

THE BORDEN STAR

VOLUME XXVIII

March 8, 2000

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

Borden County EMS has State Climatologist: four new EMT-B's 60% chance of drought continuing

The Borden County EMS is proud to welcome their newest members, EMT-B's Chuck Kimmel, Brice Key, Bob Kempf, and ECA Billy Gannaway.

Congratulations to these men for successfully passing their state exams. Chuck Kimmel, Brice Key, and Bob Kempf are now enrolled in the EMT-Intermediate class taught by Kent Holmes.

Being a volunteer organization and all members having busy life styles, there have been times that the EMS has been unable to transfer

patients from hospitals to their homes. The Borden County EMS try not to leave the county without adequate personnel in case of an emergency. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in becoming an EMT, please contact Kent Holmes or any member of the Borden County EMS. The EMS is always looking for men and women that are interested in becoming EMT's. County residents need volunteers to help continue the excellent emergency care that they have come to expect from the Borden County EMS.

by: Robert Burns

Some Texas old-timers are already saying the current drought is worse than the drought of 1955-56, but from historical records, it's not quite that bad.

At least, not yet, said Dr. John Neilsen-Gammon, acting climatologist for Texas.

"If we don't get rain for another two months, then it will be comparable," said Neilsen-Gammon, associate professor with the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&M University in College Station.

The current drought does have some features in common with the drought of 1955-56. Where as the rainless months of most droughts fall during the late spring and summer, both the 1955-56 drought and the current drought have been characterized by a dry fall and winter.

Though Texas could receive substantial rains this spring, the odds are slightly in favor of the drought continuing, according to Nielsen-Gammon.

Based on the strength of La Nina, he put the chances the drought will continue at 60/40: that is 60 percent for the drought to continue for at least

another couple of months.

Climatologists refer to abnormally cold sea-surface temperatures stretching from the coast of South America across the eastern tropical Pacific as a "La Nina episode." There has been a strong "La Nina episode" present since the summer of 1998.

While the strength of this La Nina has varied since that year, the pool of cold water has recently re-intensified. Climatologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecast it to remain in place until at least spring 2000.

The colder than normal water of La Nina reduces the number and strength of tropical thunderstorms in its area. The reduced tropical thunderstorms in turn affect circulation patterns over the United States. The path of the jet stream across North America is altered, giving differing parts of the country more or less storms than usual.

Not only is it more

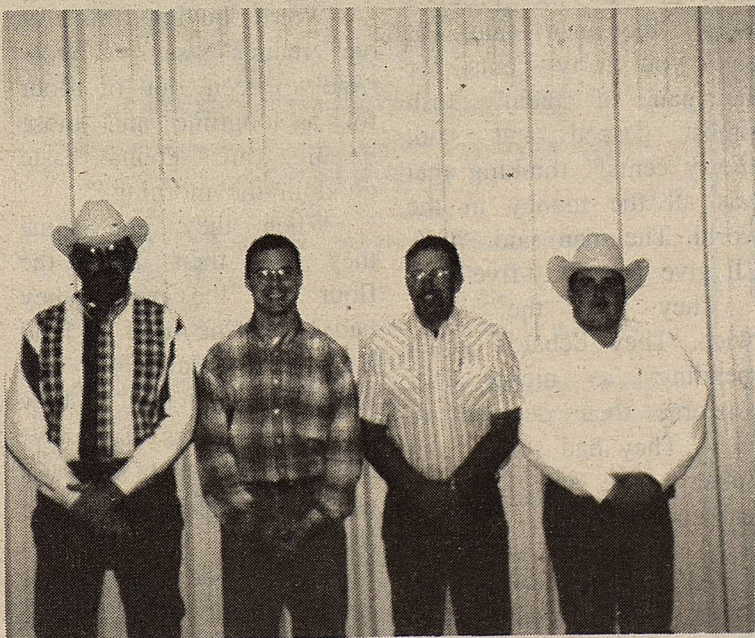
likely the drought will continue through the spring of 2000, new research indicates Texas producers might do well to plan for drought rather than to plan against it.

