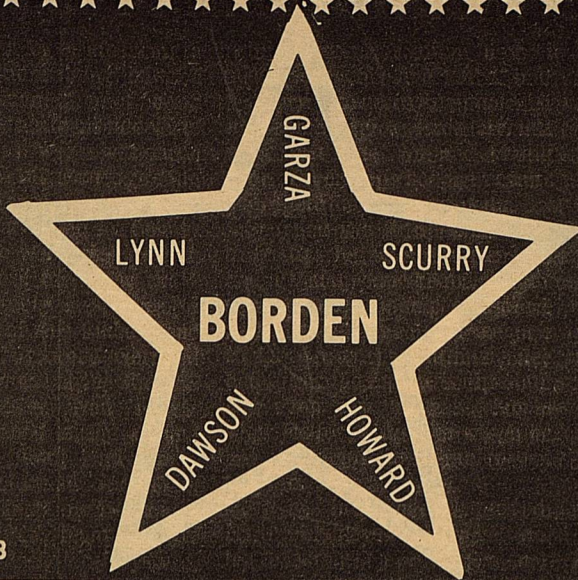


THE



STAR

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GAIL, BORDEN COUNTY, TEXAS 79738

Wed., March 21, 1973

10 CENTS 8 PAGES

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

Inconsistency

## EDITORIAL



This subject may be a little indiscreet for the front page—but I suppose that is revealing my age. Nothing seems to be too indiscreet for print these days.

I'd like to talk about the inconsistency of the Food and Drug Administration.

The FDA says there will be no diethylstilbestrol (DES) fed to cattle in feed lots. The use of DES was banned by the FDA last summer after it was found that it could produce cancer in humans. To my knowledge, 2 percent residue is the greatest amount ever detected in beef liver.

DES is a growth hormone used in feed lots which enable the animal to utilize their feed to a greater extent. This means a better and faster conversion rate saving feed, labor, and time for the feeder. This "cheaper gain" was in turn passed on to the packer and hopefully to the consumer. There was some grumbling among feeders, naturally, but they are complying with the law. This means of course that it takes more feed, more labor, and more time to produce the same grade of beef as before the ban. Obviously this cuts down on the supply and increases expenses from the feed lot to the table.

Now, here this! The Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of DES as the "morning after" birth control pill. According to Time Magazine, "this was not unexpected—it has been used for years to prevent pregnancy in women who take it as long as 72 hours: it has proved an effective contraceptive in tests with 1,000 University of Michigan co-eds" (Time Nov. 8, 1971).

The dosage prescribed by doctors for use as a contraceptive will be 51 milligrams per day for 5 days. Isn't "inconsistent" the word when the FDA says there will be NO DES in cattle livers, even though the minuscule quantities found in beef livers are measured in parts per billion—not milligrams. According to the ANCA Beef Business Bulletin "a gal would have to eat 260 TONS of raw liver containing 1ppb of DES to get the 250 mg. used for

the morning after contraceptive!

This brings up another subject—legalized abortion—Which is all in the world the morning after pill accomplishes—but I will spare you my thoughts on that at this time. BCA

## ANCA Opposes Price Ceiling

Cattle producers, who at one time opposed price supports, are now opposing price ceilings.

Price ceilings on live cattle will create havoc and chaos in the marketing system and will mean for the consumer shortages of beef, Bill McMillen, executive vice-president, American National Cattlemen's Assn., believes.

Cattle producers must need an incentive to continue to produce beef he said, Price ceilings will kill that incentive, he concluded.

Cattle producers are not cutting back on production, he said. Beef production is running four percent ahead of last year, providing 750,000,000 more pounds of beef for the tables of America.

There are four percent more cattle in feedlots this year than last. The nation's breeding herd is larger by about 4,000,000 head. There has been a 50 percent increase in beef production during the past 12 years.

## Cancer Benefit

Once again the Borden County Chapter of the American Cancer Society has launched it's 1973 Crusade.

This year's Crusade hopes to match or better their drive in 1972 which netted them \$1900, an all time high for the County and placing Borden County 2nd in the state in per capita giving.

The Society is selling chances on a Club calf donated by Mr. and Mrs. T.L. Griffin. Chances are being sold for \$1.00 and entitle you to the calf, processed and ready for your freezer. Climaxing the Crusade will be a Barn Dance at the Muleshoe Ranch at which time the winning chance will be drawn.

Chances may be obtained at the following businesses; Chew

and Chat Cafe in Fluvanna, Jym's Cafe, and Lorene's Sandwich Shop, K.T. Reddell Texaco Station all in Gail and Massingill's Store in Vealmoor. You may also buy chances from students of Borden County School.

Support your American Cancer Society and put a beef in your freezer!

## U Lazy S Benefit Set

The second annual U Lazy S Ranch Benefit Branding has been set for Saturday morning, April 7. Proceeds will go to the Post Public Library.

The ranch manager, Jack Lott, assisted by cowboys and other ranchers, will run some 200 calves through the branding procedure between 9:30 a.m. and noon.

The branding site is located seven miles south of Post just off FM Road 660. Admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for students, with all proceeds going to the library's memorial building fund.

Refreshments will be sold at the site under the direction of Mrs. Patty Kirkpatrick, chairman of the library's benefit project.

"Thanksgiving puts power into living, because it opens the generators of the heart to respond gratefully, to receive joyfully and to react creatively."—C. Neil Strait.

## Thank You

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your thoughtfulness and kindness during the passing of our beloved Jimmy. Thank you for the flowers, food, phone calls and contributions, and especially for the words of encouragement and comfort. They meant so much to all of us. May God Bless You.

Sincerely,  
Ira, Fannie,  
Lesley and Randy  
Hagins,  
Danny, Judy,  
Scott and Keith  
Hagins,  
Freddie, Jackie  
and Chris Hagins,  
Steve and Pat  
Cole.



Fifty million beverage cans recycled in Texas annually is the prediction of Frank P. Horlock for a statewide network of 81 Pearl Beer aluminum can recycling centers. Horlock, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Pearl Brewing Company, said the network of centers would be operated by Texas Pearl distributors and is expected to be operational by April 15.

## Pearl to Rebuy, Recycle 50 Million Cans Annually

SAN ANTONIO—A statewide system of 81 aluminum recycling centers with the potential for removing 50 million beverage cans annually from the Texas environment was announced here by Frank P. Horlock, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Pearl Brewing Company.

The recycling centers and a recycling plant which Pearl will build adjacent to the brewery here are part of a total brewery conversion to aluminum cans, according to Horlock.

Each of the 81 Pearl Beer distributors in Texas will establish recycling centers at his distributorship where he will buy back aluminum beverage cans of all brands for 10 cents a pound.

Pearl has contracted to purchase aluminum cans from Reynolds Metals Company and will cooperate with Reynolds in operating the statewide recycling network. Until the aluminum processing center adjacent to the brewery is completed, aluminum cans collected by the Pearl network will be shipped to the Reynolds Houston Aluminum Recycling Center.

The network recycling system is expected to be operational by April 15.

The projection for the removal of a minimum of 50 million aluminum cans annually from the Texas environment is based on national beverage industry experience. Recycling programs nationally are averaging 18 to 20 percent recovery of aluminum cans, according to a Reynolds Metals Company spokesman.

The Pearl brewery here and the Royal Crown bottlers in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio, all of which are included in the conversion program, annually will market 250 million units in aluminum cans.

In making the announcement, Horlock commented, "We know this program will work because our premise is sound. Recycling diverts aluminum from the litter and solid waste stream, contributing to an environmental clean-up; it conserves a valuable natural resource; it conserves energy; and it provides youth and civic groups, as well as individuals, with a means of raising funds for worthwhile projects or for just plain extra pocket money."

# Borden County School News



VICKIE NEWTON presents MRS. VAN KOUNTZ with an award in recognition of a job well done as sponsor of the FHA Chapter.

