir and Band were given to their winners.

The fifth and sixth grade choir received sweepstakes at the Spearman Music Festival. Ben Queener, Kiki Kelp and Carrie Burton all received 1's for piano solos.

Sixth graders; Barbara Ring, received a 2 vocal solo; Donny McMahon, 2 vocal solo; Victor Lopez, 2 Vocal Solo; Brett Coates, 2 Vocal Solo; Lori Wattier, 2 Vocal Solo; Mark Love, 2 Vocal Solo; Melissa Baker, 2 Piano Solo; Elizabeth Pipkin, 2 Piano Solo;

Nikki Strawn, 1 Vocal Solo; Carrie Pearson, 1 Vocal Solo; Kara Faries, 1 Vocal Solo; Elizabeth Pipkin, 1 Vocal Solo; Melissa Baker, 1 Vocal Solo; Jami Ralston, 1 Vocal Solo; Vanessa Biggs, 1 Piano Solo and Michael Cummings, 1 Piano Solo.

At the Spearman Music Festival the Junior High Choir received sweepstakes and the Outstanding Junior High Choir Award.

Brad Butler received a 2 Vocal Solo; Heather Loveday, 2 Vocal Solo; Kim Slater, 2 Vocal Solo; Kimbre Townsen, 2 Vocal Solo; Rosa Ortiz, 2 Vocal Solo; David Archer, 1 Vocal Solo; Michelle

Garnett, 1 Vocal Solo; Carla Greene, 1 Vocal Solo; Karla Kunselman, 1 Vocal Solo;

Alice Saenz, 1 Vocal Solo; Curtis Pearson, 1 Vocal Solo; Sara Sanders, 1 Vocal Solo; Sonya Tindell, 1 Vocal Solo; Clint Townsen, 1 Vocal Solo; Jessica Woolley, 1 Vocal Solo; Alicia Zabin, 1 Vocal Solo and Chris Strawn, 1 Vocal Solo.

Ensemble A received a 2 and consisted of: Russell Shaver, Sara Sanders, Sally Puentes, Sophie Salgado, Sonya Tindell, Brandon Close, Laura Pearson, Jill Lusby, Shea Crawford, Maria Mendoza, Mona Sandoval;

Andrian Blackburn, Myrna Lopez, Rosa Ortiz, Jasmine Bravo, Clint Townsen, Holly Jarvis, Brad Butler, Jeri Evans, Kim Slater, Mary Cook and April Taylor.

Ensemble B received a 1 and consisted of: Alicia Zabin, Kimbre Townsen, Michelle Garnett, Sonya Nitschke, Randy Renner, Chris Strawn, Curtis Pearson, Brandon Rex, Melodie Schumann, Dezi Pearson, Khris Kelp and Jennifer Covington.

In the UIL Contest Jessica Woolley received a 1 Vocal Solo; Carla Green, 1 Piano Solo; Michelle

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local residents

Fog causes accident Monday

According to the Hansford Co. Sheriff's office there was a traffic accident May 16, 1988 at approximately 7:30 a.m. on Farm to Market road 760 involving Ladd Gafford and Nancy (Maria) Standefer both of Spearman. Apparently due to the thick early morning fog Standefer rear ended Gafford's

pick-up as he braked to turn off the road. The accident occurred 5 miles South of Spearman. Standefer was admitted to St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo with head injuries and a fractured vertebrae. No information about Gafford was released from the hospital.



LEN SLESICK APPEARS HERE giving his autograph to one of the fourth grade students of Spearman Junior High. Mr. Slesick was here Monday morning explaining some meteorology facts to all of the fourth grade students. The first question relevant to the day was "What is the fog?" The channel 7 weatherman explained to the students that fog is really low clouds and that they were walking in the clouds that morning. Some of the teachers seemed to think that some of the students had their heads in the clouds even on days when there was no fog.



The Spearman

Reporter

Volume 80 Number 30 YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER Thursday May 19, 1988

Fanhandle Press Association 1988 Award Winner

25¢

Per Copy

6 Pages

deadline May 19, 9 p.m.

Tennis tourney May 21

The deadline for entries for the third annual Chamber of Commerce Open Tennis Tournament is today (May 19, 1988). The tournament will be held at the Spearman High School Omni courts on May 21 and 22 at 8:30 a.m. The proceeds and concessions will benefit the Spearman Chamber of Commerce.

The entry fees are \$8 per singles event and \$16 per doubles team. There will be a limit of 2 events per person.

There will be three classes (A B C) for each event. The events are men and womens singles and doubles. There will also be mixed doubles. The tournament will be under the direction of Jeff and Scott Beedy.

Entries can be sent (with check payable to Spearman Chamber of

Commerce) to: Scott Beedy, Box 522, Spearman, Texas 79081. For further information Scott Beedy can be reached at (806) 659-2518 or (806) 659-3885.

Last years winner of division A, in men's singles, was Kevin Cunningham from Liberal, Kan. In men's doubles the winning team was Cunningham and Chuck Thomas of Balco, Ok.