A study by U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers looked at long-term variations in precipitation from Nebraska southward through northern and eastern Texas. The study shows the past 20 years or so have been very wet compared to the rest of the century. Moreover, the 20-year wet period is unmatched in historical weather records. In other words, what is seen as a series of droughts since 1995 may be more of the norm than the exception.

The USDA researchers noted that farmers and ranchers who know they are in the middle of a wet period may be able to take advantage of the increased rainfall.


"On the other hand, all wet periods come to an

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New members of the Borden County EMS service: (L to R) Chuck Kimmel, Brice Key, Bob Kempf and Billy Gannaway.

EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE for both the Democratic and Republican Primary Election will be held in the County Clerk's Office at the Borden County Courthouse in Gail, during normal business hours, February 28, through March 10, 2000.



Let Me Get My Hat!

By Dennis Poole,
Borden County CEA-Ag.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Court of Texas Cooperating.

Houston Results:

The Results from the Houston Livestock Show are as follows:

Swine:

Dalene Kempf
19th Lt. HW Hampshire

Others exhibiting barrows were: Garrett Thomas, Caden Nowlain, Michele Bond, James Bond, Bobbie Kempf, Alexis Brooks, Rowdy Clary, Miller Valentine, Kalli Poole, Tanner Poole, Kaci Poole, Tyler Wallace, Kate Wallace, and Joe Castillo.

Lambs:

LaShae Johnson
13th Lt. HW Hampshire

Others exhibiting lambs were: Miller Valentine, T. C. Stipe, Kate Wallace, and Shawna Kempf.

Steers:

Kalli Poole
4th MW Simmental
Tanner Poole
6th HW Simbrah
Kaci Poole
19th MW Limousin

Others exhibiting steers were: Kyla Culp, Tyler Wallace, and J. Ryan Gicklhorn.

Congratulations to all exhibitors! Thanks to everyone who helped prepare the animals for showing and transporting them to the stock show. Thanks to all the parents and exhibitors for helping in the many efforts that go along with a major stock show. Good luck to those that are preparing for San Angelo Stock Show!

South Plains Guar Production Meeting

Klint Forbes/West Texas Guar Contractor will be sponsoring a 10:00 a.m. meeting for guar contracting information and guar production guidelines in Brownfield on March 30th. The meeting will be at C C Grain, 807 N. 5th (806/637-8096). For further information interested growers may call Klint Forbes at (806) 893-6680 or Calvin Trostle, TAEX-Lubbock at (806) 746-4044.

Eating disorders can effect athletes too

The desire to be the best can turn dangerous for athletes who see very strict diet and exercise regimes as their ticket to the top.

"Being a serious athlete does not put a person at risk for an eating disorder," said Jana Rosenbaum, LMSW-ACP with the Eating Disorders Center at Baylor College of Medicine. "However, there are certain behaviors and expectations of serious athletes that put them more at risk if they are already susceptible."

This especially true in sports that emphasize a lean body and overall appearance. Dancers, figure skaters, swimmers, divers,

cross-country runners, rowers, wrestlers, gymnasts and jockeys are at highest risk.

Parents, friends and coaches should be concerned if an athlete develops an unhealthy quest to constantly improve, be more fit, weigh less and excel. If you suspect that someone has an eating disorder, Rosenbaum suggests being supportive and encouraging them to seek professional help. If ignored, restrictive diets and obsessive exercise can weaken the immune system and internal organs and decrease muscular power and endurance.