## FHA-FFA Banquet

The annual FHA-FFA Banquet was held Thursday evening, March 15. The invocation was given by Bobbie Briggs. The Parents Club prepared the meal of chicken fried steak, green beans, baked potato, Spanish salad, hot rolls, pie and iced tea. The eighth grade girls served while Catherine Jackson entertained at the piano.

The FHA members presented the opening ceremony. Janice Browne gave the welcome and introduced the guests. Janice Davis, Sheila Zant, Catherine Jackson, Barbara Browne, D.M. Parks and Max Jones sang, "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing," then everyone joined in the singing. Rhonda Patterson introduced the FHA speaker for the evening, Debra Smith. Debra is State Historian and her home is in Lamesa, Texas. Mike Herring introduced John Johnson as the FFA speaker. John is the Area II Vice-President and lives in Post, Texas.

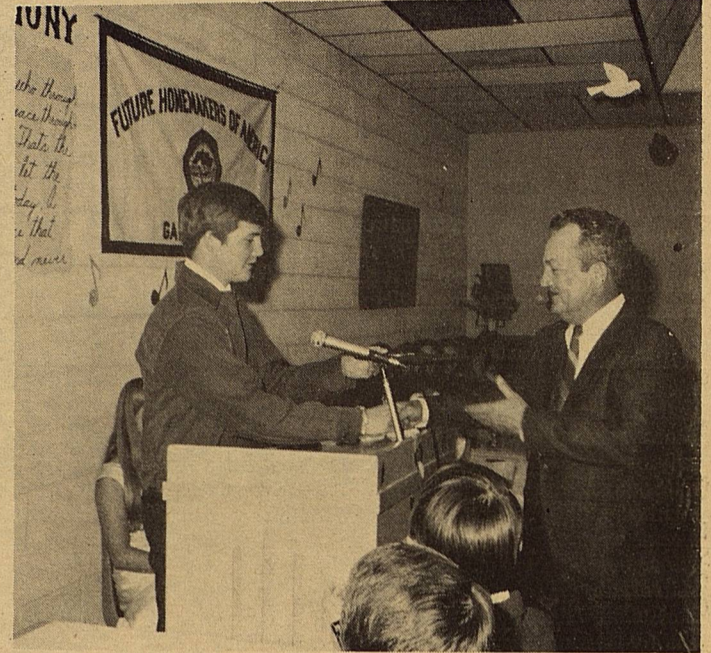
Steven Lockhart presented Claudia Swann, the FFA Sweetheart, with a trophy; Claudia in turn introduced the FHA Beau, Randy Hensley. Vickie Newton announced the names of those who received their levels of "Encounter" in FHA. The symbol for the first level, "Concerning Me," is the key and those who received it were Catherine Jackson, Rita Cornett, Philena Farmer, Melissa Ludecke, Sheila Zant, Mary Ledbetter, and Donelle Jones. The symbol for the second level is the scroll; those receiving it were Janice Davis, Catherine Jackson and Rita Cornett. The Torch symbolizes the third level of adulthood. Receiving this level were Bobbie Briggs and Jo Ann Martin. These two girls are now eligible to attend the state meeting in San Antonio. The FHA sponsor, Mrs. Kountz, was presented a plaque.

Joe Dan Hancock presented the awards for FFA. Mr. Weldon Hancock was announced as the Honorary Chapter Farmer. Mr. Long, FFA sponsor, was presented a plaque.

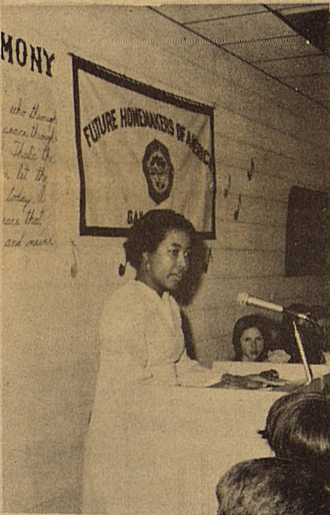
The FFA conducted the closing ceremony. Randy Crittenden gave the benediction.

## National FHA Week

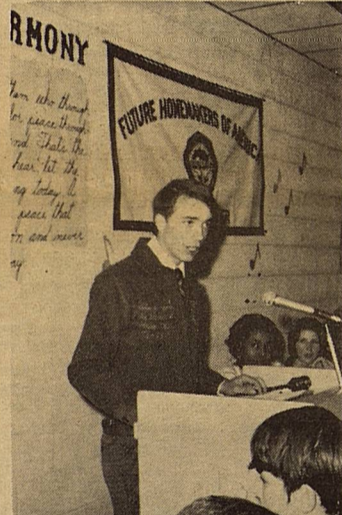
More than 64,000 Future Homemakers of America in Texas are celebrating National FHA Week, April 1-7, 1973. The theme of FHA Week is EXPLORE ROLES—EXTEND GOALS. Activities are designed to show that Future Homemakers of America members are interested in exploring the multiple roles individuals play in family, community, and career life.



FFA President JOE DAN HANCOCK presents an award to his father WELDON HANCOCK. This award is given annually to a Borden County Citizen in appreciation of their support of the FFA.



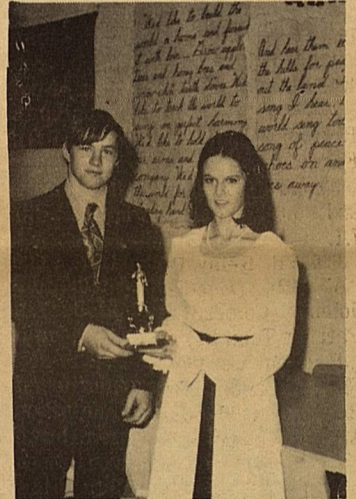
DEBRA SMITH of Lamesa, presents her address at the FFA-FHA Banquet. Debra is State Historian.



Introduced by Mike Herring, JOHN JOHNSON speaks at the FFA-FHA Banquet. John is State FFA Vice-President of Area II.



Chosen FFA SWEETHEART, CLAUDIA SWANN is presented an award by STEVEN LOCKHART.



FHA BEAU, RANDY HENSLEY, is being presented an award by CLAUDIA SWANN.



FHA Parliamentarian VICKIE NEWTON hands the gavel to out-going President JANICE BROWNE.

## FHA Meeting

On March 14, the Gail FHA Chapter held a meeting. The opening ceremony for the banquet was practiced. Everyone was placed on a committee. The juniors were on the decoration committee. The sophomores and seniors worked on decorations. Refreshments were then served by Jo Ann Martin and Bobbie Briggs.

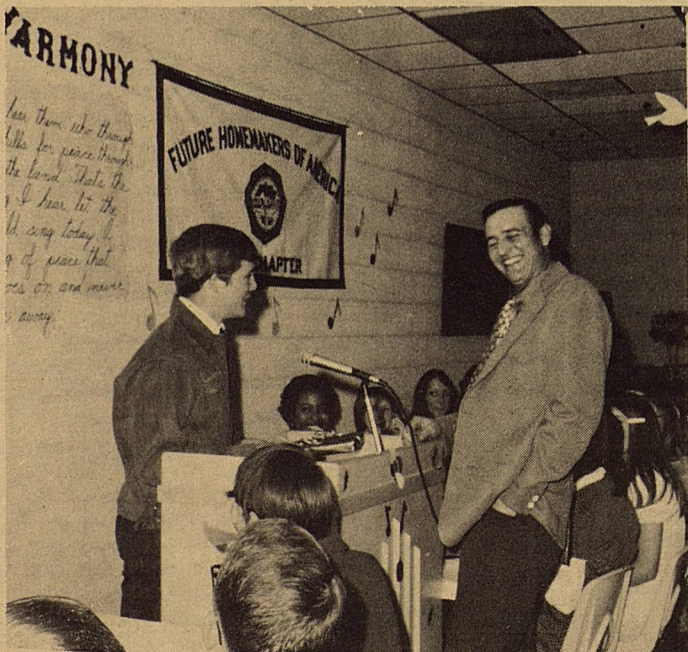
Mrs. Kountz worked with the members on their "Encounter." Each girl recorded what she had done toward a level. This was the means in which everyone's accomplishments were evaluated. Meeting was adjourned.

