

Merkel Wins Track Meet

Merkel led the field of five schools Saturday in the Invitational Badger Relays held in Merkel's Badger Stadium.

Merkel Coach Jerry Jones squad racked up 166 total points, including first place wins in the 860 yard run, 100 yard dash, 220 yard dash and mile relay in track events and the discus and shot put in the field events.

Other team totals were Stamford, 142; Jim Ned 87; Robert Lee, 80 and Wylie, 65.

440 RELAY - 1. Stamford, 46.1; 2. Merkel, 46.2; 3. Wylie 47.6.

880 RUN-1. Bunch, Merkel, 2:08.2; Graham, Jim Ned, 2:08.8; 3. Garrell, Stamford 2:13.

120 HIGH HURDLES - 1. Doby, Wylie, 17.4; 2. Cooper, Jim Ned, 18.3; 3. Herbert, Jim Ned, 18.5

100 YD. DASH - 1. Cox, Merkel, 10.6; 2. Cooper, Stamford, 10.7; 3. Earl, Stamford, 10.8.

440 YD. DASH - 1. Collins, Stamford, 54.2; 2. Nelson, Wylie, 54.5; 3. Aycock, Jim Ned, 55.0.

330 INT. HURDLES - 1. Hussman, Wylie, 44.2; 2. Copeland, Merkel, 44.9; 3. Isabell, Stamford, 45.0.

220 YD. DASH - 1. Tolliver, Merkel, 23.6; 2. Cox, Merkel, 23.9; 3. Giddings, Stamford, 24.4.

MILE RUN - 1. Dickenson, Stamford, 4:49; 2. M. McClure, Jim Ned, 4:59.8; 3. Alvarado, Stamford, 5:06.

MILE RELAY - 1. Merkel, 3:39.5; 2. Stamford, 3:45.4; 3. Jim Ned, 3:47.1.

LONG JUMP - 1. Cooper, Stamford, 21; 2. Doby, Wylie, 19-3. 3. Hutchings, Merkel, 18-11.

HIGH JUMP - 1. Cooper, Stamford, 6-4; 2. Riggan, Merkel, 5-8; 3. Gray, Merkel, 5-8.

POLE VAULT - 1. Hansen, Stamford, 12-0; 2. Bunch, Merkel, 10-6; 3. New, Jim Ned, 9-6.

DISCUS - 1. Ascencio, Merkel, 125-1; 2. Isabell, Stamford, 114-0; 3. Wharton, Merkel, 104-10 1/2.

SHOT PUT - 1. Moreno, Merkel, 39-5; 2. Isabell, Stamford, 30-0 1/2; 3. Carrell, Jim Ned, 36-7 1/2.

TEAM TOTALS--1. Merkel, 166; 2. Stamford, 142; 3. Jim Ned, 87; 4. Robert Lee, 80; 5. Wylie, 65.

Hodges-Stith Gains Meet March 26

There will be a joint meeting of the Hodges-Stith Co-Op with the Growers Seed representatives of Lubbock at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26 at the Hodges Community Center.

Peter Tanner and Tip Carter are managers.

Estes Floral Co. Has Good Crowd For Opening

See Picture Pg. 2

Estes Floral Co. held its grand opening Saturday, March 9, with about 75 to 100 people attending. Carnations and daisies were given to the ladies.

Grand Prize, which included a terrarium, was won by Mrs. Marie Goode. The craft item, a purse, was won by Marie Cunningham and an artificial flower arrangement was given to Billie Walters as a prize.

Estes Floral started their floral business the first of February and is operated by Carolyn Estes and Jo Ann Reed.

Carolyn Estes is married to Ernest Estes, who ranches with his brother, David, on the Estes Ranch 20 miles northwest of Merkel. Carolyn is the former Carolyn Hamilton. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hamilton of Cisco. She has two brothers and two sisters. She was raised in Cisco and her husband, Ernest was raised on the Estes Ranch northwest of Merkel.

Carolyn Estes and her husband, Ernest, recently moved back here from Austin. Carolyn trained and worked in the florist business for



MRS. MAE SAEGO
... 'Lady of Year'



FRED STARBUCK
... Outstanding Citizen

Fred Starbuck, Mae Seago Chosen Merkel's Top Citizens

Mrs. Mae Seago was chosen Merkel's 'Woman of the Year' Tuesday night by the Alpha Beta Sigma Phi Sororities at the Merkel Chamber of Commerce Banquet and Fred Starbuck was chosen Merkel's Outstanding Citizen for the year.

Presenting the award to Mrs. Seago was Mrs. Billy Bob Neff president of the Lambda Beta Chapter and Mrs. C.E. Tipton, president of Xi Nu Chi. The recipient of the award was chosen by a joint committee of the two sorority chapters.

In announcing the winner, Mrs. Neff said that Mrs. Seago was "Most Deserving and was loved and admired by all that knew her." She went on to enumerate the many accomplishments of Mrs. Seago, saying that she had been Worthy Matron of the Eastern Star threetimes, was a member of the Baptist Church, was a strong leader in the Senior Citizens and many other accomplishments. She cited her winning a new

car in 1924 for selling the most subscriptions to the Merkel Mail as evidence of her boundless energy.

Joe Lassiter, vice President of the Chamber, told the approximately 165 members and guests that the recipient of the Outstanding Citizen award was known to all of Merkel. He told a few of the accomplishments of Mr. Starbuck and then asked him to join him at the speakers stand while reading the long list of his accomplishments. Starbuck moved to Merkel in 1948. He has operated Starbuck Funeral Home and Starbuck Furniture Co. since that time. Among his many accomplishments listed were that he is currently Civil Defense Director, a member of the Merkel Fire Department, past president of the Lions Club, a Mason, and former Merkel mayor. Starbuck was cited for his efforts on behalf of getting the entrances and exits lighted on I-20 during his tenure as president of the Chamber of Commerce.

life style of the Latin American country, Morris said "it takes longer for 24 hours to pass over there." He said that even though there was no difference in actual time, it seemed longer in a country that just has a slower pace of life.

He went on to tell the crowd that he was proud to be an American, but that some incidents he had witnessed had made him not so proud of some of our citizens in foreign countries. "I came back to America willingly, and we are proud to be back in this great country," he said.

He touched on the shortages in our country and predicted that we as a nation would experience some changes in our life style.

President Don Hart introduced the out of town guests. He also introduced the retiring directors and the new officers and directors for the coming year.

Larry White served as master of ceremonies for the banquet.

Joe Lassiter, retiring vice president, listed the accomplishments of the Chamber for the past year. The list included the new park that the Chamber sponsored.

He said that it had been completed with the help of the City and the help of Merkel businessmen. Blanche Hewitt was chairman of the committee that was responsible for the parks inception. Trades Day was another accomplishment listed. Fred Starbuck was chairman of the committee responsible for this effort. Other projects were the membership drive, which netted 25 members, headed by Herman Carson, the Christmas decorations and parade, headed by Truitt Thompson, the stock show, chairman, Don Dudley, the summer recreation program headed by Ronnie Aldridge, and the City Library, headed by Mrs. Ray Wilson.