Gwen Clark of Borger won the women's singles and Sheila Watley paired with Molly Hutton, both of Spearman to win the women's doubles. The mixed doubles went to Gwen and Scott Clark of Borger.

Division B winner last year in the men's singles match was Dub Vandiver of Dumas. James Brown of Fritch and Hasket Jack of Borger

teamed up and won the doubles match. Christy Allison of Hereford won the women's singles contest. While Michelle Beedy and Karen Thompson, both of Spearman, won the doubles match. The mixed division B Doubles match was captured by Jim Cromer and Mary Kay Daniel of Liberal.

Division C's men's and women's singles winners were Joseph Marney of Dumas and Sharon Smith of Stratford. In the doubles games Lance Robertson and Steve Black of Perryton captured the men's game. While Kimbre Townsen and Adrien Blackburn of Spearman won the womens match. The mixed C division doubles match was won by Linda Robertson and Gary Black of Spearman.

Spearman tracksters

Murrell repeats state victory

Heather Murrell of Spearman repeated her first place victory in the 400 meter dash for the third consecutive year last Saturday night at the State Track Meet in Austin. Murrell, Jerold Blan and Matt Tucker, all of Spearman, qualified for the State Meet.

Murrell's third trip to the State Track Meet brought her 2 placings. Along with the first place 400 meter run, she also ran the 100 meter hurdles and placed third with a time of 14.8 seconds. In the 400 meter dash Murrell ran the race in 55.9 seconds. But failed to beat her personal best of 55.4 which won her the race last year. Murrell is the junior daughter of Butch and Judy Schaefer of Spearman.

On Friday, May 13, Tucker won 2 third place honors in the shot put and discus. Tucker threw the shot 54' 4" and threw the discus 160' 2" for an additional third place honor. Tucker is the junior son of Buck and June Tucker of Spearman.

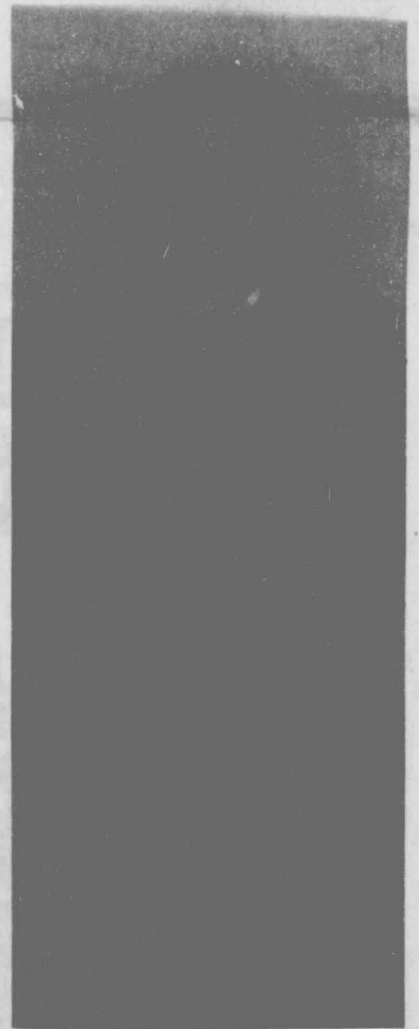
The next day Blan ran the 2 mile in 10 minutes and 22 seconds to place seventh. Blan is also a junior and the son of Jimmy and Helen Blan of Waka.



HEATHER MURRELL



JEROLD BLAN



MATT TUCKER

retires soon

Local inventor takes a rest

Gruver, just like all towns large and small, is filled with people who have special personalities, talents and general "local color".

Otho E. Gammill of Gruver, is one of these people. The local inventor's story deals from inventing farm machinery to playing the fiddle.

"He's always working on some new invention," said Connie, Gammill's wife. His latest invention is a 1700 gallon nurse tank to store and reload chemical or fertilizer for ground rig sprayers. The portable nurse tank is mounted on an 18 ft. long tandem axle. This project is Gammill's last. He plans to retire as soon as the tank is completed. He also is retiring from North Plains Chemical Co. Gammill's largest claim to fame, in the world of invention, was a giant handmade diesel tractor that he

made in 1949 about 15 years ahead of it's time. The giant tractor had a 175 HP engine and rear tires measuring 13x26. Gammill built the tractor for Chunky Williams, a former Gruver resident, along with a 20 ft. one-way plow and a 20 ft. chisel. It proved very successful for farming in the 1950's. It is said that the diesel tractor worked so well that it could plow 12,000 acres at a cost of 3 cents per acre and only need about \$2 in repairs for that year.

Gammill also built, among other things, a 4-wheel drive gasoline powered tractor out of an old weapons carrier that he bought from army surplus in Wichita, Kan. He rigged up a fifth wheel tape hitch and took the 4-wheel drive tractor and a pull behind combine on a summers wheat harvest up through Colorado, Nebraska, the Dakotas right to the

Canadian line. The tractor is still on the Buddy Etling farm north of Gruver.