## Eat With Seniors

The Borden High School Senior Class will be providing food and drink this week during the District One-Act Play on Thursday evening at Borden High School Auditorium. The Senior Class also has the concessions for the Borden County relays that will be held on Friday, March 23. The class will be selling a special chicken snack lunch on Friday evening at the Borden Relays, so plan on eating supper Friday evening with the Seniors.

## Band To Attend Festival

The Borden County Band will travel to Jayton, Thursday, March 22 to participate in the Jayton Music Festival. The band will perform numbers selected for University Interscholastic competition which will be held in Odessa, April 10. Bands from Spur, Rochester, Roby, and Jayton will be participating. Judges for the event will be Charles Traylor from Abilene and Warren Thaxton. The band will leave Gail at 7:00 Thursday morning and return prior to school being out.



FFA Sponsor SID LONG receives appreciation plaque from JOE DAN HANCOCK.

## Jr. High Triangular Meet

### BOYS

Monday, March 19, Borden County Jr. High hosted Sands and O'Donnell Jr. High in a triangular boys track meet. Total points were O'Donnell 91, Borden 44, and Sands 32.

#### Borden's Entries and Results:

Pull Ups—Barney Cochrum, 1st, 24; Ben Thompson, 2nd-16 Pole Vault—Barney Cochrum—2nd-6', Tony Benavidez—4th, 5'8".

Shot Put—Johnny Cortez, 4th, 27'2", Johnny Jackson, 6th, 22'1".

Broad Jump—Larry Simer—4th, 15'1"; Eddie Parks—5th, 14'6 1/4".

Discus—Larry Simer—3rd, 72'10"; Wendell Stroup, 4th—69'11".

High Jump—Joe Zant—2nd, 4'10"; Bob McLeroy—3rd—4'6".

440 Relay—Borden "A"—55.6.—Richard Smith, Johnny Cortez, Tommy Patterson, and Larry Simer; Borden "B" 6th—Sid Westbrook, Travis Rhinehart, Perry Smith, Blane Dyess

800 Yard run—Ty Zant—3rd, 2:52; Jackie Lockhart—4th, 2:52.7

Boys—440 yd Run—Patrick Toombs—3rd, 65.0, Ramon Vidal—6th.

60 yd. High Hurdles—Richard Long, 1st, 10.4; Ty Zant, 5th, 11.2

100 yd dash—Richard Smith, 4th, 12.7; Travis Rhinehart 6th.

100 yd. Low hurdles—Eurdist Rhinehart—2nd, 14.5. Matt Farmer—6th.

50 yd dash—Larry Simer—2nd, 6.6; Ben Thompson—4th, 7.1.

800 Yd. Relay Borden County "A" 4th, (Eurdist Rhinehart, Johnny Cortez, Larry Simer, Patrick Toombs)

Borden County "B" 6th—Chuck Canon, Brent Rhoten, Ray Don Underwood and Arreola Greardo.

### GIRLS

On Monday, March 19, the Borden County junior high girls hosted a triangular track meet with O'Donnell and Sands. Final team totals showed O'Donnell with 162 points, Borden 137, and Sands 103.

Results of the Borden girls were as follows:

Triple Jump—1. Sue Hancock 29'11", 2. Lesa Hensley 29'6"

Discus—3. Renee Sharp 62', 4. Tricia Jackson 59'5"

High Jump—2. Kristy Smith 4'4", 3. Dana Westbrook 4'4"

Broad Jump—1. Gay Griffin 14'7".

Shot Put—2. Tricia Jackson 24'3", 6. Renee Sharp 22'9".

440 Yard Relay—2. Borden "A" (Westbrook, Hancock, Griffin, Hensley) 59.3

5. Borden "B" (Kathy Underwood, Martha Anderson, Lisa McLeroy, Pennye Thompson) 62.7

330 Yard Dash—1. Westbrook 50.6, 6. Liz Ledbetter 62.4

220 Yard Dash—2. Hancock 31.3, 4. Anderson 33.9

60 Yard Dash—5. Hensley, 6. McLeroy

80 Yard Hurdles—1. Griffin, 15.0, 6. Smith

880 Yard Relay—1. Borden "A" (Hensley, Westbrook, Hancock, Griffin) 2:04.2.

5. Borden "B" (Rhesa Wolfe, Twila Telchik, Thompson, Underwood) 2:26.5

100 yard DQASH—5. McLeroy, 6. Underwood.



## Golden Tornado Relays

### GIRLS

The Borden County High School girls track team scored 62 points to finish in 4th place at the Golden Tornado Relays in Lamesa Saturday. Seagraves girls won 1st place in the meet.

Placing for Borden County were: Sheila Zant, 2nd in the shot put with a put of 34'4" and 2nd in the discus with a throw of 81'4"; Philena Farmer, 2nd in the high jump clearing 4'8"; Melisa Taylor, 2nd in the broad jump with a jump of 15'7 1/2" and 3rd in the triple jump with a jump of 31'7"; Mary Thompson, 6th in the broad jump with a jump of 14'6".

Janice Browne placed 5th in the 60 yard dash with a time of 8.0. Bica Baeza was 5th in the 800 yard run with a time of 2:59.7. The mile relay team of Rhonda Patterson, Catherine Jackson, Deidre Tucker and Donelle Jones finished 4th with a time of 4:52.4. These same four girls also finished 4th in the 880 yard relay with a time of 2:02.1. The 440 yard relay team of Janice Brown, Melisa Taylor, Donelle Jones and Mary Thompson finished 5th, running a time of 55.0.

Other girls competing for Borden County in the meet

were: Mary Ledbetter, 880 yard run and 80 yard hurdles; Mary Thompson, 60 yard dash and 80 yard hurdles; Janice Browne, 100 yard dash; Melisa Taylor, 60 yard dash.

### BOYS

The Borden County Boys Track Team went to Lamesa Saturday, March 17, for the Golden Tornado Relays. Entries were: 440 yard relay—Jr. Olivarez, Henry Olivarez, Randy Hensley, Bill Benavidez. 880 yard dash—Philip Boyd; 100 yard dash—Jr. Olivarez, Henry Olivarez, and Randy Hensley; 220 yard relay

The Borden County Boys Track Team went to Lamesa Saturday, March 17, for the Golden Tornado Relays. Entries were: 440 yard relay—Jr. Olivarez, Henry Olivarez, Randy Hensley, Bill Benavidez. 880 yard dash—Philip Boyd; 100 yard dash—Jr. Olivarez, Henry Olivarez, and Randy Hensley; 440 yard dash—Bill Benavidez; 330 yard hurdles—Randy Hensley; 220 yard dash—Henry Olivarez, Toby Sharp; long jump—Creighton Taylor; Pole Vault with a leap of 10 feet, and 4th in the 330 yard hurdles with a time of 44.5. Philip Boyd placed 6th in the 880 with a time of 2.23.

## Dual Meet

### GIRLS

On Friday, March 16, the Borden County junior high girls and Dawson competed in a dual track meet on the Borden track with Dawson scoring 209 points to 169 for the Coyotes.

Results of the Borden girls were as follows:

Triple Jump—2. Lesa Hensley 29'4", 3. Dana Westbrook 28'10" 4. Sue Hancock 28'3".

Discus—3. Renee Sharp 60'7", 4. Tricia Jackson 58'2", 6. Denise Currey, 41'1"

High Jump—1. Dana Westbrook, 4'2", 3. Kristy Smith, 4'2", 4. Gay Griffin 4'2".