Mrs. Wilson was in charge of the banquet arrangements. Speaker for the annual event was Jim Morris of Austin. Morris told the audience that he wasn't an expert on anything, but that he would like to share some of his experiences with them on his five years of work in Bolivia. "About 65 percent of the Bolivian population is Indian, and about 20 percent of the remainder have Indian in them," he said. He went on to point out that the political climate in Bolivia was very unstable. "Bolivia won its independence in 1825. That is 148 years ago. Since that time, they have had 186 presidents," Morris said.

He explained that the per capita income in Bolivia is about \$150 a year. He said that it was quite a transition coming back to the U.S. after having lived five years in that country. He pointed out that the life expectancy for the country was 30 years compared to 70 in this country. Referring to the slower

Seed, Tiller Available For CAP Project

The Community Action Program of Merkel has decided on a project to utilize funds recently made available to the organization. Gardening has been chosen by the CAP. The project is now underway.

Garden seed is now being given away at the Community Center. Persons wishing to plant a garden may go to the Center and get their seeds free of charge.

CAP is also making available a roto tiller for two hour periods for persons needing to break up their garden spots. There is no charge for this service.

Persons interested in the tiller should contact Viola Harris, at 928-5204; Martha Justice at 928-5017, or contact the Center.

New Arrivals

Mr. and Mrs. David W. McNary of 2511 Western Park, Dallas, announce the birth of a son, Patrick Scott, born Sunday March 17 at 9:30 a.m. He weighed 8 lb. 12 oz. They have a daughter, Krista Robin, age 3 1/2 years.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bunch of Merkel. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. A. McNary, also of Merkel.

City's Financial Position Discussed At Council

The announcement that the budget for next year will be presented at the next Council meeting started a general discussion of the city's financial position Friday evening at the regular monthly City Council meeting.

Mayor Lou David Allen told the council that the city would be operating in the red if it wasn't for revenuesharing. "We have received between \$30 and \$40,000 dollars from revenue sharing since it began. If it were not for this, we would be in the red pretty bad," Allen said. Discussion followed by

several council members as to what could be done if the revenue sharing was cut off. Possible alternate sources of income discussed was raising of water and sewer rate and re-evaluation of property in the city.

"One of the problems with re-evaluating the property is the high cost of having a firm come in and do it for you. It would take several years before the city would realize any revenue from this source of action," the mayor said. Assistant Fire Chiefs Robert Harris and Billy Lucas were at the meeting,

at the request of the council, to discuss expenses for the fire Department. Policies and procedures for the department were not discussed as Waymon Adcock, Fire Chief, was ill and unable to attend the meeting. Matters pertaining to the department were tabled until Adcock could be present.

Other matters before the council included: - Discussed the possibility of Public Works Director Robert Harris attending a street maintenance school in Abilene.

- Heard a report from City Secretary Roy Kimbrell to the effect that the contractor didn't think the city hall could be braced without a section of the roof being repaired first. Action on the matter was delayed pending further study.

- Received a report from the city secretary to the effect that there was not many delinquent water bills. The Secretary told the Council that service was disconnected to persons who failed to pay their bill.

- The Council was informed that the city books were being audited by Jerry Smith from Hamilton.

- Was told that Burl Brown might work part-time for the city to grade streets after rains. Robert Harris told the Council he felt he could get by with this part-time help and not replace an employee that recently quit.

- Was told by Harris that a surveyor would be in Merkel Wednesday to define an acre of land the city owned near the sewer farm. There is some question about the land due to adjoining land being sold to Bobby Tolliver.

- Hear a report from Roy Kimbrell that the city will be required to carry workers compensation on all city employees after 1977. He told

Shock Prevention Program Given At MHS

See Picture Pg. 5

A graphic electric shock prevention demonstration was held Wednesday, March 13 at the Merkel High School Auditorium. The sudden-death hazards were animated by Joe L. Smetana, Waco Safety Director for the Texas Farm Bureau, at an assembly program held for the faculty and student body.

The average modern home has 120-volt or 240-volt, 60-cycle alternating household electrical current with a capacity of over 100 amperes. Electricity is constantly seeking ground. Unfortunately the human body can complete the electrical circuit. Medical authorities agree that if the amount of current required to light a 15-watt bulb, which is only 1-10 of an ampere, should flow through your heart, death

might result in just one second.

Smetana achieved the animated effect of electric shock to the human body, via arm-the use of a special plastic figure representing man-the "miserer" of electricity. The plastic man, several household appliances and portable power tools have special wiring and bulbs that actually light up-producing the animation.

With each sequence of accident producing events, both inside and outside the "danger house," Smetana offered prevention and protective methods such as: (1) make sure the entire electrical system is grounded; (2) ground all major appliances; (3) maintain and don't break off the 3-prong plug; (4) attach the grounding "pig tail" wire on adaptors; (5)

See Shock Pg. 5



BIG BOB CAT - Ronald and John David Reddin are shown with a 30 lb. bob cat killed on their grandmother's farm Sunday afternoon. Their grandmother is Mrs. J.B. Reddin. John Reddin, the boy's father, killed the cat with a .22 rifle.

Farmers Union Banquet Told 1973 Was A Baffling Year

Two hundred members and guests of the Taylor County Chapter of the Farmers Union heard Dr. Wayland Bennett, Professor of Agriculture Economy at Texas Tech, say that the year 1973 was one of the most baffling in history during their annual banquet Thursday evening.

Dr. Bennett titled his address 'Agriculture Main Street U.S.A.' Talking about 1973, he said, "economist, including himself, hope that things will be better this year. He went on to say that the economists' predictions and charts looked like modern art. And charts looked like modern art. And to the perplexed U.S. Housewife, it was bad modern art. Prices, he said, went in all directions.

"We are in the midst of reaped and significant change. For example, Spain had the fastest growing economy in the industrialized world," he said. The Economist explained that China and Russia was buying American wheat and cotton. He told the audience that Russia made a basic change in her policy. The decision was made, he said, to give the Russian people a better diet. Hence, the large purchases of U.S. wheat.

He went on to say that the world's population was becoming more educated and that they were demanding a higher standard of living. This, he said was resulting in unprecedented demand for agriculture products as well as other times. "Never in history has there been so much demand for resources - not just agricultural - but everything," Dr. Bennett said. He explained that there was 3.8 billion people in the world in 1973. If the population explosion continues there will be nearly 8 billion people 35 years from now the economist told the group. "This



WAYLAND BENNETT
...FU speaker

will call for an even greater demand for food and fiber world wide," he pointed out.

"The demand for Farm products surged in the last year and a half due to bad weather in some parts of the world and due to the devaluation of the dollar," Bennett said. Dr. Bennett said the Holland and Japan are seeking investment in the U.S. due to the devaluation of the dollar. He said that Holland had a textile mill at Lubbock and Japan has one at Levelland. He said that the reason for this was that America has the best investment climate in the world. This is due to a good labor market and the devaluation of the dollar," he said.

He said that there was one billion new customers for the U.S. with the recent lifting of trade restrictions. "With this situation, the demand for agriculture will remain strong," Bennett said. "1973 was a year that shouldn't have happened. However, the bright spot is farmers. They are exporting

more than they are importing. This is the only area helping our balance of trade," Dr. Bennett said. He went on to explain that exporting was most important to West Texas. "West Texas exports 60 per cent of its cotton and wheat and 30 per cent of its grain sorghum," he said.

