

Taylor County's  
Only Legal  
Weekly  
Newspaper

BIBLE VERSE  
Greater love hath no man than  
this, that a man lay down his  
life for his friends.  
John 15:13



15¢

PUBLISHED WEEKLY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1976 VOL 87, NO. 28



MERKEL BADGERS--Members of the 1976 Merkel High School Badgers football team are left to right, front row: Keith Shields (65), Dwayne English (75), Mike Crouse (71), Billy Nichols (81), Mike Brady (82), Randy Holmes (83), Jay Boyd (61), Mike Sims (10), Mike Tucker (73), Craig Hutchings (84), John Biera (22), and Nicky Carter (74). Middle row: Managers Ronnie Whisenhunt, Vernon Presswood, Jerry Walters (50), Dolan Morris (40), Rudy Biera (44), Brad Pursley (11), Randy Cox (35), Bart Whisenhunt (51), Keith Austerman (30), Mike Davis (70), Rusty Watts (64), Manager Jeff Jones and Maury Moore who has been injured. Back row: Larry Smith (42), Glen Bourne (72), Steve Tarpley (20), Mark Shaw (33), Garth Doan (60), Roger Doan (62), David Pfeister (14), Ricky Howes (25), Grant Murrell (60) and Clifford Dye (85).

## School budget approved with no tax increase

The Merkel School Board approved a budget for the year Monday which includes no increase in taxes and one that remains well within the predicted income of the district.

Meeting at a special called meeting to hold a public hearing and to adopt the 1976-77 budget, the Board, with James Boyd absent, approved an increased budget as presented by School Superintendent Travis Davis.

The budget as accepted is \$1,592,413.95 or an increase of \$181,447.59 for a 12.8 percent increase over last year's budget.

Revenue is estimated at \$1,625,452, leaving the district with a proposed \$33,038.05 balance at the end of next

school year.

It won't be known until Tuesday's meeting as to the final financial condition of the school for this year which ended August 31. However, any surplus will be required to help the district through September and October until funds from the new year start to come in.

The tax rate will remain the same with \$1.50 for local maintenance tax and 7 cents for debt service tax on

60 per cent evaluation.

With the exception of a \$4,000 item for sheds and fences for the bus area, the Board accepted the complete budget package as drawn up by Davis and school accountant Jim Lawless.

The budget was \$73,262.41 more than the one presented at last week's workshop when the board was presented with a \$54,119.18 increase—a decrease over the earlier proposal. The original budget presented the board a month ago

was \$87,517.73.

Too, the predicted revenue at the workshop was \$1,523,312 and was increased by \$102,140 at Monday's final adoption meeting.

Davis pointed out several items in the predicted revenue schedule as being too low, indicating that more revenue than anticipated may be forthcoming.

Too, the \$54 million revenue from taxes used to predict proposed income may be closer to \$56 million, Davis reported during the workshop August 23. This would mean an estimated \$17,521 more revenue.

The revenue budget worksheet shows \$530,035 for local and intermediate income and \$1,061,417 from state sources and \$34,000 from federal sources.

Largest increase in the operating expenses is for teachers and the supplies and equipment to sustain them.

There have been six additional teachers hired at a cost of \$51,910, \$15,600 for additional aides, \$5,741 for an extra custodian and \$600 for a coach for a quarter for a total \$73,851, according to Davis.

Too, the new budget includes \$7,000 for a freezer for the cafeteria as approved at the August 24 meeting by the School Board and more than \$7,482 to rent and maintain the added classroom at the Catholic Church for 52 kindergarten students.

The increased enrollment, now up 95 to 958, caused the addition of personnel and equipment.

For instance \$37,607.96 was added in salaries to the budget above what was presented at last week's workshop. There was \$1,383 added for district equipment repair and \$1,100 for teacher supplies and \$250 added to the multi-occupation supplies.

Then \$2,750 was added for furniture in all four schools, \$721 more was added for library books and \$405 was

added for more postage, printing and awards.

There was \$200 additional for a clock at Merkel Elementary School and \$397 for supplies, \$60 more for graduation expense at Merkel Middle School.

Under guidance and counseling \$278 was added for materials, supplies and test scoring and the food service deficit fund was increased \$400 to \$3,400.

The lease of the Catholic School had \$750 set aside for rental and \$3,000 added for district furniture and equipment to provide a cushion for unforeseen circumstances and in order to allow Davis funds to seek out bargains through surplus stores, etc.

Then \$2,000 was added to building up-keep for the district to allow a cushion for possible damage to the Catholic Church for which the district will be responsible. Too, \$600 was added for water and \$1,000 for electricity and \$1,000 for gas to offset utility costs of the church rental, \$100 was added for pest control and \$500 for other district contracts.

Janitor supplies was increased \$250 to help offset added costs at the church, \$128 for ground supplies and \$80 for additional maintenance supervisor travel expense. There was \$700 more for building improvements.

Total general operating fund was increased by \$55,659.96.

In transportation \$300 was added to tools to allow extra funds to seek out bargains from surplus stores, etc.

There was \$1,200 added to the high school football program for 30 additional helmets and \$4,796 added to travel expenses.

Added to the lunchroom fund was \$3,765 for a custodian although half of this is to be spent on care of the church classroom and half spent elsewhere.

A parttime custodian at \$1,776 had been included in the lunchroom budget but Davis noted that with the addition

of the extra building a fulltime custodian would be needed. He would work two hours at the church classroom and two hours elsewhere and continue to spend four hours in the lunchroom giving him a total salary of \$5,541.

Also, added to the lunchroom fund budget was \$367.45 for supplies and materials, \$700 for building improvements—which are under way now after the Board approved the addition of an office and storeroom last week—and \$7,000 for the proposed freezer.

All of the additions and regular items totaled \$1,173,508.36 as compared to last year's budget of \$1,046,126.77 or an increase of \$127,381.59. This is a 12 per cent increase over last year.

Add to this the consolidated application fund of \$62,579 (an increase of \$57,846) and the special education fund of \$356,326.57 (a decrease of \$3,780) and the increase is 12.8 per cent over last year.