Broad Jump—1. Griffin 14'10", 3. Hensley 14'3", 6. Martha Anderson, 12'3"

Shot Put—1. Jackson 24'2", 2. Sharp 23'5", 4. Currey 20'11"

440 Yard Relay—2. Borden "A" (Hensley, Westbrook, Hancock, Griffin) 59.0

3. Borden "B" (Jackson, Lisa McLeroy, Anderson, Underwood) 62.3

330 Yard Dash—2. Westbrook 50.0, 5. Rita Baeza, 6. Liz Ledbetter

220 Yard Dash—3. Hancock 32.2, 5. Anderson 34.1, 5. Pennye Thompson

60 Yard Dash—2. Hensley, 7.9, 5. McLeroy, 9.0, 6. Baeza

80 Yard Hurdles—3. Griffin 14.8, 4. Smith 15.4, 5. Underwood, 15.5

880 Yard Relay—2. Borden "A" Westbrook, Anderson, Hancock, Griffin—2:06.3

3. Borden "B" (thompson, Kevva Tucker, Jackson, Smith) 2:14.3

100 yard dash—4. Underwood, 13.9, 5. McLeroy 15.0, 6. Rhesa Wolfe

BOYS

Friday March 16, Borden County Junior High hosted Dawson and Loop Junior High in a Triangular Boys track meet. Total points were Dawson 92, Loop 52, and Borden 32.

The Borden County boys results were as follows: Pull ups—Barney Cochrum, 1st with 21, Ben Thompson 4th with 17.

Pole Vault—Darin Tucker and Tony Benavidez, tying for 5th and 6th. Shot put—Johnny Cortez, fifth with a 29'3".

Wendall Straup, 6th with a 27'8". Broad Jump—Larry Simer, second, 15'5 1/4", Eddie Parks, 3rd, 15'2". Discus—Larry Simer, 3rd, 75'1 1/2", Johnny Jackson, 6th, 66'3".

High Jump—Joe Zant, 4th, 4'10", Richard Long 6th, 4'2".

440 yard relay—Borden "A" team placed 4th with a 55.6 time. Included in the relay were Richard Smith, Johnny Cortez, Tommy Patterson, and Larry Simer.

Borden 'B' held 6th place with Sid Westbrook, Travis Rhinehart, Perry Smith, and Blane Dyess. 880 yd run, Jackie Lockhart 5th, and Benny Taylor 6th, 440 Dash—Patrick Toombs 2nd with a 64.5, and Raymond Vidal 6th, 60 yd. High Hurdles, Matt Farmer, 3rd 11.2, Ty Zant, 6th, 100 yd. dash; Richard Smith 4th, 12.95, and marlon Vaughn, 6th, 100 yd. low hurdles—Eurdist Rhinehart 3rd, 14.7, Bob McLeroy 5th, 16.5, 50 yd. dash; Larry Simer, 2nd, 6.6, Ben Thompson 4th, 7.1. 880 yd. relay—Borden "A" third 1:57.3.

Running were Eurdist Rhinehart, Johnny Cortez, Larry Simer, and Patrick Toombs. Borden "B" 6th, included Chuck Canon, Brent Rhoten, Ray Don Underwood and Arreola Gerardo.



One Act Play cast includes the following: Back row—Frank Farmer, Clifton Smith, Monty Smith, Steve McMeans and Bobbie Briggs. Front row—Ken McMeans, Mary Thompson, Janice Davis, and Vickie Newton.

## Competition Draws Near

The district One Act Plays will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the Borden High School Auditorium on Thursday, March 22. The Borden County play is entitled "The Outcasts of Poker Flat" by Bret Harte. The vivid portray of action, suspense, comedy, romance, and drama will be brought to life on stage by Senior—Steve McMeans playing Tom Simpson; Senior—Randy Hensley playing Jim Wheeler; Senior—Vickie Newton playing Mother Shipton; Junior—Janice Davis playing The Duchess;

Junior—Frank Farmer playing John Oakhurst and Junior—Mary Thompson playing Piney, and Sophomore—Ken McMeans playing Uncle Billy. Stage hands are Clifton Smith, Monte Smith and Bobbie Briggs. Co-directors are Mr. Ben Jarrett and Mrs. Jan Parker. Borden County's play is the second play and will begin at approximately 4:15. Other schools participating are Dawson, Union, Sands, Loop, and Wellman. The critique judge will be Helen S. Roberts, South Plains College, Levelland, Texas.

## Borden County Relays

Borden County will host the annual "Borden County Relays" at the Gail track field, March 23 starting at 2:30 p.m. The evening meal will be served in the school cafeteria for the teams beginning at 5:00. The finals in all events will start at 7:30 p.m. The following schools will participate in the boys and girls division: Boys—Borden County, Southland, Meadow, Jayton, Fluvanna, Westbrook, Dawson, Klondike, Wellman, Sands, New Home, Union, Forsan, Hobbs and Snyder. Girls—Borden County, Spur, Ropesville, Loop, Sterling City, Sundown, Garden City, Ira, O'Donnell, Crosbyton, Christ the King, Southland, Meadow, Jayton Fluvanna, Westbrook, Dawson, Klondike, Wellman, Sands and Post.

### Boosters Meet

All members of the Borden Booster Club are urged to meet in the school cafeteria at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 23rd to prepare to help with the Borden County Relays. Please attend and show your support.

## School Board Minutes

The Board of Trustees met on March 19, 1973 at 7:30 p.m. in a regular session.

The meeting was called to order by President John R. Anderson at which time the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The March bills were considered for payment. The motion carried to pay the bills.

### Consider Contracts of All Teaching Personnel—

Superintendent McLeroy recommended all teachers and teacher aids. A motion was then made and seconded to renew the contracts of the high school and elementary teachers and teacher aides for the 1973-74 school year.

### Motion carried unanimously. Superintendent's Report—

1. The Board reviewed and approved the year-to-date financial report.

2. A motion was made and seconded to approve the textbooks adopted by the textbook committee. The motion carried. Application for Foundation Funds —

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Final Application for Foundation Funds for the 1972-73 school year. The motion carried.

### Adjourn—

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

# Jerry's Greetings

"Let Us Unite" was a campaign slogan of Richard Nixon in 1968. There have been few issues proposed by the President that could unite the rank and file. But now President Nixon has asked for a crack down on the criminal and a toughening of laws against crime and the criminal. This one issue has the endorsement of all but those of the most permissive philosophy.

A Gallup poll shows that one in three persons living in the urban areas have been victimized by criminals within the past year. And that those persons fearing to walk alone at night as risen from 31 percent to 49 percent. I wouldn't walk next door in Washington, D.C. yet I was completely unafraid to walk for blocks in the city of Rome, Italy. Such a sad commentary on these United States—the Land of the Free and the Brave.

It isn't difficult to understand why we have become such a fearful nation. For years, our courts and law making bodies have been dominated by the "progressives" who espoused the theory that the criminal was not responsible for his acts, but that society was to blame. Any parents who cannot allow his youngster to walk to the movie at night, or refuses to let his daughter drive alone at night from Gail to the ranch, knows that society is not the culprit. But as individuals or even a PTA, we have been unable to reform the criminal codes. Now we have someone with real clout—a president of the U.S.

President Nixon has asked the death penalty be restored for certain criminal acts and that the federal criminal codes be completely revised. The increase in crime has been laid to drugs, too-lenient courts and too few police. Nixon proposes to rectify this by toughening the laws and providing revenue sharing funds to local police.

It pleases me to hear the President oppose the legalization of possession, sale or use of marijuana. And to ask for mandatory sentences for heroin and morphine offenses which cannot be suspended or probated. Bail will be denied to those trafficking in hard drugs. The stand against legalization of marijuana flies in the face of efforts being made in Texas to liberalize our existing laws. Surely Texas lawmakers will take note and realize that to lessen offenses will be to take a step backwards.

Let us truly unite behind President Nixon on this one issue of law enforcement,

respect for the law and laws which will command respect and obedience.

## Housewarming

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Walker of the Plains Community in Borden County were honored with a housewarming Friday evening. Their beautiful new home was toured by a number of friends and neighbors.

Gifts were opened and refreshments were served to guests.

Hosts and hostesses were Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Staggs, Mr. and Mrs. John Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vaughn, Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Telchik, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stephens, and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Staggs.

## Roamins

### Round Town

Mrs. Leon Autrey visited Saturday with her mother, Mrs. Jointer, at Abilene.

Mrs. Don Bryant and children of Odessa visited over the weekend with her mother, Mrs. N.M. McMichael.