Menu

Lunch: \$1.00 K-6th.
\$1.25 7th-12th.
Breakfast: .50c

March 13-17, 2000

MONDAY: Chicken Nuggets, Potatoes, Green Peas, Hot Rolls, Fruit & Milk
Breakfast: Muffin, Fruit, Juice & Milk

TUESDAY: Meat & Gravy, Broccoli & Cauliflower, Sweet Potatoes, Rolls, Juice Bars, & Milk
Breakfast: Waffles, Fruit, Juice & Milk

WEDNESDAY: Pork Patty, Carrots, Macaroni & Cheese, Bread, Fruit, & Milk
Breakfast: Sausage, Biscuits, Juice & Milk

THURSDAY: Pizza, Corn, Salad, Jello & Milk
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Juice, & Milk

FRIDAY: Hamburger, French Fries, Salad Cup, Cookies & Milk
Breakfast: Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, & Milk

them ten pounds for nineteen cents. "OK," says Josh. "We'll take ten pounds." Mr. Green put in an extra five pounds of flour at no extra charge. Buster chided them for buying flour when they could have bought candy.

"Were buying this for our mama," says Myron. "We've been out of flour for a longtime and those biscuits are gonna taste good in the morning."

When they got home they gave their mama the flour and the penny they had left. "She tried to hold back the tears as she hugged us and told us how much she loves us," says Myron. She said she was proud of us for buying the flour."

She made her boys cookies right away. There was no sugar, so she used syrup. Myron said they were delicious.



Texas Stories

A showcase of the Texas Spirit

Tumbleweed Smith
Part owner of Texas



The Picture Show

Myron Crawford of on the farm." Mineral Wells had a career as a teacher and school administrator. He calls himself a child of the depression. "I grew up poor," says Myron. "My father died when I was seven and my mother had to raise three sons by her self. We were always hungry, went barefooted most of the time and wore clothes with patches. We missed a lot of school because we had to work

He says one Saturday morning a friend named Buster Byrd came by and wanted Myron and his older brother Josh to go to the movies with him. Myron asked how much it would cost. Buster replied, "A dime."

"We don't have a dime," said Myron, "much less two."

"Won't your mama give you a dime each to go to the show?" inquired Buster.

"They've got a swell western serial on. You can hear them talk now."

Myron and Josh had never seen a talking movie. "Show starts at one o'clock. Maybe you could find some work from somebody this morning."

"Aw, we can't," replied Myron. "People we work for usually pay us in butter milk or potatoes."

Myron's mother was listening to the conversation through a crack in the wall. When Josh asked her if they could go to the show, she told him she didn't have the money.

She then got some cornbread and crumbled it up and let the pieces fall to the ground. She picked up two young roosters who had come to feast, handed them to the two boys and said. "Here's your picture

show money. Take these to the produce house and sell them."

They tookoff about eleven thirty to walk the three miles to town. When they got to the produce house, the man said I'll give you forty cents for the pair of them" Josh almost gasped and said, "Forty cents!" thinking that was all the money in the world. The man said, "OK, I'll give you forty-five."

They say the show twice. They debated about spending a nickel for popcorn, then decided to do it. They had some from Buster's bag and it tasted real good.

After the movie they went to the grocery store. Myron and Josh asked Mr. Green, the owner, how much flour cost. He told

Courthouse News

WHEREAS, On this the 14th day of February, 2000, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Regular Session in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Courthouse in Gail, Texas, the following members of the Court being present, to-wit:

Van L. York, County Judge, Presiding; **Doug Isaacs**, Commissioner, Prec. No. 1; **Larry D. Smith**, Commissioner, Prec. No. 2; **Vernon Wolf**, Commissioner, Prec. No. 3; **Hurston Lemons, Jr.**, Commissioner, Prec. No. 4; **Joyce Herridge**, County Clerk and Ex-Officio of the Commissioners Court.

constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda:

MINUTES APPROVED
Minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting of January 24, 2000 were read. Commissioner Isaacs made a motion to approve said minutes and motion was seconded by Commissioner Lemons. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED
The current accounts

were examined and Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve and pay said accounts. Commissioner Isaacs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ROADS
Mr. Arthur Barrow, P.E. Area Engineer and Nan Sharp, Transportation Maintenance Supervisor with the Texas Department of Transportation met with the Commissioners' Court. They discussed and gave a report on the following:

- a. Rest Area (Considering closing East Park)
- b. Update the Lots around Department Maintenance Yard
- c. FM 1584 and County Road 236
- d. Construction Projects, TIPS, etc. - 5 yr. plan
- e. Local Government Assistance.