"Where did it go? Most people think that Russia is buying most of our wheat. However, this is not so. Japan became our first \$1 billion customer in the 1960s. While Russia was buying \$1.2 billion, Japan was spending \$2 billion in 1973," Bennett said. And he said Japan may pass \$3 billion in 1974.

"1973 was a year in agriculture that couldn't happen, but it did," he said. Bennett told the audience that Lubbock had had the driest 10 months in its history. He said that agriculture prices were up 35% over a year ago. "The prices will stay up, but just how high they will stay I don't know. A lot depends on the competition," he said.

Touching on shortages and rising prices, Dr. Bennett told the meeting that things were bad in America, but that other countries were worse. "A night out in Japan for four people cost \$200. He said that one of the reasons for the high prices American farmers are paying for fertilizer and other products, is being caused by the government's price controls. "The manufacturers are not going to sell fertilizer for \$80 a ton under the U.S. price controls when they can export it for \$170 a ton," he said. He went on to point out that the cattle feeders have been hard hit by the freeze on beef prices. "The cattle feeding industry has lost \$1 billion in the last 4

See Farmers Pg. 4

Information On School Age Children Asked

Merkel Public Schools are in need of information concerning school age children or pre-school age children that will be entering the school system for the first time during the start of the 1974-75 school year, according to John Cain.

The information is needed to form immediate plans for educational programs within the school district and to project need in the immediate future. Parents help and promptness will be appreciated by the system, according to Cain. Cain is the Elementary School Principal.

Cain asked that anyone knowing of anyone of school age for the '74-'75 school term contact him at the school.



PRIZE WINNER - Mrs. Marie Goode, center, is pictured with the terrarium she won at the Estes Floral Co. grand opening. At left is Mrs. Jo Ann Reed, and at right is Carolyn Estes. The open house was held March 9th. Staff Photo by Kaye Lanham.

Abilene Arts, Crafts Fair To Open Saturday

The second annual West Texas Spring Arts and Crafts Fair will be held at the Abilene Civic Center this Saturday and Sunday, March 24, Mel Neese, fair director, said.

Sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department of the city of Abilene, the fair is open to any persons who wish to enter. It will be a combination show and sale.

It will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Con-

cessions will sell food and drinks.

Artists and craftsmen may enter through 4 p.m. Friday by contacting Neese at the Parks and Recreation department, 67313781. The price of a booth to exhibit works is \$15 for the entire show, and price of a table is \$10.

Adults attending the fair will be charged 50 cents. Children will be allowed to see the fair free if they are accompanied by adults.

Sixty-five exhibitors have already registered for the

fair, Neese said.

Exhibitors will be showing metal sculpture, stoneware, pottery, macrame, tin can art, decoupage, lapidary art, tile painting and painting. Everything will be offered for sale.

"This show is attracting more artists than our previous two shows," Neese said.

The first such fair was held last May and the second this past November. Several thousand persons attended both fairs.

"This fair is gaining popularity throughout the state," Neese said. "People tell me that with the Civic Center, and the hospitality of the people, this is the best show in which to exhibit their works."

Exhibitors should bring their works to the Civic Center between 4 p.m. and



JACKIE ADAMS
...to wed June 14

Miss McDuff, Mr. Hester Engagement Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Joe McDuff of Merkel announce the engagement of their daughter, Patricia to Jimmy Hester, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.L. (Buster) Hester of Merkel.



PATRICIA McDUFF
...plans June wedding

The wedding will be June 1 in the First Baptist Church of Merkel.

Miss McDuff is a 1972 graduate of Merkel High School and is a sophomore student at Hardin-Simmons University.

Hester is also a 1972 graduate of Merkel High School. He attended Angelo State University and is employed by West Texas Utilities in Abilene.

Abilene Reserve Unit Has Opening for Men and Women

The 490th Civil Affairs Co., one of the nation's top Army Reserve units for the past six years, has openings now for both men and women who want to become part of a "winning tradition" while supplementing their civilian pay.

Army Reservists are now receiving a 6.15 percent increase in their basic pay as the result of recently-passed Congressional legislation, and several men from this area already have taken advantage of the Reserve benefits by joining the 490th, which is headquartered in Abilene.

The pay rates for enlisted grades range from an average annual salary of \$684 for a private to \$2,208 for a sergeant major. These salaries are supplementary incomes for the citizen-soldiers who are required to spend only 16 hours a month (one weekend) and two weeks of annual training (summer camp) in a Reserve unit.

The number of women serving in all branches of the Reserve more than doubled in 1973, although the 490th has yet to enlist its first WAC (Women's Army Corps), according to Lt. Col. Harold Pittard of Novice, 490th commander.

This trend is due to be

by a new enlistment program which allows women high school graduates between the ages of 18 and 35--who have civilian job skills that the Reserve needs, like typing--to join the Reserve as Privates First Class, two pay grades higher than normal.

As an extra incentive, he said, women who possess these civilian job skills--such as being able to type 55 words per minute--will have to go on active duty for only two weeks, rather than seven weeks as in the past (or 4 1/2 to 6 months for their male counterparts). The women will spend two weeks at Fort McClellan, Alabama, then complete basic training by attending 490th drills one weekend each month.

"After basic training, women who sign up for this program can receive promotions to Specialist 4 or Specialist 5, and pay raises that can add about \$1,000 to their income in the first year with the Reserve," Col. Pittard said.

Men with prior service can join the Reserve without having to undergo any additional training. Newcomers may receive training in several hundred military job specialties during their 4 1/2 to 6 months of active duty, then they return to the 490th for the remainder of their obligation--one weekend a month and two weeks each summer for six years.

During summer camp, Reservists are paid the military salary for their rank and are entitled to all military benefits, including commissary privileges.

Anyone interested in additional information about the Reserve enlistment program may write or call Sgt. Tom Fredrick, Rt. 5, Box 18, Abilene, 79605; area code 915, phone 692-0877.

Levi And Lace Dance Saturday

The Levi and Lace Square Dance Club this Saturday night at 8 p.m. at the Community Center.

All members are encouraged to attend. Visitors are welcome.

State Rep. Elmer Martin For Pay-As-You Go

In his first term as State Legislator from your 61st District, Elmer Martin took with him into the Legislature his Pay-As-You-Go policy tested 12 years as County Judge.

Incidentally, that is when the Legislature, for the first time in 13 years met all state budget obligations without any additional taxes. And, that is another reason Rep. Martin is honestly good for a second term.

Pol. Advertisement Paid by Elmer Martin Campaign, Elmer Martin, Manager.

Estes Floral Co.

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SPRING BEGINS TOMORROW.
SEE US FOR YOUR SPRING NEEDS.

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Phone 928-5039 or 928-5923

Carolyn Estes and Jo Ann Reed

Starr Nursing Home News

We are thankful for the nice rain. We have set out onions and reset our berries and here's hoping we won't get a frost.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Smith of Abilene visited Merkel last week. We were glad to see Mrs. Smith. She used to be our relief L.V.N.

W.L. Massey is very nice to visit all of our patients at the Nursing Home each week. Some don't have love ones to visit and it means so much to think someone cares.