Mmes. Floy Smith and Ruth Weathers attended the Ice-Show at Abilene, Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Ode Il Cox and family and D'Ann Myers were shopping in Big Spring, Saturday.

Mrs. Sam Armstrong of Odessa, is visiting with friends in Scurry and Borden County.

Mr. Ira Hagins is recuperating in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after suffering a heart attack Thursday evening. He is reported to be improving.

Mrs. Roland Hamilton and Mrs. Francis Bennet spent the weekend in Seogville visiting Mr. and Mrs. D.R. Covey and Mrs. Ruby Covey. They were joined there by Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Chambers and daughter of New Orleans.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Bennet spent the weekend in Gail.

Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Cotton of Lubbock visited Saturday in the home of Dorothy and Janice Browne.

Brad Cotten of Lubbock spent the weekend visiting Dorthy and Janice Brown.

Mrs. Lorene Jones is visiting in Muleshoe with Mr. and Mrs. James Hodges and Jerry.

## Watch The Weather

—Texans, of all persons, should know how fast the weather can change in their state.

So it's surprising how many boaters are caught unawares when bad weather hits. They are lulled into a false sense of security by bluebird weather and then come limping into port under gale-force winds.

If you're planning an outing on the water, watch the weather reports, advise Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials.

Clear weather where you live doesn't mean it's clear five miles out on the water. Storms tend to brew quickly over water.

Coastal boatmen can watch for the flags or lights at weather stations.

A red flag accompanied by one penant, two penants or a square flag with a black center or two flags or the same design all mean one thing for the man in a small craft—take warning.

One red penant tells the boater that a small craft advisory is in effect. Should you see such a flag, think twice about venturing far from shore if your boat is not equipped to handle rough waters and strong winds (18 to 33 knots).

At night, small craft advisories are signified by one red light above one white light.

Two red pennants warn of gale force winds and heavy seas (34 to 37-knot winds and 10-foot waves). At night, such conditions are signified by one white light above a red light.

A single square flag with a black square on it also signifies storm warnings. Winds are rated between 43 and 63 knots and the small boater should stay in port. At night, two red lights would be shown if the same conditions prevailed.

Hurricane warnings are given by two red flags with black square centers. Hurricane winds are 64 knots or more. At night, these warnings are a white light between two red lights. No boater should be out during this time.

Weather conditions are printed in local newspapers and can also be obtained from television and radio stations.

## Lost An Inch?

The home seamstress using the same size pattern she used six months ago may find a surprise at her waistline when the dress is finished. Unfortunately, she really didn't lose that inch, the pattern is just larger. In the last few months, waist measurements are one inch larger for all adult women's sizes except junior petite where the change is one-half inch.

## Needs For Handicapped

National Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary health agency serving the needs of the handicapped. Founded in 1919, the Society conducts an attack on crippling through a nationwide program of treatment, research and education. Contributions from the public and other revenue for Easter Seal Services have risen from \$18.1 million in 1960 to an estimated \$50 million in 1972. The annual Easter Seal campaign is the main source of income.

## Texas Still King

Texas continues its number one hold on cotton.

The 1972 estimate of cotton for Texas at 4,050,000 bales represents almost one third of the total cotton crop for the nation.

The Texas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service said the estimate for 1972 compares with only 2,579,000 bales in 1971. Yield per acre for 1972 is estimated at 317 lb. per acre, which compares with only 263 lb. in 1971.

## New Rate

Effective January 1, 1973 is a lower Federal excise tax on your telephone bill. The new rate—smaller by one percent—reflects the first annual reduction scheduled under the Excise, Estate and Gift Tax Adjustment Act of 1970. The law calls for a similar reduction each year until the entire tax on phone service is repealed January 1, 1982. The excise tax was levied about the time of World War I and has been on the books ever since—just one more of those "Temporary" taxes.

## Rules Modified

Social Security and Medicare rules have been modified by new legislation. Starting in 1973, people who are working while getting social security can earn up to \$2,100 during the year—\$420 more than last, without reducing social security payments. Medicare changes increased the annual deductible for medical insurance from \$50 to \$60. After \$60 in doctor bills or other covered expenses in 1973. Medicare will pay 80 percent for the rest of the year. Medicare will start on July 1 for disabled people under 65 who have been receiving social security or railroad retirement benefits for two or more years. Also on July 1, people over 65 who have not worked long enough under social security to qualify for hospital insurance can buy this protection on a voluntary basis. To pay for these new option, plus increased benefit payments, the tax for self-employed persons is now 8 percent of everything you earn up to \$10,000—a maximum of \$864 per year.

## 'Meals On Wheels'

"Hot Meals on Wheels", Post's program for senior citizens, got off to a fast start this week with an average of 18 meals delivered daily, according to Mrs. Ann Tubbs, director of the new Community Action project.

The meals are being purchased from a local restaurant at \$1 each, with 23 volunteers alternating on two routes to deliver the hot food five days a week.

Mrs. Tubbs reported about half the senior citizens being served are paying for their own meals. The others are being paid for from a \$3,000 federal grant for the first six months of the project.

Mrs. Dana Feaster, Garza County home demonstration agent, has volunteered to prepare the menus for the program.

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## New Arrival



Congratulations to Donna and Dennis Yadon on the birth of their son, Dusty Shawn was born March 16, weighing 7 lbs. 5 oz. and measures 21 inches. The proud grandparents are Mr. and

Mrs. Boyd of Albuquerque and Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Yadon of Borden County. Donna and Dennis live at 506 Ave. A in Alpine, Texas.

# Rattlesnake Roundup

"Snakes Alive," the 11th annual Big Spring Jaycee Rattlesnake Roundup, is coming to Big Spring March 23, 24, and 25. And that means snake hunting, handling, exhibitions, parades, beauty contests, dances and other activities in conjunction with the annual event.

Roundup headquarters will be located at the National Guard Armory on FM 700 again this year. Hunter registration will start at 8 a.m. March 23 and will continue until 6 p.m. Already hunters are in the pastures and fields collecting the creatures Jaycee President Don Worthan reported.

Delbert Hutchings, a local snake handler, will perform the delicate art of displaying and milking the snakes this year. Hutchings handled the reptiles during last year's roundup.

Included in the activities this year will be a beauty pageant to determine this year's Miss Diamondback Queen. The pageant will be held March 22. Young ladies entering the contest must be 18 years or older. Registration for the competition began Feb. 19.

During the afternoon of Friday, March 23, a parade will be staged in the downtown area with many local and area bands, riding clubs, dignitaries and the Miss Diamondback contestants participating. There will also be float competition in the parade, with first, second and third place cash winners who are entered in the parade. Registration for the float competition also began Feb. 19. Both the beauty contestants and the float contestants can send their registration notifications to the Jaycees, P.O. Box 335.

On Saturday morning, March 24 hunter registration will continue as well as handling demonstrations at the armory. Guided tours will be conducted on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to offer the public a first hand view of the techniques of catching rattlesnakes.

Saturday night March 24 the Round-Up Dance will be with the Versatones providing the music. Miss Diamondback will be crowned at the dance.

There will be rattlesnake steak plates throughout the weekend, prepared by the Big Spring Jayceettes, as well as raw and tanned snake skins.

A special attraction this year will see Lee Box, of Wichita Falls, demonstrate a large exhibit of poisonous snakes and various other reptiles.

"We are looking for the best Rattlesnake roundup the Big Spring Jaycees have ever experienced, and we want

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everyone to come out and enjoy themselves. This is one of the most unique and unusual sporting events in the world and I feel everyone should plan to attend and see what a rattlesnake roundup is all about," said Gary Davis, roundup chairman.

Approximately 2,000 pounds of rattlesnake was collected in last year's roundup, according to Worthan. "It was the biggest roundup in the history of the Big Spring Jaycees and the chapter received national publication about the roundup," Worthan explained. In past years environmentalists across the nation have centered their complaints around similar snake roundups, claiming it is detrimental to the snake population and could cause an imbalance in nature's checks and balances.