No action taken at this time.

INVESTMENT POLICY
Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve the Revision of the Borden County Investment Policy. The County Treasurer and County Judge, collectively, shall be the investment officer for Borden County Funds. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Gail Cemetery Memorials

A donation has been made to the Gail Cemetery Association

In Memory Of:
Mrs. Alta Staggs
Weldon Hancock
by Moore-Rains Insurance



WATER REGULATIONS
Commissioner Isaacs made a motion to approve the Borden County Water System Regulations as of 2-14-2000. Commissioner Lemons seconded the motion. Motion carried.

POLITICAL CALENDAR

March Democratic Primary 2000

Justice of the Peace:
Jane Jones
Shirley Bennett
Dorothy Wilson

County Sheriff
Tax Assessor/Collector:
Billy Gannaway
Chuck Kimmel

County Commissioner:
Precinct #3
Ernest Reyes
Joe Harding
County Commissioner:
Precinct #1
Doug Isaacs

The Republican Party Polling Place for the March Primary will be located at the Community Building in Gail from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. March 14th.

Spring Break Time is finally here!



Always remember
Safety first while
traveling and at play.

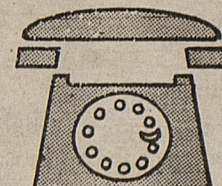
Moore-Rains Insurance
Frances Rains Stephens
O'Donnell, Texas

Hunting Lodge

House in Spur, Texas ready to be converted into Hunting Lodge. Large common room ideal for parties, dominoes, visiting and relaxing after a long day of hunting. Bedrooms will accommodate 8 - 16 or more, 2-1/2 baths, kitchen and dining area combined. Across street from video store. Priced to sell at \$19.50 a square foot. Call for appointment to see possibilities. Bob Dyess (806)439-6624 or Bill Dyess (254)772-2392

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Gail Baptist Church
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Notice of Democratic Primary Election

To the registered voters of the County of Borden, Texas:
Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., on March 14, 2000, for voting in the Democratic Primary.
LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES:
No. 1 (Plains) at the Plains Community Center
No. 2A (South Gail) at Gail Community Building
No. 2B (Ackerly-Vealmoor) at Vealmoor Election Bldg.
No. 3A (Murphy) at Murphy Election Building
No. 3B (Fairview) at Fairview Election Building
No. 4A (North Gail) at County Showbarn
No. 4B (Snelling) at Hurston Lemons, Jr. residence
Absentee at County Clerk's Office, Gail Courthouse during normal office hours.

The Borden Star (USPS or PUBLICATION NO. 895-520) is published weekly except Christmas and New Year's week for \$12.00 per year by the Borden Star, P.O. Box 137, Gail, Texas 79738. Second-class Postage paid at Gail, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send Change of Address to the Borden Star, P.O. Box 137, Gail, Texas 79738.

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Lamesa, TX	Big Spring, TX	Stanton, TX
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60% Chance of Drought Continuing

Cont. from pg. 1

end, and if the present drought is simply a return to more 'normal' rainfall patterns, it may be time to get used to it, "Nielsen-Gammon said.

The usual pattern of the current drought has caught many East Texas producers off guard, said Dr. Todd Thrift, Texas Agricultural Extension Service livestock specialist.

With good rains in the spring and early summer, most producers grew abundant hay. However, expecting more rain, ranchers sold what they saw as surplus hay.

Now, with no winter pasture and low hay stocks, many Texas producers are beginning to experience forage shortages.

The traditional management strategy during a drought is to wean and sell off calves. The theory is that getting rid of the calf lowers a cow's nutrient needs.

Because lightweight weaned calves, those under 300-pounds, do not consume very much forage, the more appropriate strategy may be to sell

older cows, those 8 years and older, and young replacement heifers producers planned to keep, Thrift said.

"Selling off potential replacement heifers goes against the grain of traditional strategies, but the young heifer is a high-forage consumer and two years away from generating any income. Plus, she's worth a lot right now as a feeder heifer," Thrift said.