Last year's total budget was \$1,410,966.36 with this year's being \$1,592,413.95 for an increase of \$181,447.59.

The consolidated application fund and special education fund are paid completely by state and federal funds and therefore were separated from the budget breakdown to give the Board a better idea of where local funds would be spent.

Lawless and Davis were praised highly for their time and effort and long hours in breaking down the budget to show individual costs this year and for their long hours of revising it to conform with Board requests.

Glen Sandusky, present for the public hearing, told the Board: "I look at you as a Board of Directors and I am a stockholder. I would like to see the school start the physical year by publishing the financial statement of the budget and I would like to see a financial statement published quarterly."

He added, "I personally think you people are doing a good job, and this would help to clear up any misunderstandings."

The Board later approved the printing of the budget annually after its adoption and to publish a financial statement quarterly.

## THE MAIL



By Carl Diogler

The budget approved by the Merkel School Board Monday night is a bit "cushiony" but overall appears sound and one that the School Board, school officials and taxpayers can be proud.

True, there was a 12.8 per cent increase over last year but more than half of the increase was for salaries for new personnel needed to handle the increased student load.

With the increased growth will come need for increased expenses. Also will come the added revenue to help offset these expenses.

And the fact that the Board was able to remain within the projected revenue is also to its credit.

However, the budget doesn't allow for many of the necessary building needs for expansion and repairs. Added classrooms and space requirements and what is the most economical way to provide them will be the next monumental task facing the School Board.

There are no easy decisions on the School Board. Each Board member is faced constantly with decisions as to personnel, facilities, and most important—what is best for the 958 youngsters going to school daily at Merkel and Tye.

The budget did wind up with a few cushions on which to allow for unforeseen circumstances. And, this isn't a bad way to establish a budget, as long as the cushion isn't used needlessly for other unbudgeted items.

Too, having a surplus at the end of the year is certainly a great deal better than ending up with a deficit. The surplus allows for working capital. It allows the district to accumulate interest and provides a cushion on which to borrow money—if it should be needed.

And, it could allow the future borrowing for funds to build individual buildings (up to a set amount) without having a bond vote or creating a need for new taxes.

For instance, Winters recently spent \$43,000 on a new building out of its surplus for a combined tax office and Superintendent's office. And, no future obligation was needed or no new taxes were required.

This could be one method of solving the classroom problem—using the surplus for individual classrooms. However, the need for new facilities has grown so acute that one classroom a year wouldn't allow the district to ever catch up—at least in the immediate future.

At least 20 classrooms are needed and a new gym and science building immediately. Too, football stadium funds are needed and, yes, a combined office for the Superintendent and tax office is needed.

But, the surplus can help, provided it is used wisely. True, it could be used to reduce taxes and let the individual taxpayer get some relief. But, face it, dividing \$100,000 a year average among all the taxpayers isn't going to amount to a very big decrease.

And, by keeping it in the budget it will help absorb the growth requirements and help the taxpayers more in the long haul.

school taxes you are paying 18 per cent of one student's education for a year.

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This 'n that: Schools and businesses will be closed Monday for Labor Day holiday. . . Dove season opened Wednesday with hunting from noon until sunset. . . The West Texas Fair opens September 11 in Abilene. . . Understand there were several traffic violations passed out last Thursday for following an ambulance to a minor incident south of Merkel. . . Chief Paul Crouse was on two or three days vacation this week and was not available for comment on the incident. . . All that construction equipment in Merkel Monday morning was for bridge repairs in the area. . .

David Wharton, 15-year-old who lives two miles north of Merkel, was bitten by a stray cat in a pasture near his home Friday. The family has been searching for the calico-colored cat since then. The cat is black, yellow and has white on its hind feet. Anyone having seen said cat in the road or in a field near there are urged to contact the Whartons at 928-5700 or 928-5259.

School Principal Lee Presswood impressed a lot of Merkel students and parents when he jumped the fence recently at a scrimmage in Cross Plains to protest orders to "pile it on the Badgers," from a Cross Plains coach.

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The turnout of Hamlin spectators and a look at the facilities, and attitude of the athletes during a scrimmage Friday should give Merkel school board members, school officials and parents a hint of the work needed in Merkel.

Hamlin's facilities are outstanding and the support for a scrimmage from parents and fans connected with a barbecue feed by the booster club and the high spirits of the team all combined to provide a winning atmosphere.

Admittedly, Hamlin has been winning the past few years which naturally helps any program. Still, this is no excuse for Merkel not to have at least adequate facilities.

Oh, I guess you could call Merkel's football complex adequate. It has some stands, some grass, some lights and some field house. But, the light poles are ready to fall, with even the electric company hesitating to climb them to replace needed lights. The concession stand is about to collapse, depending on a rotted light pole for support. There isn't enough restroom facilities and the field house isn't adequate for office space for the coaches and to house equipment and athletes. The track is nothing but a trail of bare dirt surrounding the football field with an average amount of turf.

Yes, it is adequate—if Merkel were playing Class B football in the 1950's.

At least, it makes you stop and think and really respect the coaches and athletes for the job they are doing under the circumstances.

The present athletic program and facilities puts the coaches and athletes in the same situation as a farmer plowing 1,500 acres with a mule and plow, or a parent riding a bicycle 20 miles to work each day. It wouldn't make the future look any too bright, now would it?

So, why should Merkel expect its athletes and coaches to work under such handicaps—and they are handicapped when they take the field against teams with better facilities, better moral support and better training facilities. This is not to say, they won't overcome such disadvantages and win anyway and it isn't to say that they won't grow into more mature people who respect hard times. But, should they have to learn it this hard way?

The Merkel School Board agreed to lease the Catholic Church for kindergarten classrooms and hire a part-time coach for the freshmen at a special meeting Monday night.

Main purpose of the meeting was to hold a public hearing and adopt the budget for the school year. The budget was adopted with no additional tax increase. Details are outlined in another story on this page.