"Each year the Jaycees collect as many snakes or more as the previous year, inferring that the snake population is not being threatened by extinction. The venom collected is used in various medical ways, including cancer research, mental retardation, tests in new born infants, as blood anti-coagulant as well as snake-bite serum," Worthan explained.

"Most local and area residents are not concerned with the environmental protection of the rattlesnake. Most feel that the only good rattlesnake is a dead rattlesnake," Worthan said.

Venom from this year's roundup will be sent to the Colorado State University to be used specifically for cancer research.

## Tax Reform Hearings

The Ways and Means Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives brought a number of suggestions at the Tax Reform Hearings. According to the American Farmer the Farm Bureau witnesses favored retention of the investment credit, capital gains treatment of breeding livestock, cash accounting, and depletion allowances for industries involved in the extraction of exhaustible resources. They also called for reforms in the assessment and taxation of estates and for tightening tax-loss farming provisions of current law.

## Discoveries Save Water

A thousand irrigation wells, each pumping 450 gallons per minute, would have to work one year and 30 days to pump as much water as Dawson County receives in a year's average rainfall. In past years, much of this water was never used because it was lost by evaporation. Now there is a bright promise that such losses can be cut to a minimum, and this water used for crop production. Bob Kral, with the Lamesa office of the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), says that recent discoveries can save area farmers millions of gallons of water and reduce farm expenses at the same time.

"There's no telling how much water we lose every year simply by plowing," Kral said. "Now there are advanced techniques of tillage, new weed control chemicals, and new ways to use surface residues to cut down evaporation losses."

Several cooperators with the Dawson Conservation District are conducting field trials this year, testing those new techniques under local conditions. These trials are being coordinated through the Crop Development Committee of the Lamesa Chamber of Commerce.

"The possible benefits from this are tremendous," Kral said. "If only one inch of water per acre were saved on Dawson County farms, that amounts to more than 12 billion gallons. This much water is enough to grow an extra 15 thousand bales of cotton and an extra 14 thousand tons of grain sorghum."

Another bonus of the new techniques is reduced farming costs. Figuring each trip over the land at a conservative \$1.00 per acre, the farmer that saves three plowings on a half section farm could have almost a thousand dollars more in his pocket at the end of the year.

"These changes are not going to take place in just one year," Kral said, "but I am convinced the potential is there. I am thrilled that local farmers are beginning to try these new techniques, because the opportunities are too good to pass up."

Bagdad, California suffered the longest drought in U.S. history—2 years, 37 days.

# Texas Telephone Commission Bill

AUSTIN--State Representative Joe Allen of Baytown believes that his bill to establish the Texas Telephone Commission is gaining support from local city governments across the state. House Bill no. 27 would create Texas' first such utility commission to act as a rate control board for all telephone franchises in the state.

"In recent weeks I have talked to several mayors across Texas to get their reaction to the bill's potential effects. They believe that the small and medium size cities are at the mercy of the local franchise when the telephone company wants a rate hike. They simply cannot afford a court fight to get a reduced rate, and even if they could, it would be physically impossible for them to gather the data and statistics to be as well prepared in court actions as the phone company's representatives. Even more unfortunate is that a court fight is virtually the only method of opposing price increases," Rep. Allen stated.

The bill sets up a 3 man commission, appointed by the Governor, to review a proposed rate increase, at the option of the community involved. The measure also creates the office of Telephone Consumer Counsel, which will investigate customer complaints of telephone service, and customer questions about phone regulations and charges.

The Counsel will also be available to offer assistance and advice to local communities who are questioning the fairness of phone company practices concerning rates and increases. Rep. Allen added, "The community officials I have spoken to believe that this bill is the answer to their inability to fight on the same level as phone company. Furthermore, I believe that the state has an obligation to come to the assistance of cities that cannot afford to fight inequitable utility practices on their own. Texas is the only state left which does not have a rate control board of some type for this franchise service."

No state appropriation will be needed to finance the Commission. It will be funded by a special .1 per cent levy on intrastate long-distance telephone calls to be paid by the telephone company. The levy will pay the salaries of the Commission and Counsel, and their expenses. Tax dollars will not be spent on the Commission.

Rep. Allen concluded, "This measure cannot help but bring more justice to rate control. Naturally the phone franchises will oppose the bill because they know it will be more difficult for them to ask for an imprudent rate change. But it will give Texas communities and telephone customers the chance for equitable treatment, the opportunity to realize utility control, and the right of recourse when faced with monopolistic business."

## More Harmful

Many of the new insecticides are more harmful to man than outlawed DDT according to the Journal of the American Medical Association. The Journal warns doctors of a probable sharp increase in insecticide poisonings with the ban on DDT because the new organophosphates, while less persistent in the environment, are highly toxic to humans and are easily absorbed through the skin. DDT was not. "Many deaths have been reported from parathion exposure; few if any from DDT," the Journal editorial warned.

## ALL ABOUT CORN

Americans, except for Indians, did not eat sweet corn until after 1779, when an army officer found the Iroquois growing it along the Susquehanna River in western New York. Sweet corn still accounts for only a small fraction of the U.S. corn crop, which goes largely to feed poultry and livestock, and is not widely known abroad.

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# Mushaway Firearms Collection

## It Is

By Edna Miller

So after all these years it is finally official! The name of the Peak is Mushaway. It has been called so many things. In early surveyors records and on old maps it is called Muchakooago, Mucha Kooay, Mucha Kowa, and Moo-cha-ka-away. It is also listed on some maps as De Cordova Mountain, Mount Irwin, and Mount Gunter. But within the memory of Borden County people it has always been the Peak or Mushaway.

The map used by the earliest military expedition into the Borden County area listed the name Moo-cha-ko-away. But when Colonel Ronald S. MacKenzie scouted the country in 1872 his reports and the maps his men made used the name Mucha Que. MacKenzie had captured a New Mexican Comanchero named Polonis Ortiz who told him of the large Indian Camp near Mushaway and of the Mushaway trail, which was used by the Comancheros to transport goods for trading with the Indians and for driving the cattle for which they traded, cattle stolen by the Indians from frontier settlers, back into New Mexico. The trail ran from Mushaway Peak up Tobacco creek, past Tahoka Lake and on to Puerto de Luna where Coronado built a bridge over the Pecos river. Since the prisoner Ortiz was Spanish, MacKenzie's designation of the peak as Mucha Que (kwa) was probably an attempt to fit the Indian sound to Spanish spelling. Dr. Rupert N. Richardson of Hardin-Simmons, Dr. W.C. Holden and Dr. Earnest Wallace of Texas Tech, J. Evetts Haley and others who have based their research on MacKenzie's papers have used the name Mucha Que, but it is doubtful that any one living here would realize that Borden County's most prominent landmarks was being mentioned.

Buffalo hunters J.W. and A.B. Woody and Raymond and Matt Rumph are credited with having killed 3200 buffalo during the winter of 1876 "between Yellowstone and Muchaway creeks, 4 or 5 miles southwest of the future site of Gail." This indicates that the name was known as Muchaway by the buffalo hunters, who didn't read MacKenzie's notes!

As Frank X. Tolbert says—many meanings have been ascribed to the name Mushaway. No satisfactory one has yet been published. If you don't know it's meaning you might persuade some very early settler of Borden County to tell you, but it's doubtful!

At any rate, it is now official that our Peak is Mushaway. And if some one says "Do you mean Mucha Que?" you have the United States Board on Geographic names to back you up.

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A gun which could be "loaded in the morning for shooting all day" was a vital development during an era when a man's foes sometimes appeared faster than he could re-load.

The blazing six-guns and repeating rifles marked a vast improvement over the old muzzle-loading firearms.

Four such weapons are on display through March at The Museum of Texas Tech University as "Treasure of the Month."

Dr. S.M. Kennedy has loaned for the display, a commemorative Winchester classic, model 94, 30-30, caliber rifle, such as was developed in the late 19th century. It is the most widely sold deer rifle in America today, he says.

Also, on display is an earlier type Winchester rifle, manufactured in about 1873, and donated to the museum by W.K. von Osinski.