Dr. Greg Clary, Extension economist, said livestock producers should consider permanently lowering stocking rates and inputs even without drought conditions.

"Being proactive now might prevent them from having to later abandon the cow-calf business altogether," Clary said.

Even in times of good rainfall, economic analysis of Texas operations show they could be more profitable if producers lowered their stocking rates and capital inputs.

"For some, the flexibility offered by having stockers may be less stressful than maintaining a

cow-calf herd," Clary said.

Dr. Larry Redmon, Extension forage specialist, said, "Drought management is not business as usual."

Cattle producers need to be proactive not reactive. Hay supplies are already short, and if producers wait until March or April to cull herds may be too late, Redmon said.

Redmon, as do many other agricultural professionals, believe there's good chance the drought will continue for some time.

By permanently reducing stocking rates, ranchers can position themselves to operate efficiently during dry times. During wet periods they could wean calves and raise stocker cattle to take advantage of increased forage supplies.

"Too many producers presently are stocked right on the ragged edge," Redmon said.

This also might be a good year to consider drilling a well instead of relying on creeks or stock ponds, Redmon noted.

"For some, it's not going to be a question of enough grass but enough water," he said.

While drought can have

an immediate impact on trees," Taylor said.

livestock, tree crops don't mature in a few years, and foresters tend to think in decades rather than years. That's why Dr. Eric Taylor, Extension forestry specialist, considers the weather of the past couple of years as a "dry spell".

Taylor explained, "By definition, droughts last a decade or more. Though there's quite a bit of data suggesting this is the early middle of a real drought."

East Texas sandy soils dry out pretty quickly, however, and Taylor says it's a good idea to start using drought management strategies for forests now.

"We're definitely discouraging landowners from re-seeding pine on hillsides and other dry areas. If they have seedlings, then using them in bottomland or areas with sub-irrigation is a better bet," Taylor said.

For existing forest stands, he recommends, remove all unwanted vegetation such as brush, weeds and undesirable trees to make more nutrients and water available to the remaining trees.

"If they do this, they're essentially watering their

In conjunction with the mild winter, the drought could make for an unusual insect situation in East Texas this year, said Dr. James Robinson, Extension entomologist.

"Entomologists don't have research data showing a relationship between mild winters and increased insects in the spring, but the general opinion is that more insects, spiders and mites over-winter, meaning large numbers in the spring," Robinson said.

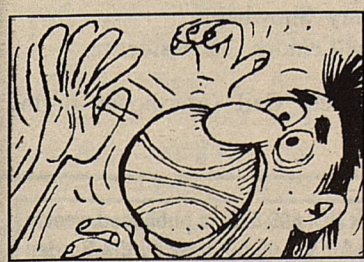
Robinson expects more grasshoppers, spider mites and other crawling insects this summer.

On the positive side, because of the drought, Texans should see fewer of the flying biting types of insects, including mosquitoes, horseflies, blackflies and houseflies. Successful hatching of these insects are dependent on water, either standing pools or flooded streams.

Producers should be on the lookout for insects such as fall armyworms if it does rain.

"We see this happen often after an extended dry period," Robinson said.

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Testing and Applications will be taken at the Borden County Community Center on Saturday, March 4th and Saturday March 18th, beginning at 10: a.m.

For more information in the Borden County area please call:
 Gene Quigly at (915)263-7013 or Call the Local Census Office
 at (806)785-6740 or 1-888-325-7733

The Bureau of the Census is an Equal Opportunity Employer!

**BORDEN COUNTY ISD
 BID REQUEST**

The Superintendent's office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids for repair and replacement of lighting and electrical components to the Borden County I.S.D. school auditorium.

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked "Auditorium Lighting". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Wednesday, March 15, 2000. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and presented to the Board of Trustees for their consideration at the next scheduled meeting. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County I.S.D. Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposals that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding bid specifications and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address or by calling 806/756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806/756-4310.

By Order of the Board of Trustees
 Borden County Independent School District
 Joel Dennis, Secretary