Landscape For Value, Beauty

A properly landscaped yard can increase the beauty and value of a home.

"Several concepts should be kept in mind when planning a yard, such as family desire, simplicity, unity, textural contrasts and ultimate plant size," points out Dr. William C. Welch, landscape horticulturist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

He suggests preparing a plan and drawing in the house, property lines and other permanent features. Then, consult each family member and list his needs. Thus areas for outdoor living, gardening and other interests can be assigned to meet the needs of the entire family.

"Simplicity is variety without confusion. Use trees, shrubs, bricks and fence for specific needs to improve the over-all look and utility of the yard," advises the Texas A&M University System specialist.

Unity can be achieved with a proper balance of simplicity, contrast and scale. The temptation to add plants bought on sale or sent by friends is often less if the yard appears complete without them, believes Welch.

Contrasts with plants and structures can add interest. Try large-leaved plants like bananas or cannas to contrast with ferns, or use a fine-textured stucco wall around a yard with coarse-looking flagstone steps.

"Scale depends on the house structure and yard area. Large steps and tree can be used with a larger style home but would dwarf a low-lying house and destroy the intended design," concludes Welch.

Indoor Plants Need Cleaning

COLLEGE STATION-- Without Mother Nature's cleansing rainfall, indoor plants need help to keep leaf surfaces dust-free, one authority points out.

"To keep houseplants looking their best, carefully clean them once or twice a month," advises Dr. William C. Welch.

The landscape horticulturist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, A&M University, noted that a wet sponge or soft cloth--rinsed frequently in clean water--offers a dependable method for cleaning smooth-leaved plants.

"If leaves are extremely soiled, use a solution of mild soap and water.

"Those with many small leaves may require a gentle water spray outdoors--with plenty of water.

ATTEND 'MEET THE CANDIDATES' MEETING MARCH 28

We wish to thank the Church of Christ for coming into the home each Sunday at 9 o'clock. They came and sang the past two Sunday mornings and there was a large turn out each time. They will come until further notice. It was so nice of the First Baptist Church to come and sing for over six years and it is good to have services again in the morning. Everyone loves Larry and his wife. They visit each patient and try to help in any way they can. She plays the piano and accordion which they enjoy.

The Hebron Baptist Church filled their appointment March 10. The Church of God, Tye, came on March 17. Each service was very nice and we appreciate them coming.

We have our movies every Wednesday which are shown courtesy of the Abilene Public Library. All the patients enjoy them. Thank I would if I had time to watch.

Thank you, Bro. Newt, Daniels for your visits and for the little reminder you bring for them. They always say here comes the "Candy Man." We sure like his new hat. Sorry Mrs. Daniels isn't well at this writing.

Lonnie Deatherage, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sanders of Ovalo visited Lonnie's mother, Mrs. Barbara Deatherage, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Mitchell of Abilene visited Mrs. McDonald and Mr. Mitchell of this past week.

J.W. Cole, my brother, is back at home again. Carolyn, Joyce and I thank you for your many calls and your good Christian people of all churches, for your prayers. He has retired now but it will be a long time before he is well again.

Brenda Hair and children, Pam and Ricky, have returned home to Chandler, Ariz., after several days visit in Texas. Brenda attended a business convention in Dallas while here for the company for which she is employed.

We welcome Marshall Owens into our home. We hope he will be happy here. He is a very nice patient.

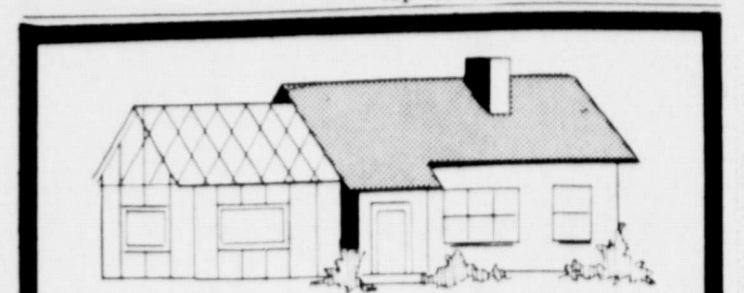
Mrs. Bessie Criswell is a patient in our home recovering from eye surgery. We thank her many friends for their deeds they do for her.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladys Hardage of Farewell, Tex., have returned home after visiting her mother, Mrs. Ruthledge, who has been ill. She is much improved at this writing.

SENIOR CITIZENS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1st Monday Night of Month singing.
2nd Tuesday Noon Covered Dish Luncheon.
Game Nights Every Thurs. & 4th Monday 4th Thurs. Game Night Reserved for Talented Amateurs

LSG Well Passes 29,000 Feet
DALLAS--Loe Star Gas Producing Company has surpassed a targeted depth of 29,000 feet on the Bertha Rogers No. 1 well in southwestern Oklahoma, and drilling is continuing to seek gas at 31,600 feet.

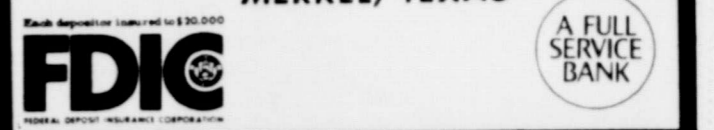


Don't Move - Improve!

With the cost of buying or building a new home in the stratosphere, many people are improving or expanding their house as an alternative to buying or building. Remaining in your present location avoids the hardship of replacing friends and neighbors of many years standing.

We have plenty of money for this type of loan and invite you to talk over your plans without obligation.

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1974 GMC 1/2 TON PICKUP
Long Wide - 250 - 6 Cylinder - Standard Shift - Gauges - Roof Mouldings - Etc.

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72 GRANDVILLE COUPE SUPER LOADED! IT'S LIKE NEW!!
71 GRANDVILLE 4-DOOR LOADED...LOW MILEAGE SUPER BUY!!!

2-73 GMC 1/2 TON PICKUPS LONG WIDE FULLY EQUIPPED THEY ARE LIKE NEW
72 1/2 TON GMC LONG WIDE 4-SPEED & AIR CLEAN!! CLEAN!!
72 BONNEVILLE 2-DOOR HARDTOP...LOADED RED - WHITE A BEAUTY!!
71 CHEVROLET 1/2 TON V8, LONG WIDE AUTOMATIC & AIR 6 PLY TIRES YOU WILL LIKE IT!!
71 DODGE POLARA 4-DOOR AIR & POWER A BUY!!
69 PLYMOUTH 6 PASSENGER STATION WAGON AIR AND POWER TOO CHEAP
10-71 PONTIAC CATALINA 4-DOORS-AUTOMATIC AIR-POWER UNBELIEVABLE LOW PRICES

"WE SELL 'EM-WE LEASE 'EM"
PALMER PONTIAC & GMC
MERKEL 928-5112 MERKEL TEXAS ABILENE 673-1182

Food Savings

Thurs.-Fri.-Sat.-Mar. 21-22-23

WILSON'S
SAVE 30¢ WHEN YOU BUY A
 6 oz. Jar of
**INSTANT FOLGER'S
 COFFEE CRYSTALS**
 SPECIAL PRICE
 WITH THIS COUPON
99¢
 WITHOUT COUPON \$1.29
 Coupon cash value 1/20 of 1¢
GOOD THRU Mar. 30th