Gammill has other talents too. He plays the fiddle, mandolin and guitar. He played at dances in his earlier days. But now he and some of his friends enjoy getting together and play just for the fun of it. In fact he and his buddies are playing the 27th at the Hansford Manor. Gammill has been a judge at the Hansford Day fiddling contest for several years. He also played in both Gruver and Spearman during the Sesquicentennial celebration.

Gammill was born on a homestead in Cotton County Oklahoma. He moved to Gruver in 1939 after his boot top wheat crop back in Oklahoma was "swarmed and wiped out" two years straight. "The green bugs swarmed so thick both

years that one day they got in my ears, nose and eyes so bad I had to shut down. In two days my wheat crop had not a green stalk left," commented Gammill as he laughed about the whole episode.

The 49 year Gruver resident has worked as a farmer, cowboy, welder and construction worker. But welding was always his main interest. He had a welding shop in Gruver for 10 years. He has a very loving family. He has 5 children, 14 grand children, 4 great grandchildren and one on the way.

When asked what he was going to do after he retires? "I won't be twiddlin my thumbs. I've got lots of things I've put on the back burner to do," said Gammill.

Today is a fitting day for Gammill's story. Today is May 19 and today is Otho E. Gammill's Birthday.

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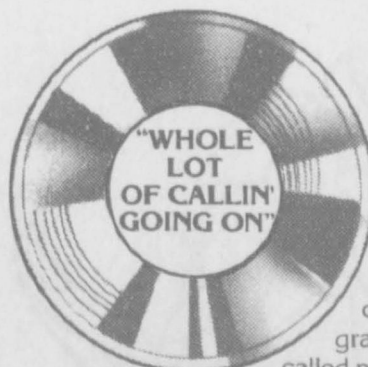
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To
Spearman customers

Former city resident's article appears in the "Denver Post"

Editor's note: The following article was written by a former Spearman resident Katherine Herring (maiden name, Crawford). She is the daughter of Cecil and Birdine Crawford and niece of long-time Spearman resident Maxine Bannister.

Katherine Herring has been a Jefferson County teacher for 21 years; she has three children, ages 4, 3, and 10, and a husband who takes his daughters shopping.

UNFORGETTABLE PROMS

The cold Denver wind nudged me as I stopped to watch a window designer arrange a prom dress onto a mannequin. PROM PROM PROM blazed in bright lights behind her.

Thirty years after my first prom, I still remember the excitement. What I recall best, though, isn't the dance . . . it is the dress, and my mother, who loved surprises.

She had strolled casually into my room shortly before my first "real" date. I was going to the Eighth Grade Prom with Wendell Parks, the Eighth Grade Rage!

Mother glanced around at the disarray. The formal donated by an older sister was arranged carefully on the bed. My first pair of clip-on earrings were being rearranged for about the 20th time.

"Aren't you going to straighten up this room?" she grouched.

I turned to look at her incredulously. "Mother, I am getting ready. HE will be here in 20 minutes."

"Well, it's a disaster. Just look at this stuff." She kicked at the corner of a box shoved under the bed, hidden by the worn bedspread. I glanced defensively at the object of her annoyance. Puzzled, I walked over and pulled it from its hiding place. Underneath the lid and mounds of white tissue paper was a short white formal. Beside it were shiny pink slippers and lingerie for a not-very-developed figure. Speechless, I pulled it from the box.

"Hmmm," my mother exclaimed

innocently. "Wonder how that got here. And it's your size! Well, we'd better take advantage of it. The Prince will be here shortly." She was grinning smugly as she zipped me into a memory.

The last prom in my memory was the Senior Prom, four years later. One windy April day, Mother casually announced that Dad was taking me to look for a formal for that occasion. "I'm swamped," she explained. "Besides, he wanted to."

This would be, in my estimation, either a monumental disaster or tremendous fun. Seldom did one of us five kids get Dad all to ourselves, much less for a whole day of shopping. When the day arrived, we drove 50 miles to a metropolitan "mecca."

While I tried on dresses, he occupied a chair in the carpeted waiting area. His soft worn Stetson was in his lap, held by brown weathered farmer's hands. He would grin at some, shake his head at others, ask what I thought at a few.

The last shop had several choices, but outstanding among them was a billowing red satin gown, trimmed in white roses. I had passed it by after subtly checking the price tag.

"What about this one, hon?" He

was inspecting the red one.

"Oh, I stammered, "I think it's a little, uh, fussy."

"Really?" He frowned in concentration as he looked at the price. Then he pulled it from the rack. "Why don't you try it on, anyway?" He winked as he handed me the gown.

When I came out, feeling extremely gorgeous for a freckle-faced farm girl, he grinned broadly. His dimples showed in his sun-tanned face. "I like this one," he said.

We went on and tried others. We even went to lunch to "think about it." As he picked up the check, he said, "It will be something you keep, sugar. Let's get the one we like."

For me, the dress is music, friends, and laughter drifting across the dance floor. It is the senior boys trying to spike the punch, a shy date, and teachers good-naturedly sponsoring the dance. But mostly it is my father, his face reflecting love and pride as he helped me pick out that dress. The entire day together is part of the memory . . . lunch, laughing and conversation as we drove home that evening along wheat-lined country roads.

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