The School Board agreed to lease the facilities at the Merkel Catholic Church, located next to the Merkel Cafeteria, for \$75 a month rent and utilities.

The 52 students of the kindergarten now at the Merkel Elementary School will be moved into the 20 by 40 classroom and three additional small workrooms. This will allow more space in the elementary school to house the bluing first grade.

Lease on the church facilities starts September 1 and ends June 10 and is for five days a week with the church retaining possession after 5 p.m. weekdays and on Saturday and Sunday.

The Board also agreed to put the old "antique" clock from the Elementary School in with the other items up for sale when they hold their old furniture sale later this year.

Karen Allen was hired as a first grade teacher and Richard Hill was hired to coach the freshmen the first quarter.

Mrs. Allen will teach at Merkel Elementary and Hill is currently a history teacher in the high school. He also drives a bus for the school system.

The Board agreed to pay Hill \$600 extra for the coaching duties to offset the bus driving income. Another bus driver will have to be hired.

Also, Superintendent Travis Davis reported Custodian Steve Edwards has resigned to take another job in Texarkana.

He also said he is holding off making recommendations for a possible additional teacher in the Middle School and another side for the Merkel kindergarten until after Labor Day.

The enrollment has climbed to 95 more than last

year to 958 students and Davis said there probably will be more enrolling after the holidays.

Glen Sandusky, the lone spectator at Monday's special meeting, told the Board he would like to see the vocational-agricultural department expanded.

"You have one teacher and 80 or 90 students and he doesn't have time to work on field trips or individually with the students. You always seem to hire 100 coaches and kinda keep them in the background."

Davis told the Board there are 77 ag students in four classes and only one teacher. However, he pointed out that there is a possibility that a local teacher can be hired to offset the cost.

The issue had been discussed by the Board at previous meetings but no action was taken because state and federal funds are not available to assist with hiring additional vocational instructors. The same is true for an additional band director.

The possibility of hiring a combination principal for the Merkel Elementary and

## Church leased for kindergarten

a freshman coach was discussed but no action was taken.

Under Superintendent's report, Davis gave a report of the football scrimmage with Hamlin, saying the Badgers looked much improved and that it was a good workout.

He also explained that there has been a lot of shuffling going on in the classrooms since the start of school but that it has been necessary. He also said that there may be some more "but there is nothing else we can do."

He also reported a bid received on a freezer for the cafeteria of \$6,950. This is for a walk-in with a 3 horsepower unit.

Renovating is under way in the cafeteria, size 820 tires have been located and a check signer will be brought to the next meeting he said.

Next meeting was set for Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Earlier in the meeting Davis told the Board that they had purchased four teachers desks, a jack for the maintenance department and tables and a filing cabinet from a surplus store in Lubbock.

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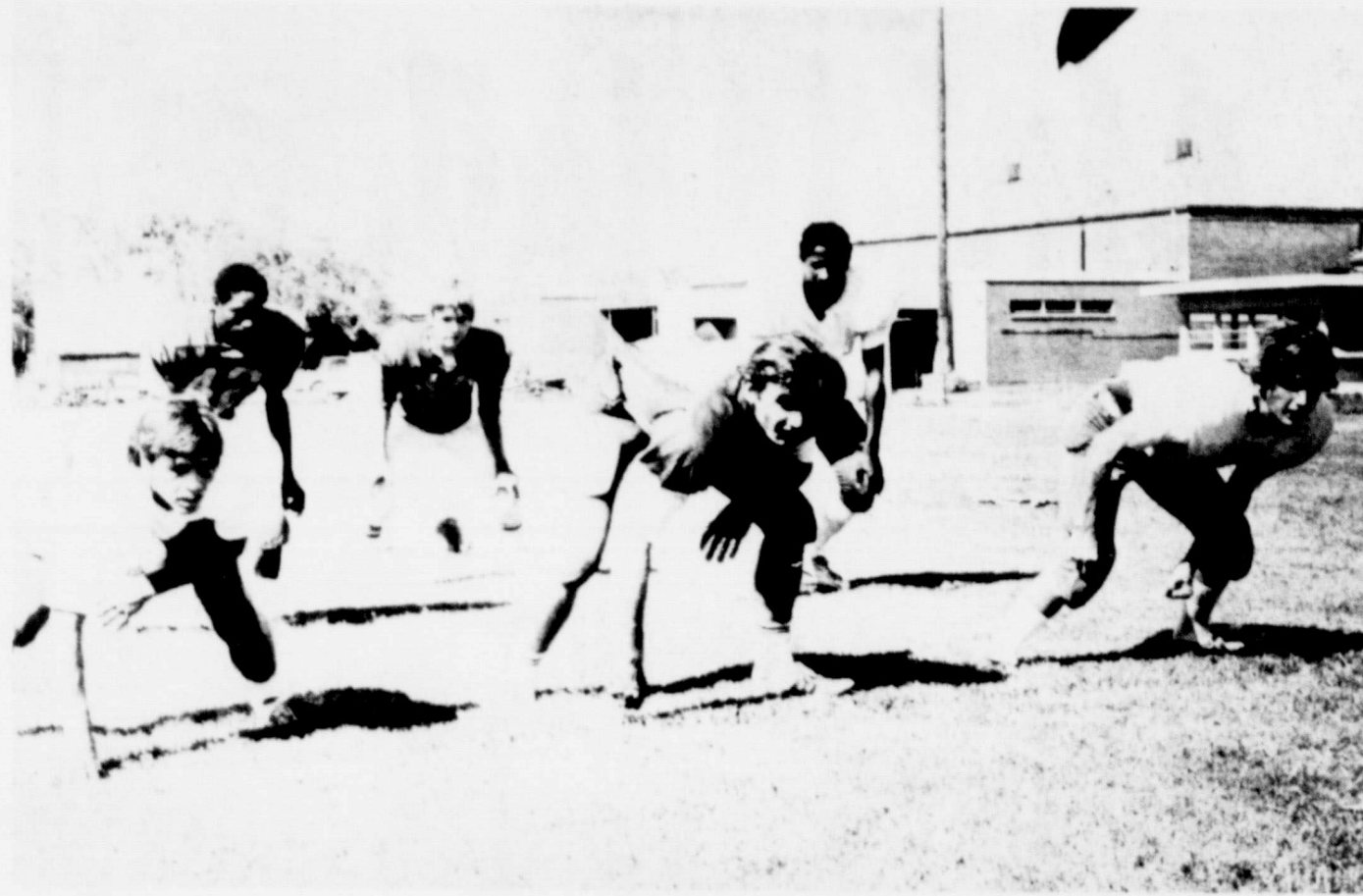
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The Guys and Dolls golf tournament gets under way Sunday and Monday at the Merkel Country Club. Entry fee is \$15 per couple and prizes consist of gift certificates and trophies. A permanent club trophy will be initiated with the winners names inscribed.