WILSON FOOD STORE
SAVE 25¢ WHEN YOU BUY A
**1 LB. CAN of
 FOLGER'S COFFEE**
 SPECIAL PRICE
 WITH THIS COUPON
89¢
 WITHOUT COUPON \$1.14
 Coupon cash value 1/20 of 1¢
GOOD THRU 3-23-74



COCONUT	BAKERS	16 OZ. PKG.	69¢
CORN	KIMBELL'S	WHOLE KERNEL	2 FOR 39¢
BEEF STEW	SWIFTS	24 oz. CAN	89¢
PEANUT BUTTER	JIF	28 OZ. JAR	\$1.09
CATSUP	HEINZ	26 oz. BOTTLE	49¢
BAR-B-Q SAUCE	JETTON'S	18 OZ. BOTTLE	39¢
PICKLES	BEST MAID	SOUR OR DILL	49¢
PANCAKE MIX	HUNGRY JACK	2 LB. BOX	59¢
FLOUR	GLADIOLA	5 LB. BAG	89¢

MILK	MARIGOLD	2% HOMO	1.33	REG. HOMO GAL	1.43	PLUS DEP.
MELLORINE	FOREMOST	HALF GAL.	49¢			
CHOW CHOW	SWEET BEST MAID	16 oz. JAR	39¢			
POTATOES	HUNGRY JACK	16 oz. INSTANT	65¢			
BROWNIE MIX	DUNCAN HINES	23 OZ. BOX	59¢			
Red Plum Jam	BEST MAID	18 OZ. JAR	39¢			

LIPTON'S TEA BAGS	48 count	59¢	STALEY'S WAFFLE SYRUP	24 OZ. BOTTLE	59¢
BAKER'S CHOCOLATE CHIPS	12oz. bag	49¢	GLADE AIR FRESHNER	CAN	39¢
KIMBELL'S SPANISH OLIVES	7oz. jar	59¢	HUNTING LICENSE	NOW AVAILABLE	MONEY ORDERS
POP CORN	1 LB. BAG	19¢			

Nabisco
CRACKERS
 1 LB. BOX **43¢**

HUNTS
TOMATO SAUCE
 8 OZ. CAN
 3 FOR **35¢**

CLOROX
 HALF GAL. **39¢**

LIQUID PALMOLIVE
 GIANT SIZE **49¢**

BONUS DETERGENT
 KING SIZE **\$1.39**

FROZEN FOOD
Fling
KEITHS 6 OZ. CAN LEMONADE 2 FOR **29¢**
KEITHS ROLLS PKG. OF 24 **39¢**

PRODUCE
Specials
FRESH GREEN ONIONS BUNCH **10¢**
BANANAS LB. **10¢**
FLORIDA CORN 2 FOR **29¢**
CALIFORNIA TANGERINES LB. **23¢**
TEXAS CARROTS CELO BAG **15¢**
CABBAGE LB. **8¢**

GOOCH	HOT BAR-B-Q BEANS		
Blue Ribbon	CHILI-POTATO SALAD		
FIRST QUALITY	PIMENTO CHEESE		
FRANKS	GOOCH	PKG.	69¢
BEEF RIBS		LB.	49¢
STEAKS	GOOCH'S BREADED COOKED	PKG.	98¢
BACON	GOOCH	1 LB.	95¢
CHUCK ROAST		LB.	89¢
BACON	HORMEL END AND PIECES	4 LB. BOX	2.19

Wilson's FOOD STORE
Where Customers Send Their Friends

Double Premiums On WEDNESDAY On Purchase of \$2.50 OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE Save Valuable Cash Register Tapes For Premiums

USE WANT ADS

928-5712

Miscellaneous 1

FOR MONUMENTS and CEMETERY CURBING
M.A. (Sarg) Noster
1404 Herring Dr.
Merkel, Texas
Phone 8-5565

MASONIC MEETING
Stated meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710 on 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Thursday, Feb. 28th ONLY 7:00 p.m. Members urged to attend.
DUNNING McCONNELL, W.M. ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y.

Buy Your Prepaid Funeral Plan Direct From The Funeral Home and Save
STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME

WELL KEPT Carpet shows the results of regular Blue Lustre spot cleaning. Rent electric shampooer \$1. Bullock Hardware & Gifts. (Business Opportunity)

\$8,000 annually growing rare Ginseng root for use Send \$3.00 (refundable) for seeds, instructions. GC Herbs, Searsport, Maine 04974. 3-3tp

Need someone with responsible credit to assume \$32 monthly payments on nearly new 1973 Home Model organ to be repossessed in this area. Has two keyboards, pedals, drums, 'auto rhythm', magic fingers, and all extras. Call Max Wheeler-person to person collect, at 214-341-8926. 1-4tp

FOR YOUR Mary Kay complimentary facial or other needs, please call Barbara King collect 537-2357, Hawley, Texas. 3-tfc

LOST & FOUND

REWARD: Your reward will be pay-as-you-go State Government if you re-elect State Representative Elmer Martin to a 2nd term from the 61st District. Elmer Martin's pay-as-you-go policy stood the test 12 years as County Judge, and in his first term in the Texas Legislature, when for the first time in 13 years the Legislature met state obligations without any more taxes. (Pol. Adv. Paid by Elmer Martin Campaign, Elmer Martin, mgr.) 4-1tp

FREE space near Merkel for Mobile Home for middle aged couple. For information, write Rt. 2, Box 11, Merkel, Texas or call 692-0035. 4-2tc

For Rent 2

FOR RENT OR LEASE--Mobil Service Station. Nolan Palmer, 928-5113. 3-tfc

Card of Thanks

I WANT TO THANK all my friends who visited me while I was in the Hospital and for the flowers and cards.
Kate Phillips
4-1tp

Member 1974 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Merkel Mail

PUBLISHERS STATEMENT
Established in 1889
Published weekly at 916 N Second St., Merkel, Texas
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79556 as second class mail.
Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$4.00 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties. \$4.50 Per Year outside of Taylor and adjoining counties.

Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association.

STEVE LANHAM and CECIL PLYLER Publishers
KAYE LANHAM.....Editor
CONNIE HARRIS.....Advertising Sales

For Classified Rates:
\$1.10 minimum for the first four lines. Excess of 4 lines will be charged at the rate of 6 cents per word.
Cards of Thanks \$2.50 for the first 50 words. 6 cents per word for each additional word. TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is already established. NOTICE of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion of claims for refunds or extensions will not be recognized.