A pearl-handled Colt 44 revolver, the sort of hand gun used by Westerners which could cost a man about half a month's pay, was donated by Ms. Susan Mahaffee.

A commemorative Colt 45 revolver of the type used by the Texas Rangers is in the exhibit, loaned by Dr. James G. Morrison.

The 30-30 rifles are part of a series of Winchester firearms featuring magazine-fed ammunition and lever action, and which were also noted for the use of the first modern smokeless powder cartridges.

Previously, Dr. Kennedy says, the black powder cartridges were not only unreliable, but also made enough smoke that the gunman's position was instantly visible.

During the years 1869-1894, the Winchester rifle underwent improvements in the re-loading process, improving sighting and lighter barrels until the gun was internationally famous for its reliability and accuracy.

Until 1900, the lever-action rifle was used by the military, but the invention and development of bolt-action weapons proved more feasible for use by soldiers because the bolt-action gun is more

powerful.

A lever-action Winchester 30-30 deer rifle bullet will maintain an accurate course for about 200 yards, Dr. Kennedy commented, before the missile begins to drop and accuracy is destroyed.

The Colt 44 revolver, when first developed, used the same sort of cartridge as a rifle. The purpose of this was to allow the frontiersman who made his own bullets to carry one kit for both his rifle and hand gun.

Ordinarily a rifle cartridge is smaller than the six-gun cartridge, Dr. Kennedy said, and a missile, when fired from a rifle, travels at about twice the velocity.

The handy six-gun had its uses, however, and the pearl or ivory handle was a status symbol on a shiny chrome weapon.

One without the options had either rubber or wooden grips on the handle for a more utilitarian look. A distinct advantage to the six-gun in cow country was that it would fire under adverse conditions (with dirt in the barrel).

The revolver commemorative of the Texas Rangers has a longer barrel than many six-guns. Dr. Kennedy explained that the longer barrel improved accuracy.

Also on display with the firearms are a matched set of carpenter's tools such as were utilized in the construction of fine furniture; the tongue-in-groove joint and the drop leaf table, for example, Dr. Kennedy says. Another tool set is more crude and is the sort used by farmers. Both sets of tools were donated by Mrs. J. William Davis, and belonged to her grandfather, George T. Parkhouse.

A writing box which belonged to Mrs. Davis' great-grandmother, Sarah Parkhouse is on display. The box, which contains a Roman coin and a souvenir of the Chicago fire, was brought from England to Maine, and then to Texas, by Mrs. Parkhouse.

A doctor's kit, used by the late Dr. R.E.L. Rochelle in Amherst, is in the exhibit, and an American flag with 37 stars.

## Come To Gail

By FRANK X. TOLBERT

MUCHAKOOAGO PEAK is the most striking landmark around Gail, Texas, the cow town capital of Borden County. This is a triangular shaped butte with a crown of scalloped boulders and it is about 3 miles southeast of the town. Gail Mountain a 3,000 foot high mesa, crowds in closer to the town just to the west.

When I drove into Gail last Saturday about 11 a.m. the buttes and mesas were rising into 60-degree, golden sunshine, but the village was almost deserted. Jym's Cafe had a sign "Sorry, Closed," and the Gail Grocery Store was closed and the abstract company, too, and all the offices in the courthouse were locked. Even the little 1894 jail, with a historical medallion on it, seemed empty. And the only inhabitant in sight was the fellow at the Texaco station.

Borden and adjoining Dawson County contain the fountains of the Colorado River. But mostly Borden is rugged rangelands and there are only about 900 people in the county's 914 square miles. The nomenclature of Borden is interesting. The county was named for one of the most remarkable personalities of the Republic of Texas, Gail Borden Jr., the innovator of condensed milk and the founder of the Borden Co.

Old Gail was certainly never in Borden County, for this territory was still under Comanche domination when he died in 1874 at Bordenville, far down the Colorado River near Houston.

Muchakooago Peak is said to mean Much Buzzard Manure Peak, by one authority on the Comanche language, although

the agglutinated phrase is probably a sample of the Mexican-Indian lingo spoken between the Comanches and Mexican traders, or Comancheros.

"The War of the Ribbons" happened in Borden County in 1902. This was when a bunch of farmers came in to try and get claims to buy state "school lands." Ranchers already in residence were also trying to buy the newly opened state lands. The sheriff disarmed all the contestants and made the farmers wear one color of ribbons and the ranchers ribbons of another hue. The only fights were with fists.

### Ranchers Won Out

You can see that ranchers won out. For the county is still almost all cow range except for some plains acreage above the caprock in northwest corner.

Anyway, if you're tired of crowds and traffic come to Gail, the Capital of Borden on a weekend morning. This is a relaxed town where the rare prisoners in the ancient jail, if they're in on charges not too serious, work by day as dish-washers at Jym's Cafe and lock themselves in at night.

Going Concern—This age will go down in history (or I miss my guess) as the age of "Pre". Clothes are pre-shrunk and bread's pre-sliced; vegetables are pre-mashed, pre-diced. The pre-fab home, pre-empted show, and pre-recorded song we know, and—which we more or less resent—most of income is pre-spent.



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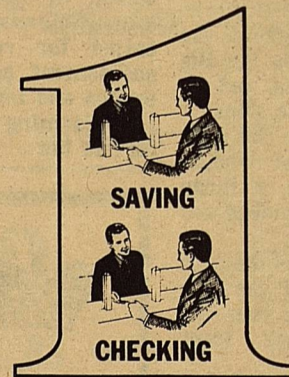
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# Report To Texans

Senator John Tower

One of the real frustrating problems that seems to be constantly growing worse is the United States postal delivery service. This, perhaps more than any other service that is offered nationwide, affects virtually every man, woman and child in our state and nation. I have just had the opportunity to convey my views on this subject to the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee and want to share them briefly with you.

My office in Washington receives literally hundreds of complaints about poor mail service. Many of them are from Texans who tell of business losses as well as personal inconvenience due to uncertain deliveries. Let me emphasize, however, that in my own opinion, the trouble basically is not with the many hundreds of post office employees—most of whom work diligently to expedite the mail. Probably, the problem lies with the system itself. Hopefully, the Senate Committee now studying the problem will come up with a solution.

We in the Congress have been extraordinarily patient, hoping that eventually the United States Postal Service would begin to exhibit some signs of the improved mail service we were promised when the Service was created as a quasi independent corporation. Unfortunately, the reverse has been true. In place of improved quality and reliability of mail service, we have seen a steady decline in quality and a degree of unreliability which has driven many Americans to develop alternative services. Rather than a reduction in costs, we are now being told that major postal rate increases are necessary.

A basic question is, what price do we have to pay to get mail service that we want? If more money is needed, then we must decide on one of two routes. The first would require that the postal services be paid by those who use it, resulting in an increase in postal rates. On the other hand, we could redefine the postal service as an essential national service that promotes the general welfare, and subsidize it. Clearly, a decision must be made and we must proceed on one path or the other.

Almost as far back as I can remember, the proud slogan of our mail carriers has been: "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night shall stay our couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Yet on January 11th, of this year, snow and ice in Tyler

caused the suspension of mail deliveries in that city of 60,000 due to a postal decision that driving conditions were unsafe. I support safety but we must maintain reliability for our mail service. We can readily see the ramifications of mail delays when we consider that Tyler is the county seat of Smith County, the medical center for East Texas, and a progressive metropolitan and industrial center.

Let me quote from just a few examples of the hundred of complaints received by my office. An official of an insurance company located in Greenville notes that one of his firm's major expenses is postage since it does a big portion of its business by mail. Although postage rates have gone up significantly in recent years, he said the services have declined to such an extent that, and I quote, "not only can we no longer depend on it, but we must use other money and time to correct the errors caused by the faulty service." He went on to cite an experience in one North Central Texas city where the service had become so unreliable that often half the policy holders fail to get monthly premium notices.