**Denson visits**

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Denson spent a few days last week with son Melvin and wife at Desdemona. They were real busy building a new home.



**DEFENSIVE TEAM**--Set for defensive action for Trent High School this year are from left to right: Right end Bobby Brazleton, Jr.; Middle guard Jerry Gregory, Sr.; Left end

Jimmy Tackett, Soph., Right halfback Gilbert Beaver, Sr., Left halfback Herbert Beaver, Fr.; and Safety Donny Freeman, Fr.

**Gorillas open grid season**

Trent High School's Gorillas open their six-man football campaign Thursday night with a non-district contest against Talpa-Centennial. Game time is 8 p.m. The game had been set for Friday but it was changed in order to get officials for the game. Coach Bobby Campbell's crew has been picked to finish first in District 3-B while Talpa is ranked fifth in District 2-B. Coach Campbell was pleased with the top ranking

his team has been given and indicated the Gorillas do have experienced performers returning. Alan Morse, Jimmy Adams and James Mays return to the backfield and Rocky Bryan is back as a defensive end. Bryan and Adams were all-district on defense while Morse scored eight times and Mays 12 last year. Sophomore Robert Freeman will have a year more of experience at quarterback also. Talpa is under new coach Charles Murff and has three returning starters in quarterback Steve Hale, center Jerry Campbell and fullback Duane Reeber. Talpa was 2-7 on the year and 1-6 in district last year. Coach Campbell's charges were to scrimmage Friday but the workout was canceled. Thus, the Gorillas had but one scrimmage before the opening contest--that against Paint Rock.

Hermleigh at Grady Christoval at Highland McCaulley at Blackwell Ira at Divide Weinert at Hobbs  
 SEPTEMBER 10 Wellman at Hermleigh Highland at Blackwell Southland at McCaulley Benjamin at Trent Grady at Ira Divide at Hobbs  
 SEPTEMBER 17 Hermleigh at Blackwell Grady at Highland Ira at Loop Hobbs at Lueders-Avoca Trent, open  
 SEPTEMBER 24 Hermleigh at Water Valley Highland at Divide McCaulley at Paint Rock Christoval at Ira Hobbs at Wellman  
 SEPTEMBER 25 Blackwell at Trent (Homecoming)

OCTOBER 2 Trent at Divide Blackwell at Hobbs  
 OCTOBER 8 District 3-B starts Hobbs at Hermleigh Highland at Ira  
 OCTOBER 9 Trent at McCaulley  
 OCTOBER 15 Hermleigh at Ira McCaulley at Hobbs  
 OCTOBER 16 Trent at Highland  
 OCTOBER 22 McCaulley at Hermleigh Hobbs at Highland Ira at Trent  
 OCTOBER 29 Hermleigh at Trent Highland at McCaulley Ira at Hobbs  
 NOVEMBER 5 Highland at Hermleigh McCaulley at Ira Hobbs at Trent  
 NOVEMBER 12 Zone playoff

COMPOSITE SCHEDULE  
 SEPTEMBER 3  
 OCTOBER 1 Benjamin at Highland

**Homecoming activities growing**

Officials of the Merkel Homecoming committee are gearing up their activities as the September 11 Homecoming day nears. There are many class reunions scheduled already and a full day of activities are planned for former grads of Merkel High School. Also, a Mr. X and Coming Home Queen will be named from ex-grads and each of the present classes at Merkel High will nominate a candidate to be considered for Homecoming Queen. She will be named at half-time of the Merkel and Jim Ned football game September 11. Homecoming festivities include registration, starting at 8 a.m. September 11, a parade at 2:30 p.m., a pep rally at 3 p.m., the football game at 7:30 p.m. and a business meeting at 10 p.m. in the High School cafeteria. Also, a Mexican dinner will be served in the High School Cafeteria from 4:30 until 7 p.m. with proceeds going toward helping pay expenses for the Miss Softball of America summer program in Merkel.

Johnnie Adcock of 1211 South 10th is in charge of this reunion. The 1964 class is to meet after the business meeting Saturday at the Pug and Leo restaurant on Interstate 20.

Sarah Lucas is in charge of this reunion. The 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972 classes will meet in the Gold Room at Merkel Restaurant Saturday after the business meeting.

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**Dutch Boy HOUSE PAINT**  
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**\$8.95 GAL.**  
 (OIL BASE)

**LATEX REDWOOD**  
**\$6.95 GAL**

**OIL REDWOOD**  
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**INTERIOR FLAT LATEX**  
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**\$8.95**

**ACCLAIM - LATEX HOUSE PAINT**  
**WHITE ONLY**  
**\$6.95 GAL**

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 SALES AND SERVICE ON AIR COMPRESSORS, HOSE & PAINT GUNS  
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 1st Monday of Month Singing  
 2nd Tuesday Noon Covered Dish Game Nights  
 Every Thursday & 4th Monday  
 4th Thur. Game Night Reserved for Talented-Amateurs.