For Sale 3

School Bus For Sale
BIDS are being received for sale of athletic school bus, GMC model. Contact Mack Fisher, Superintendent of Schools. 39-tfc

FOR SALE AT TRENT--2 bedr. house, hard wood floors, Nice yard. Fruit trees, garden space. Cheap. J.M. Hellums, Box 241, Trent, Texas. 2-2tp

FOR SALE
PEANUT, CANDY & GUM VENDING BUSINESS in Merkel. ASSURED INCOME. Few hours weekly. Expansion aid. RESALE AGREEMENT. Total price \$1,238.00 cash. Write TEXAS KANDY KOMPANY, Inc., 1327 Basse Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78212, include your phone number. 2-4tp

FOR SALE - Antique Shift Robe, Ph. 928-5150, 4-1tp

FOR SALE - 2 bedr. house, 2 lots, city water, well and storm cellar. Ph. 928-5150, 4-1tp

GARAGE SALE - 812 Oak. Friday only. Good used curtains. Misc. items. 4-1tp

FOR SALE - Spinnet piano, Ebony finish. Good condition. 509 Oak St. Merkel, Ph. 928-5545. 4-2tc

FOR SALE - Commercial Laundry equipment, 4-16lb. Maytags and 16-12 lb. Speed Queen Washers, 4 Cissel 48 lb. Dryers, 2 Speed Queen Wash & Wear Dryers, selected temperatures. First come, first served. See at 920 N. 2nd or call 928-4850. Merkel Laundromat. 4-2tc

FARM AND RANCH
Credit a resolution voted overwhelmingly by Texas House of Representatives for helping keep the Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Office open in each Texas county. That was State Rep. Martin's resolution calling for a halt to consolidation of ASCS offices. And, it is another reason why State Rep. Elmer Martin (Dist. 61) is HONESTLY GOOD for a Second Term. (Pol. Adv. Paid by Elmer Martin Campaign, Elmer Martin, mgr.) 4-1tp

INSURANCE LIFE-HEALTH ACCIDENT GEORGE STARBUCK 928-4711

WE PAY 150% OVER FACE VALUE FOR ALL SILVER COINS. \$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER (We pay 25c for silver dimes) PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP 2155 S. 1st. Abilene, Tex. 1-4tc

PRESTIGE HOMES Prestige Properties

TREN
REDUCED! A real buy on a lovely 3 bedroom, w/bath home. Wide corner lot, fruit trees, near school.

MERKEL
Spacious 2 bedroom home, separate dining, double carport.

HAWLEY
20 to 83 acre tracts, owner will guarantee water, 25% down.

Let us sell your property.
317 North Willis, Suite 20 Abilene 673-6444
Pauline Butman Realtor 692-2222
J.W. "Joe" Moore 692-0484
Merkel Branch Office Billy & Pat Neff 928-5623
1515 Heath Equal Housing Opportunity

ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE

BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY

Phone 8-5151

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MERKEL-TYE SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY, MAR. 25

Turkey Pot Pie, W/Vegetables, Biscuit Topping, Green Salad, Choice of Dressing-French or 1,000 Island, Biscuits, Milk, Peaches w/Topping.

TUESDAY, MAR. 26

Tacos, Taco Sauce, (Lettuce, Tomatoes & Cheese), Pinto Beans, Spanish Rice, Milk, Glazed Oven Baked Doughnuts.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 27

Bar-B-Que Franks, Black-eye Peas, Chopped Mixed Greens, Cornbread, Milk, Fruit Float.

THURSDAY, MAR. 28

Fried Chicken, Cream Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Milk, Cherry Cobbler.

FRIDAY, MAR. 29

Sloppy Joe, Pinto Beans, Pickle Relish, Sliced Onion, Kitchen Made Buns, Milk, Peanut Butter Cookies.

Help Wanted 4

WANTED--Cooks, waitresses, and dishwashers. Merkel Restaurant, 928-4923. 8-tfc

Full time man wanted for work in Parts Department and general clean up at Palmers. 1-tfc

NEEDED - Nurse Aides, at Starr Nursing Home, Merkel. 4-2tc

WANTED - Cooks and waitresses. Apply in person at the Shamrock Cafe on I-20. 4-4tc.

Will Do All Type
Dirt Work Dirt
Hauling Build
Roads-Driveways
All Type Welding
Your Place or Mine
Reasonable
HAROLD WATTS
Ph. 928-5769

NEED
A New Water Well
Drilled? Also Install
Meyers Subs &
Jacuzzi Jets
Call
ROBERT HIGGINS
928-5998

FOR YOUR BUILDING AND REMODELING NEEDS
FRED RICHIE
928-5030

Wanted
Back Hoe and Loader
Work
Cellars, Septic Tank,
and Ditching
DON DICKERSON
928-5952

Prestige Homes
Prestige Properties

MERKEL
Spacious 2 bedroom home, separate dining, double carport.

HAWLEY
20 to 83 acre tracts, owner will guarantee water, 25% down.

Let us sell your property.
317 North Willis, Suite 20 Abilene 673-6444
Pauline Butman Realtor 692-2222
J.W. "Joe" Moore 692-0484
Merkel Branch Office Billy & Pat Neff 928-5623
1515 Heath Equal Housing Opportunity

Need Any Type
ELECTRICAL WORK
Call
Harris Electric
501 Kent St.
Merkel, Texas
Phone 928-5143

Political Announcements

The following have authorized the Merkel Mail to announce their candidacy for office, subject to action of the Democratic Primary in May:

For State Representative, 61st District:

Elmer Martin

Alon Staggs
For Justice of the Peace:

Lewis Moffett

The above political announcements were paid for by the candidates listed.



AT BANQUET - Pictured above is Mr. and Mrs. Yates Sipe of Trent, and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. (Sonny) Sandusty of Merkel at the Farmers Union Banquet held Thursday night. Others in the pictured are not identified.

FARMERS Two Merkelites On Honor Roll

Continued From Pg. 1
months," he said.
Dr. Bennett urged the Farmers Union members to keep working within their organization for the things they need. "I know that Farmers Union is against corporate farming. The most efficient farms in this country are the family farms. There is no way in our system to get the hired hand to take as much interest in the farm as the owner-operator," he said.

He also told the members to urge young people to enter farming. He said that the average age of the American farmer is 60 year. He explained that agriculture will give the young man a fair return on his investment and that he should be urged to enter agriculture.
Joe McDuff, Taylor County Commissioner, introduced the guest speaker: Bennett, is a native of Loraine, Farmers Union president Bobby Toliver, announced that the regular monthly meeting will be held 3rd Thursday at the Asteroid Restaurant. He said that due to the increase in postage, notices will not be mailed to the members. LaVerne Moore gave the treasurers report.

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Lonnie Riggan Selected To All-Stars

Lonnie Riggan, senior at Trent High School, was selected to be on the State All-Star football team in six-man football. He received word Saturday.
The All-Star game will be played July 20 in Brownwood. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L.M. Riggan of Rt. 3, Merkel.
Lonnie received the Most Valuable Player and Football Hero this past year at THS. His average is 230 yds. rushing per game.
His favorite sport is football and bull riding.

Notice Of City Officers Election

14th day of February, 1974. Said attached order for City Officers' Election being made a part of this notice for all intents and purposes.
Roy J. Kimbrell
City Secretary-Clerk
Filed For Aldermen:
1. Jim Atkinson
2. Pete Morgan
3. Jerry Byrd

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YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of fortytwo days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 29th day of April A.D. 1974 to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court,

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Farm-facts

A Weekly Report Of Agri Business News

Compiled From Sources Of The Texas Department of Agriculture
John C. White, Commissioner

Something To Cry About... Sheep and Lambs On Feed Are Down But Up... Livestock Slaughter Increases... Feeder Cattle Prices Decline.