Another constituent in Houston writes: "What has happened to the Post Office Department? Delivery is so slow, that one could ride horseback and get there before their mail does in all too many cases." A banker at College Station says that third and fourth class mail arrives as much as 20 days from the mailing date.

In Longview, an attorney wrote me recently complaining that it frequently takes as much as a week for a letter to move between there and Dallas. He said that mail within the city usually takes more than 24 hours for delivery, even to a post office box. As a consequence, this attorney told me that often a client misses notification of developments in his cause of action and the time for him to appear in court.

These are somewhat typical of the many complaints of poor mail service. I think we are at a point where something has to be done. I know those of us who use the postal service frequently are ready. Hopefully, the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee will come up with a workable solution. When they do, I intend to get behind it and work hard to see that it passes the United States Senate.

## Senator Outlines Views

U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas has said that he feels one of the most important deadlines facing the 93rd Congress is the extension of the agricultural programs.

"I intend to work closely with farm organizations as well as House Agricultural Committee Chairman W.R. Poage and Senate Agricultural Committee Chairman Herman Talmadge to insure that the best possible agricultural bill is passed," he said.

"Many people feel that present legislation will not be changed substantially. However, there are some changes which must be made such as the complications in the wheat subsidy payment schedules.

"The present schedule allowed Texas wheat producers to receive only 88 percent of parity while much of the rest of the nation's producers received 100 percent or more. It is also my feeling that we must strengthen our control of livestock pests at and beyond the Mexican border. Another consideration is the old problem of cotton sampling, grading and packaging. It is my feeling that the cotton industry can profit from some changes in these procedures," Senator Bentsen said.

"The results of the hearings Senator Talmadge will hold concerning recent cuts in agricultural programs will also affect the new bill. There is considerable misunderstanding of farm programs by various consumer and non-farm interests which will make passage of a good bill more difficult unless some educating is done. I am hopeful that the Senate hearings will provide a forum for showing the public the general benefit everyone derives from these programs. I would hope that the new farm legislation will be acted on early in the next session, so that those affected will know where they stand."

We could all retire at 50 if we could just sell our experience for what it cost us.

## "Accent on Youth Week"

WEBB AFB: Tx. Mar 15- Phantom, Hercules, Voodoo, Super Sabre, Delta Dagger, Corsair II, Talon and Tweet each will be ready to meet the public Saturday, March 31, at Webb AFB's Open House.

Climaxing "Accent on Youth Week" the open house and a performance by the Thunderbirds will take place around a display of modern and vintage military aircraft.

In all, some 11 front-line aircraft will be set up for public examination—from one of the smallest birds to one of the most modern and versatile fighter-bombers in the Air Force inventory.

Included in the display from Tactical Air Command are: McDonnell-Douglas F-4 Phantom, LTV Aerospace A-7 Corsair II, General Dynamics F-111 Swing Wing Fighter Bomber, Cessna O-2 Observation plane and the Lockheed C-130 Hercules.

From the Air National Guard are: North American F-100 Super Sabre, the McDonnell F-101 Voodoo, and the General Dynamics F-102 Delta Dagger.

From Air Training Command are: Cessna T-37, Northrop T-37, Northrop T-38 Talon and the Cessna T-41 Mescalero.

Gates will be open to the public from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Thunderbirds performance is scheduled for 3 p.m. There will be free parking and refreshments.

## Cotton Council Wants '70 Act

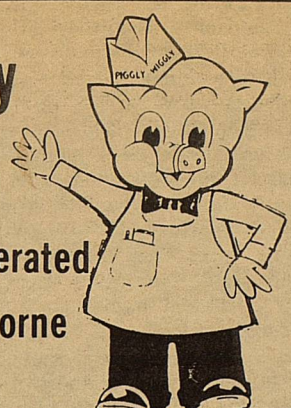
Delegates to the National Cotton Council meeting in El Paso, have gone on record as favoring a new long-range government cotton program that basically adheres to the 1970 Agricultural Act.

In a resolution adopted at their closing meetings they called for a program that 1. Assures dependable, fully adequate supplies to meet domestic and foreign demand at more stable and competitive prices; 2. does not reduce payment limitations below the present \$55,000 level; and 3. provides a loan level more accurately reflecting 90 per cent of the actual world market price for the last three years.

Earlier, Rep. Bernie Sisk (D-Calif) noted that all-out efforts from the White House on down were going to be required to maintain existing elements of the present cotton industry in connection with the upcoming program.

If you want to frost that cake before freezing, use an uncooked frosting because it will freeze better than the cooked variety.

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# The Bitter Winter of 1897

By Les Beitz

Early winter of '97. Bitterest, bitin'est cold those West Texas ranchmen had ever been through. Some of the old-timers around those parts had trailed down out of Montana and Wyoming in earlier years; they'd known cold at its coldest.

The open range had been powder dry that year. Cattle hadn't near enough decent forage. Were starved out . . . poor. But no matter how lean-flanked a herd of longhorns can get in bad times, there's always some that manage to stay fat.

J.B. Slaughter had cut 150 head out of some 4,500 he was running on his U-Lazy-S spread. These were packing enough tallow, he reasoned, to go to market. His plan was to trail the entire herd east to longer grass, keeping the fat bunch separate from the rest to be sold off at Abilene, Texas, which was along the route of the drive.

The move had gotten under way and was nearing Big Spring when a gale suddenly howled in. It hit from due north just before sundown. In less than thirty minutes, jillions of stinging white darts were slashing mercilessly out of pewterish-colored skies, drowning out trail and landscape in all directions.

When the bad weather struck, the two trail hands up ahead in charge of the market critters spotted what appeared to be some unoccupied stock pens.

The drovers, an old hand and young "button," managed to get their bawling beef brutes into the enclosures. Then they hit a lope back toward the main herd to lend a hand in whatever needed doing there.

It was night now and blacker than the inside of a pauper's pocket. Their horses humped up under the saddles, bucking stiff-legged against the fierce, driving wind. They located the camp about two miles back, hastily set up in the bottom of a deep buffalo wallow.

The poor cattle were stomping and milling around trying their best to turn tail to the storm and drift with it—their natural defense to such misery. But Slaughter had never been up against this state of affairs before, and had every man in the saddle trying to hold the half-crazed critters together.

Now old J.B. knew a good bit about how to manage range land—in a beef production sense, that is. And he knew a lot about men. But what he knew

about cow sense you could write on the little smidgen that flutters to the floor when a train conductor punches your rail ticket. With space left over, t'boot.

Figuring to throw a herd on bed ground in a raging blizzard like that! Plain, flat impossible.

It's never been considered very savvy to try to tell a range boss how to run his business. But the old waddy who'd just come in from penning those market critters knew more about cattle than any man in the country. And he reckoned this was no time to play coy about it.

He rode over to where Slaughter sat hunkered up in his saddle and hollered above the roar of the wind, "Look, Mr. Slaughter. Them beeves can't be bedded down in this damn weather! Turn 'em loose!"

Coming the way it did, old Slaughter really got shook up. "What?" he bellowed back. "Hell, man, we'll lose every head if we turn 'em loose!"

"What you're fixin' to lose," barked the hand, "is a guldern good crew of trail hands! They shore can't hold a herd after they've froze t'death!"

J.B. Slaughter was the last man on earth who'd want to do something that would harm one of his waddies. He turned in the saddle and squinted dead straight into that razor-sharp wind—for what seemed like a full minute. Then he swung

around and peered square into the near-frozen face of the man who'd had his say.

"Call the men in!", J.B. shouted. He yanked his mount around and headed in the direction of the wallow.

What followed were eight thoroughly miserable days. Eight days of furious, raging blizzard, with everyone cooped up in the widow's place up on the baldies. She'd taken to one room and turned the rest of the old house over to the trail crew.

After the storm broke, all hands took to the back trail to gather up the drifted herd. When the tally was in, the loss amounted to something in the neighborhood of 130 poor cows and calves.

Which was not too bad a loss, considering all the helacious fury that ripped up and down and across that open country during those eight bad, bad days and nights.

Dammit, man!...it was COLD!



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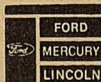
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