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**"KEEP YOUR SAVINGS DOLLARS AT HOME"**

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**PEPSI COLA** **15¢**  
32 oz. BOTTLE PLUS DEPOSIT



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POTATO SALAD - BEANS  
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**SUGAR** PURE CANE  
LIMIT 1  
WITH \$10 PURCHASE EXCLUDING CIGARETTES  
5 LB BAG **83¢**

**BACON** GOOCH **\$1.45**  
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**NABISCO** **79¢**  
15 OZ. PKG

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**TATER TOTS** **49¢**  
LB BAG

GOOCH **FRANKS** **79¢**  
12 OZ. PKG.

**CHILI** WOLF BRAND  
19 oz. **89¢**

KEITH PRE-COOKED  
**FISH STIX** 8 OZ **39¢**

**HOT LINK** **79¢**  
LB

**SCOTTIES** TISSUES  
200 CT. **49¢**

DONALD DUCK  
**ORANGE JUICE** 6 oz. **29¢**

**BEEF LIVER** **69¢**  
LB

**DAWN** LIQUID  
32 OZ. **89¢**

IT'S TIME FOR **Produce**  
DEL MONTE  
**BANANAS** **19¢**  
LB.

**LOIN STEAK** **\$1.39**  
LB

**CASCADE** DISHWASHER DETERGENT  
50 oz. **\$1.19**

BARTLETT  
**PEARS** **29¢**  
LB.

**FRYERS** **49¢**  
LB

**GLADE** AIR FRESHENER  
SOLIDS **39¢**

TEXAS  
**CUCUMBERS** **10¢**  
EA.

Reg Pkg. 2 FOR **19¢**  
**KOOL-AID**

BEST MAID  
**PICKLES** **59¢**  
QT

SUGARY SAM Cut 22 oz. **49¢**  
**YAMS**

BEST MAID  
Salad Dressing **79¢**  
QT

RANCH STYLE 300 CAN 2 FOR **49¢**  
**BEANS**

SWIFT  
Potted Meat **31¢**  
5 OZ.

PLANTERS TWIN PACK **79¢**  
Potato Chips

KRAFT 7 OZ. **29¢**  
Macaroni Dinner

NESTEA 3 OZ. **\$1.39**  
**INSTANT TEA**

**MILK** MARIGOLD 2% HOMO GAL **\$1.39**  
REG HOMO GAL **\$1.49** PLUS DEP

**PEACHES** VAL VITA NO 2 1/2 CAN **49¢**

**PINTO BEANS** KIMBELL 300 CAN 2/ **39¢**

**TOMATOES** HUNTS SOLID PACKED 300 CAN **29¢**

**JUICE** FOREMOST ORANGE or GRAPEFRUIT QT. **59¢**

**SPAM** LUNCHEON MEAT 12 OZ. CAN **98¢**

**OLEO** BLUEBONNETT LB. PKG **39¢**

**SPAGHETTI SAUCE** RAGU 15 1/2 oz **59¢**

**COTTAGE CHEESE** FOREMOST 1 LB. **63¢**

**GRAPE JELLY** WELCHES 20 oz. **79¢**

**YOGURT** FOREMOST **4/\$1**

**PEANUT BUTTER** PETER PAN 28 oz **\$1.49**

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**FLOUR** GOLD MEDAL 5 LB BAG **79¢**



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**THE SENIOR CITIZENS ARE HAVING A GARAGE SALE** Saturday, September 4th. You are invited to set up tables of merchandise. Nice clothes are expected. Come in and look us over at our Senior Citizens Building.

**GARAGE SALE**-1522 Heath. Furniture, refrigerator, misc. Saturday.

**2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE**-Thursday and Friday. Children's clothes. 609 Locust.

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**SECOND THURSDAY POST & LADIES AUXILIARY Y'ALL COME NOW!**

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**28-ltc LAND FOR SALE?** CALL Collect-Bill Largent, Farm and Ranch Mgr. at Frances McClure Inc., Realtors. 3157 South 27th, Abilene. 698-3211, Night 698-2375.

**46-ltc**

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**28-ltc WILL CARE FOR** older person 5 days a week in their home. References available. Contact 928-5144.

**28-ltc SEWING DONE** in my home. Mens, womens, childrens and other items. 928-5504.

**28-ltc HELP WANTED** full time employee at the cemetery. See Fred Starbuck.

**60,000 PAPERBACKS** half price or trade. KINGSTON Bookstore, North 2nd, east of Grape, Abilene. Monday-Saturday, 9:30-6.

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**Card of Thanks**

**THE MERKEL RIDING CLUB** would like to thank everyone who helped to make the rodeo a success. Many donated their money and time, and thanks to them-we are looking forward to another fun and successful rodeo next year.

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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:** \$4.75 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties. \$5.50 Per Year outside of Taylor and adjoining counties.

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**Carl Dingler**, Editor  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: George Davis, III, Respondent:  
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Jimmy L. Hare, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 24th day of August, 1976, against Danny Joe McWilliams and Shirley McWilliams, Respondents, and said suit being numbered 12,257-DR on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Shelley June McWilliams, a Child," the nature of which suit is a request to Terminate Parent-Child Relationship. Said child was born the 22nd day of January, 1976, in Houston, Texas. The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, this 24th day of August, 1976.

(Seal) Irene Crawford Clerk, Domestic Relations Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Sandra Harris, Deputy. 28-1tc

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### Notice

THE MERKEL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will receive sealed bids until 5 p.m. Wednesday, September 15, 1976 on a 48-passenger school bus, 1965 chevrolet, License Number 119-813, in Merkel, Texas as required by the laws of the state of Texas. The bus can be seen at the Merkel Independent School District bus transportation building. Anyone interested in submitting a bid may contact Merkel School Superintendent Travis Davis, Merkel High School, Merkel, Texas, 79536. The Merkel Independent School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

26-3tc

**Notice** THE MERKEL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will receive sealed bids until 5 p.m. Wednesday, September 15, 1976 on Lot 12, Block 15-OT in Tye, Texas as required by the laws of the state of Texas. Anyone interested in submitting a bid may contact Merkel School Superintendent Travis Davis, Merkel High School, Merkel, Texas, 79536. The Merkel Independent School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

26-3tc

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# Alley closed, engineer sought for project

The City Council read and approved ordinances closing two alleys, heard a report on the paving project and agreed to meet Wednesday to hire an engineer to begin the HUD waterline project which has been approved for Merkel.