If you like onions (and who doesn't) here's something to cry about. The Texas spring onion crop for 1974 is forecast at 18 per cent above last year's crop. This year's spring crop is expected to be the largest since 1967 and the third largest on record.

Peak movement of the crop is expected in April. The quality of the crop appears to be excellent in the Rio Grande Valley. Harvest in the coastal bend area is expected to get underway in April. At Laredo, the crop is making good growth with the first harvest due during the early part of April. In the San Antonio-winter garden area cold weather has reduced stands some. But the crop is making good progress and harvest is expected to get underway there in April or May.

Acres for harvest this year are estimated 21,000, which is an eight per cent increase compared to a year ago. Yield per acre is expected to be up nine per cent from last year.

A 53 PER CENT increase in sheep and lambs on feed is noted by the Texas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service as of March 1 compared to 1973. Drylot sheep feeders with a lot capacity of 2,000 head or more had 113,000 sheep and lambs on feed for slaughter as of March 1. This is four per cent below the number on feed as of February 1.

Current intentions to market are: March 46,000; April 44,000; and May 23,000. April and May intentions are incomplete because additional lambs could still be placed on feed and marketed during this period.

RED MEAT production in Texas increased four per cent compared to a year ago. A total of 201,000,000 pounds of meat was produced in the state during January.

Cattle slaughtered numbered 317,000, calves 8,700, hogs 131,000 and sheep and lambs 116,000 head. Cattle and sheep and lambs increased but calves and hogs dropped below a year ago.

Nationwide, commercial production of red meat was two per cent more than a year earlier and 12 per cent more than December of 1973.

FEEDER cattle prices are being affected due to losses of feedlot operators. This has been happening since mid-January. A number of reasons are listed as the cause of this new round of confusion in the livestock industry.

Compared to fat cattle prices, feeder cattle were over-priced.

The number of feeder cattle available is also another cause for the feeder cattle price situation. January sales of cattle and calves at Texas livestock auction markets were 17 per cent above a year ago. Most of these were feeder cattle.

Another weakening factor for feedlots was a drop in the fed cattle market. Choice 900 to 1,100 pound steers sold direct from feedlots averaged \$50.45 per hundred weight during the first week of February. By the last week of the month, prices had dropped 13 per cent to around \$44 per hundredweight.

Feedlot operators, meanwhile, are losing \$135 to \$155 per head, which is \$35 to \$55 per head more loss than they experienced in late 1973.

FARM export totals are rising again. Agricultural exports for the fiscal year ending June 30 are expected to total about \$20 billion. This would be almost \$1 billion above the estimate made last November.

The \$20 billion export figure would also be almost \$7 billion above a year earlier.

Martin Issues Results Of Questionnaire

AUSTIN - West Texans replying to a mail questionnaire from State Rep. Elmer Martin strongly favor pay-as-you-go government and election of all judges, according to Martin.

These citizens, more than 750 of them, have definite opinion also concerning eight items dealing with the State Constitutional Convention and state government.

The questionnaires were mailed to voters in Rep. Martin's 61st District which includes most rural Taylor County, a part of Abilene all of Nolan, Jones, Mitchell and Fisher Counties.

Replies represent approximately 41 per cent of the voter questionnaire mailed in the five-county district. Sixty-one per cent of the replies said "no" to the

Constitution providing power for the governor to transfer funds between state agencies. And, 87.4 per cent favored the continuation of election of all judges, from precinct to the Supreme Court.

Largest majority, however, in the 10-question poll was expressed by 92.4 per cent retaining the pay-as-you-go policy of the last legislature.

Hodges Co-op Annual Meet

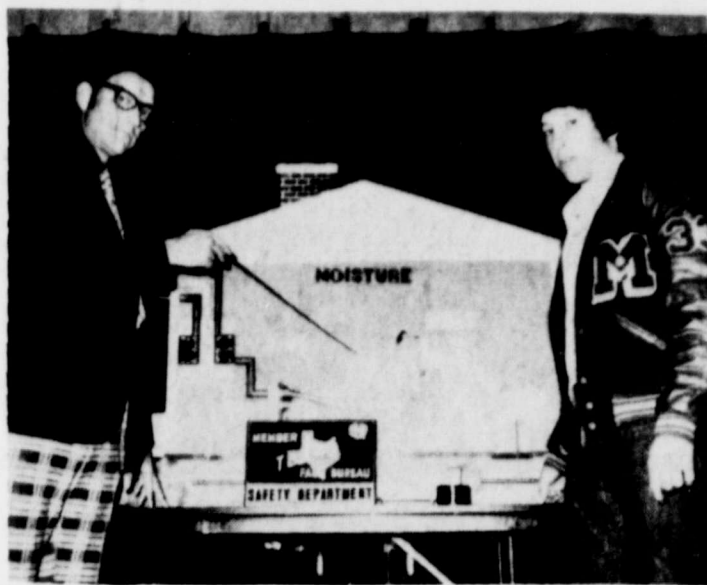
The Hodges Co-op Gin will hold its annual stockholders meeting and barbecue lunch Friday 22 at the Community Center, announced Pete Tanner, Manager.

Know Safety Rules Before Plunging In

With spring fever just around the corner, the Texas Safety Association urges that eager swimmers review basic safety rules before taking the first plunge of the season.

No matter how elated the adventurous swimmer is at the prospect of mixing sunshine and water after a long winter, it is still foolish to swing from trees into water, dive from cliffs or jagged rocks or swim in swift-moving waters or near waterfalls.

Swim only in protected areas, obey safety rules enforced by lifeguards, and stay out of the water altogether during thunderstorms or when tired, overheated or chilled.



SHOWING DEMONSTRATION - Travis Davis, left, principal at Merkel High School, is showing Shock Prevention demonstration to Terry Reed, right, president of the Student Body. The actual demonstration was given by Joe L. Smetana of Waco at an assembly held last Wednesday.

SHOCK PROGRAM

Continued From Pg. 1
use "double insulated" portable power tools; (6) use ground fault interrupters; (7) disconnect electric power before serving or cleaning; (8) be extra cautious of electric service and power lines when moving equipment, aluminum or metal ladders and pipes; when children fly kits model airplanes etc; when vehicles collide with electric power

poles. Regarding first aid-Smetana warns-"with high voltage shock, primary first aid is mouth to mouth resuscitation to restore breathing; however, with low voltage (household current) shock, the victim usually requires heart-lung resuscitation to restore both heart beat and breathing."

Missionettes

By SUSAN WHEELER
The Missionettes held their meeting Friday at the Assembly of God Church. There were 22 present. A wiener roast was planned for a later date. Refreshments were served by Judy and Twyla Williams.

Lambda Beta Met

Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Feb. 19 in the home of Darla Mawson.

President Mrs. Billy Bob Neff called the meeting to order. Business discussed was the forthcoming Tasting Tea to be held March 16 at the Masonic Lodge.

Mrs. Rosey Castille, captain, and Mrs. Larry White, co-captain presented a program entitled "Eternal Drama." Films were shown of four different types of drama.

Refreshments were served to Mmes. Paul Moore, White, Castille, Craig Jones, Neff, Obie Coker, Jim Allday, Robert Harris, Lee Yaddow, Juan Ybarra, Gary Douglas, Billy Lucas and Mawson.