Bill Smith of Abilene was at the Thursday morning meeting at City Hall to present his papers on ownership of the two lots next to Bobby DuBose Texaco on the I-20 access road and 126.

Smith plans to build a Dairy Queen on the property and was requesting the closing of an alley between the property. It had been delayed because he did not own the property when he requested the closing.

It was noted that there is a T-shape alley at this location and that there is still access to other property in the area.

The Council approved the closing then approved ordinances closing this alley and the one they approved on the newly purchased Starbuck property at the last meeting.

Smith told the Council that he hopes to start building on the Dairy Queen in February or March. Smith builds the facilities and retains a fourth interest while leasing or selling the actual operation of the Dairy Queen. He has such arrangements in Abilene, Clyde, Sweetwater, Roscoe and Colorado City.

In an item not on the agenda, the City Coordinator, J. A. Sadler, explained to the Council concerning a letter to the editor in last week's Merkel Mail, complaining of poor service on leading water meters and blaming the city for inactivity.

Sadler explained that one of the neighbors of Mrs. Ronnie Aldridge called the City offices and reported that water was running from under the garage door and that the Aldridge family was not at home.

The City investigated and discovered that the bottom of the water heater had burst.

They cut off the water to prevent further loss and damage to the property.

Sadler reported then that there has been some interest shown by different blocks to have their streets paved under the proposed plan.

The Council approved the paving plan at its last meeting, whereby property owners

could get the paving done at a reasonable fee. Sadler, pointed out, however, that all interest shown in the program has come from the south side of Merkel.

Mayor Lou David Allen then read a letter from the Dallas office of HUD releasing the \$30,400 in funds to allow Merkel to begin work on the

proposed water system improvement project.

This will involve 4,000 feet of line and six a year's work by Sadler and the City Council to get the funds.

The City Council will hold a special meeting Wednesday at 6 p.m. to interview engineers and get the project under way.

It is anticipated to take 30 days to complete the project, once it is started.

Mayor Allen pointed out this is the first money Merkel has ever received for this type project, and all the Council joined in praising Sadler for his persistence and work in bringing it about.

Councilman Darrell Farmer brought up the question of possibly turning the public utility contracts over to the State Public Utility Commission after September 1. He noted that some cities have already elected to do so.

## Couple to note 50 years wed

The Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Bradford will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday with a reception at the First Baptist Church in Hawley.

The reception will be 2:30 until 4:30 p.m. and will be hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Ross Bradford of Sand Spring and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Elliott of Coahoma, their children.

They were married September 1, 1926.

The Rev. Bradford was born in Corryell County, September 6, 1900 and Mrs. Bradford was born in Callahan County, February 4, 1907.

Mrs. Bradford is a parttime employee at Hendrick Memorial Hospital and Rev. Bradford still has an active telephone ministry although he is retired.

All their friends are invited to the reception.

## The security expert



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**GO GET EM BADGERS!**

**CLAW THE BEARS**

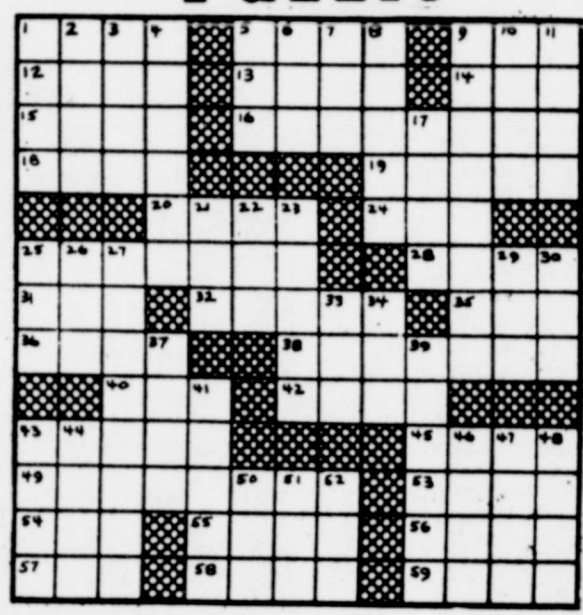
- 75 MALIBU CLASSIC Buckskin seats silver and burgundy
- 75 NOVA HATCHBACK Auto. V8 Blue on Blue
- 75 MONTE CARLO LAND. Loaded. Black on black
- 75 FORD ELITE COUPE Gold and Drk. Brown
- 77 GRAND PRIX Burgundy on Burgundy
- 74 CHEV. BELLAIRE 4 Dr. auto. White on white
- 74 MUSTANG 6 cyl., std. air. Gold buckskin
- 73 CHEV. CAPRICE COUPE White and white vinyl top
- 72 PONTIAC VENTURA sedan V8, Auto. power and air. Green on green
- 74 CAPRICE ESTATE 9 passenger station wagon, loaded. White and buckskin
- 73 BUICK ESTATE, 9 passenger station wagon. Gold on gold

Several other used cars and also have several nice used pickups to choose from.

Good luck Badgers. May this season be your best!

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## Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Agitate
  - Distant
  - Uncle
  - Relieve
  - Fish
  - Epoch
  - Stumble
  - Gifts
  - Stockings
  - Refuse
  - On water
  - Pose
  - Alone
  - Past
  - Chariot
  - Disencumber
  - Harbor
  - Hoarded
  - Beverage
  - Ponder
  - Anchors
  - Bird
  - Beliefs
  - Spirit
  - Vehicle
  - Release
  - Roman statesman
  - Compass point
  - Italian mountain
  - Examine
  - DOWN
  - Biblical name
  - Plant
  - Answer to Puzzle
  - Goddess: Egypt
  - Reiterate
  - Snake
  - In place of
  - Brew
  - Reclines
  - Congressmen
  - Crafts
  - Livestock feed
  - Goddess of discord
  - Discern
  - Bitter vetch
  - Indian state
  - Plant juice
  - Self
  - Turtle
  - Prevaricate
  - Eccentric
  - Bird
  - Article: Ger.
  - Lottery prize
  - Choose
  - Apartment
  - Throng
  - Work
  - Wings
  - Rodents
  - Tie
  - Morsel
  - No: Fr.
  - Resort

## Contests add spirit to fair

A fair without a contest is like a newspaper without ink—kind of dull.

This year's West Texas Fair and Rodeo will be anything but dull for contest addicts of all ages. There are over half a dozen contests scheduled in the Modern Living Mall in addition to the regular competition in foods, hobbies, needlework, antiques, scouting and plants.

Grandparents will have a chance to tell their Big Country residents the "honest truth" about their grandbabies in the "Grandparents Brag" contest. Entries will be accepted at the Modern Living Mall on September 8.

The grandchild must be four years old or younger. Entries include an 8-by 10-inch photo mounted on a 10-by 12-inch mat and a short composition about the grandchild. All entries will be on display throughout Fair Week.

A new contest for cake decorators (non-professional only) is scheduled for September 11, opening day of the Fair. Registration forms will be accepted from noon to 1:30 that day. Decorating will begin at 1:30 in front of a Fair audience in the Modern Living Mall.

The cake decorating contest has two divisions: Adult (birthday cake theme) and Youth, 18 and under (Fair Fun Time theme). The icing artists must bring their own cake or cake form that is iced and ready for decorating, all necessary equipment and icing.

On Sunday of Fair Week two contests will take center stage in the Modern Living Mall.

At 2 p.m. the traditional "Trim-a-Tree" contest will be held. Twenty 18-inch Christmas trees will be

## Lambda Beta news

Lambda Beta held their beginning day tea in the home of Mrs. Bill Booth Sunday, August 29th. After refreshments served by the Program Committee, new program books were handed out by Program Chairman Anne Booth. Betty Allday, President, welcomed everyone back from a busy summer and called upon each Committee Chairman to give their plans for the year. This year's theme will be "Follow the Rainbow Road" and the study guide will be "The Modern World." The 1976-77 officers are Betty Allday-president, Ginny Yaddow-vice-president, Jo Moore-recording secretary, Milly Bright-corresponding secretary, and Barbara Welch-treasurer. Annette Clark will serve as the Chapter's Director.

Members present were: Betty Allday, Anne Booth, Milly Bright, Pat Castille, Annette Clark, Betty Coker, Bobbie Elliott, Judy Elliott, Mary Hill, Chera Hohberts, Faye Jones, Sarah Lucas, Jo Moore, Milyn Seymour, Glenda Teaf, and Barbara Welch.

## Webb graduates

Midwestern State University had 120 students who completed degree requirements in August including 20 honor graduates according to Betty J. Bullock, MSU registrar.

Among the graduates was Charlotte Ann Webb, A. S. in Medical Laboratory Technology, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Webb, Tya.

## Fire Department gets funds

The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department received a check for \$75 recently from Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies as an expression of thanks for the Department's work on the property of Jimmy King, Star Route, Sweetwater.

The money will be used for their loss prevention program.

The Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies pay volunteer fire departments this amount when the department works at a fire in rural areas, involving property insured by them.

The Insurance Company

## Shower for McAninch

A bridal shower for Linda McAninch, bride-elect of Paul Raybin of Houston, was held at the home of Dene McLeod in Trent on Saturday, August 28th. Hostesses in addition to Mrs. McLeod were Ruth Agnew, Rosemary Bland, Lucy Bonneau, Nell Brnovak, Belvie Butler, Odessa Butler, Louise Canady, Minnie Carey, Donna Carter, Frances Carter, Lettie Hamner, Delanna Herring, Kathleen Jones, Joy McElmurray, Mildred Mitchell, Amy Price, Doris Shafer, Melinda Simpson, Faye Sipe, Jewell Thompson, Pam Welborn, Fern Windham, and Vivian Winter. Special guests were the bride's mother, Florence McAninch of Trent, and her sister, Barbara McAninch of Washington D. C.

## Three honored with trips

Three at Max Murrell Chevrolet have earned vacations through their sales efforts.

Competing against 10 other cities in the Dallas zone of

the Chevrolet center Bob Donivan has earned a week's trip to Spala, Bob Norton a week's trip to Rome and Max Murrell a safari to Nairobi, Kenya.



LOCKED OUT--Benny Melton, manager of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce, finds himself locked out as he returned from lunch Wednesday. Melton said the lock was revenge for a joke he had played on an individual recently.