Senior Citizens News

The Senior Citizens will have a luncheon Trades Day at the Senior Citizens Building.

"More details will be announced next week," said Hob Robertson, president.

The Best Dressed Person In The Easter Parade Will Be Wearing Latest Styles From Crawfords

Polyester Knit SHELLS Sleeveless & Half Sleeve \$8.99	DOUBLE KNIT SPORT COATS \$45.00
PANT SUITS New Styles for Spring Just Arrived \$23.99 up	DOUBLE KNIT SLACKS \$16.99
JUST RIGHT for EASTER DRESSES \$17.99	WESTERN STRAW HATS \$5.99 up
LADIES & CHILDRENS Cool Comfortable SANDALS \$6.99 up	MINI CRINKLE PATENT SHOES \$21.99 up
LADIES DRESS SHOES New Styles for Easter \$11.99 & up	NOCONA BOOTS \$45.00
30 Day Charge Lay-A-Way Mastercharge	100% POLYESTER DOUBLE KNIT \$2.99 YD.

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135 EDWARD Phone 928-5612

LITTLE LEAGUE REGISTRATION FORM

Please send all registration forms to Benny Melton, Box 534, Merkel, Texas 79536

Name-----Birth Date-----Date-----Age-----

Address-----Phone No.-----League Age-----

Boy's Weight-----Height-----Throws Left of Right-----

We, the parents of the above boy, give our approval for his participation in the activities of the Little League for the current season. We release the sponsors, officials, and the Little League organization from responsibility in case of injury or accident. All boys are covered with insurance for practice, games, and travel by The League.

Father's Signature-----Mother's Signature-----

LEAGUE AGE Any boy who will attain the age of 7 years before August 1st and who will not attain the age of 13 years before August 1st shall be eligible to play the year in question.

STATE CAPITAL



Highlights AND Sidelights

by Bill Boykin

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN, Tex. - Organized labor took a look at both major Democratic candidates for governor, found them friendly, and endorsed neither. The AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education, at its convention here, declined to choose between Governor Dolph Briscoe and Frances (Sissy) Farenthold.

To do so, said AFL-CIO President Harry Hubbard, would risk a split in the ranks. Strengthening of the Democratic party in preparation for 1976 elections should be labor's "overriding concern," according to the formal COPE report.

COPE has declined to take a stand in the race for speaker of the House of Representatives, where two friendly candidates, Representative Carl Parker of Port Arthur and Representative Fred Head of Troup, are among the top prospects. A later meeting was authorized to take another look at the race.

These statewide candidates did receive COPE endorsements: Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, Atty.

Gen. John Hill, Land Commissioner Bob Armstrong, Agriculture Commissioner John C. White, State Treasurer Jesse James and Bob Bullock for Comptroller.

Of the group receiving labor's blessing, only Bullock has more than token opposition. Looking toward their top goal of electing a Democratic president in 1976 and a veto-proof congress in 1974, COPE signaled strong participation by union members in party convention activities this spring.

ALL OUT OIL FLOW CONTINUED - At a meeting in Amarillo, the Railroad Commission ordered a 100 per cent oil production allowance for April - 25th straight month of maximum production.

Some top oil industry officials blamed the energy crisis on government tampering with the market through excessive regulation. They called for a free market system, and said the industry is capable of supplying more energy than any other nation at "attractive prices."

The April allowable totals 3.9 million barrels a day, an increase of 106,309 from March. Crude production a year ago was 3.5 million barrels daily. It has now declined to 3,445,000, and crude stocks are nearly 2.9 million barrels lower than in 1973 at the same time.

CONVENTION MAY RECESS - The slow-plodding Constitutional Convention is expected to take a prolonged recess about the end of the month or soon after April 1 at the latest.

Delegates are convinced there is no way to meet the 90-day completion schedule originally laid down by Convention President Price Daniel Jr. They will take off until after the primaries and check back in to try and finish up the job later.

TAX STUDY DONE IN - An intensive statewide school property tax value study requested by the governor, in effect,

has fallen through. The Legislative Property Tax Committee gave up hope for the study and voted to take up with two firms' proposals for studies in only 35 districts, due to money problems.

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ABSORBINE ARTHRITIC PAIN LOTION 2 oz. 87¢ Mfg. list \$1.29	GELUSIL ANTACID TABLETS 100's \$1.69 Also available 50's	Minor Sore Throat Pain? CHLORASEPTIC Anesthetic / Antiseptic 6 oz. with spray \$1.09 Also available 8 oz., 12 oz. Aerosol and Logenges
LISTEROL SPRAY DISINFECTANT 14 oz. \$1.19	KERI LOTION FOR DRY SKIN 6 1/2 oz. Also available 13 oz. \$1.57	ALPHA SOAP KERI 4 oz. 88¢
SENTRY IV DOG FLEA COLLARS \$1.77	STYLE HAIR SPRAY 13 oz. 58¢	Hold & Hold MISSIBLE HAIR NET 8 oz. \$1.57
EFFERDENT DENTURE CLEANSER TABLETS 40's 97¢	LACTONA ADULT TOOTH BRUSH 69¢ Mfg. list 98¢	Compoz 12's 93¢
GILLETTE TRAC II RAZOR \$2.37 Mfg. list \$2.95	WESTCLOX BIG BEN FUTURA SINGLE KEY WINDS BOTH TIME & ALARM Luminous dial Sweep second hand Sweep alarm indicator \$7.49	PSOREX MEDICATED SHAMPOO 3 oz. \$1.89
TECHMATIC ADJUSTABLE BAND 10's \$1.49	DIPPITY-DO SETTING GEL great for short hair styles 8 oz. 93¢ Mfg. list \$1.35	axon THROAT SPRAY Fast relief of sore throat 99¢
MICRIN PLUS Gargle and Rinse 6 oz. 63¢	MURINE Makes eyes feel good again! 79¢ 0.6 oz. Plastic also available glass 0.5 oz. Mfg. list \$1.09	SINE-OFF FAST RELIEF \$1.29 48's Mfg. list \$1.79
MICRIN PLUS Gargle and Rinse 12 oz. 97¢	CLEAR EYES 0.5 oz. \$1.27 also available 1.5 oz. Mfg. list \$1.65	WHITE RAIN HAIR SPRAY 13 oz. 89¢ Mfg. list \$1.89
		Balm Barr COCOA butter \$1.98
		LOTION or CREME 8 oz. 6 oz. Mfg. list \$3.00
		ROMILAR III COUGH SYRUP 3 oz. controls coughs clears congestion eases breathing \$1.23 Also available childrens
		LADY SCHICK DRYER #337 FREE STYLE \$12.99
		MISS BRECK ULTIMATE HOLD HAIR SPRAY Regular, Super, Unscented and Super Unscented 13 oz. 67¢

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GLADIOLA (1 LIMIT) 5 LB. BAG **98c**
OLEO (2 LIMIT) 1 LB. CRTN. **43c**

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ONE COUPON PER FAMILY OFFER EXPIRES MAR. 30

BORDENS Homo 2 MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN. **69c**

LIPTON TOWELS BOUNTY (1 LIMIT) 2 ROLL PACK **49c**

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