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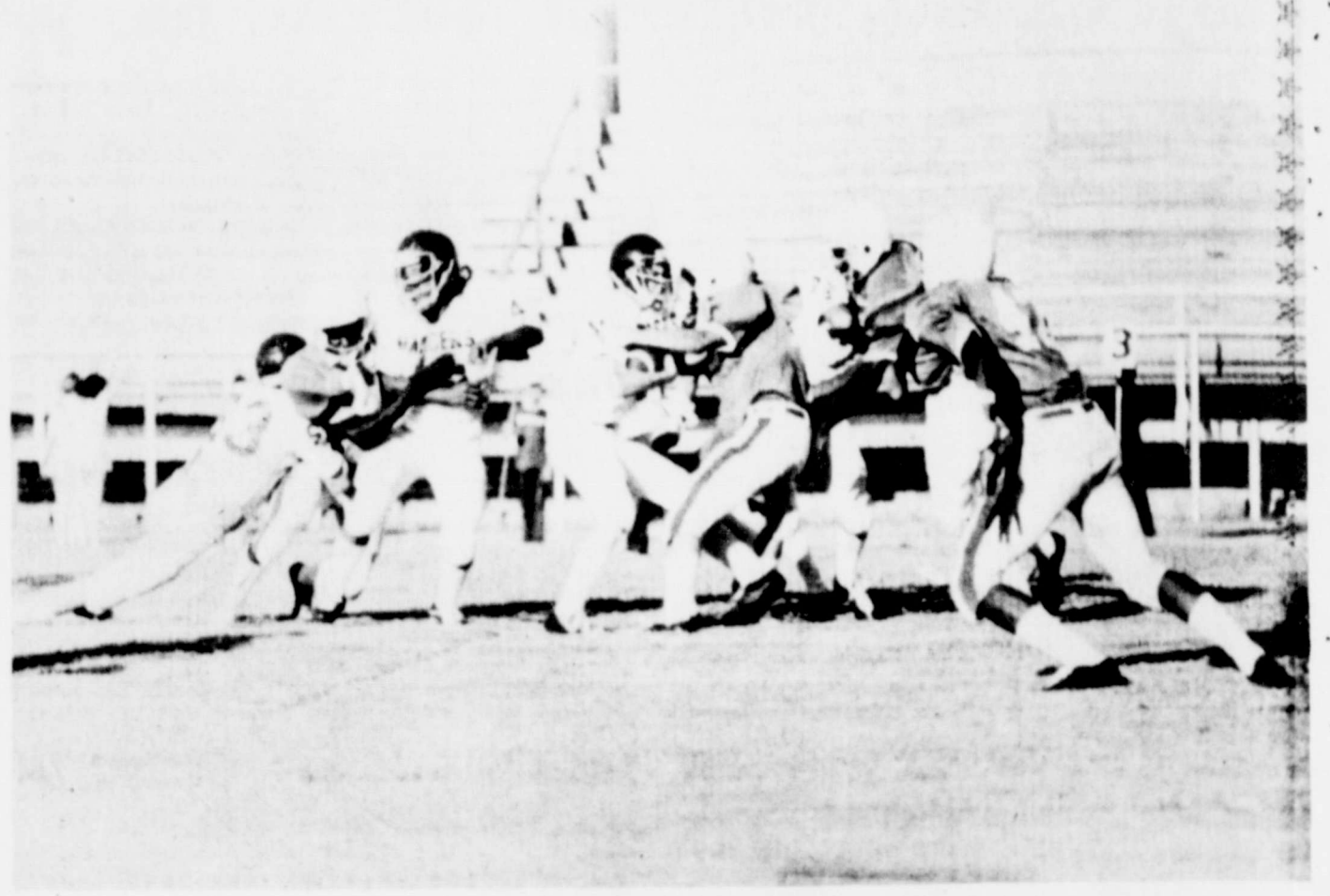
MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113

ABILENE 673-1182





Brad Pursley catches TD pass



Junior Varsity in action

## Badgers open against Baird Friday

Merkel High School's Badgers open the 1976 football season Friday at 8 p.m. and they are only a 1-point underdog.

They have come a long way since last year when they finished 2-8 and were shutout their last two games of the year. Too, they have a six-game losing string working.

And, the last team to beat them was Baird (35-0), the opponent that is rated only a point better Friday night at Badger Stadium.

Coach Jerry McLeod certainly hopes his Badgers have improved that much to rate the confidence of only being a 1-point underdog for this opening game.

"We can do real well if we get after them and get momentum going," Coach McLeod said of the game with Baird.

Actually, he pointed out the two schools will almost mirror each other.

"They look a lot like the same team," he said. Basically they both use the 3-2 defense and Baird uses the Houston Veer offense while Merkel is using the Wishbone Veer.

Coach McLeod added that both teams will be "pretty evenly matched." Baird

has average speed and size as does Merkel.

McLeod, with reservations, said the Badgers are "going to throw more. We have got to get the ball to Pursley (split end Brad). He is a good receiver. Yes, we'll throw more."

With junior Pursley moved from quarterback to end to add speed and pass catching ability, David Pfister has moved in from the B team to take over quarterbacking chores.

Sophomore letterman Ricky Howes has taken over wingback duties with senior letterman Keith Austerman at fullback and senior two-year letterman Larry Smith at halfback.

Rest of the offensive starters include junior letterman Garth Doan at strong guard; senior two letterman Roger Doan at quick guard; senior letterman Steve Tarpley at quick tackle; junior letterman Dwain English at strong tackle; junior letterman Grant Murrell at tight end; and senior two letterman Glenn Braune at center. Actually, Braune has been moved from guard.

Senior letterman Barj Whisenhunt had been the regular center.

With English at a hefty 222 pounds,

the forward wall will average 173. However, depth will be a factor as Coach McLeod's charges can ill afford any injuries.

Baird, member of District 8-A and one of three 8-A teams to face the Badgers this season, was 6-3-1 last year. Coach Gary Williams has six starters back, including four who went both ways, halfbacks Larry Cauthen and Mark Lucas and ends Monty Hambrick and Robert Mander. Center Larron Walker and cornerback Gary Adams also started.

Jim Sadler, 6-3, 190, was an end last year but has been moved to quarterback as a junior. Other lettermen are guard Frank Rodriguez, tight end Kerry Skinner, fullback Dennis Baxter, halfback Mike Simons and tackle Jerry Wristen.

The Bears aren't reported as being as large as last year, but could have better speed. Also, there's more experience in the backfield (another likeness to the Badgers).

Meanwhile, the Merkel Junior Varsity and Merkel Eighth grade teams travel to Baird Thursday to open season play. The eighth grade plays at 6 p.m. and the JV battles at 7:30. The Ninth grade and Seventh grade teams wait a week before starting play.



Badgers on move

## Individual Badgers praised

The scrimmage with highly regarded Class A power Hamlin Friday proved both heartening and disappointing to Merkel football fans.

Hamlin, ranked seventh in some polls among Class A ranks, showed a highly spirited offense and defense and appeared more polished. The Hamlin JV beat Merkel JV, 1-0, using the breakaway speed for an 80-yard TD run by Otis Willis.

The Hamlin varsity won 5-1 over the Merkel varsity with Brad Pursley the lone Badger to score--that coming on a long pass from David Pfister.

It was the second scrimmage for both teams--Merkel JV losing 2-0 to Cross Plains JV and Hamlin losing 2-1 to Colorado City in first week scrimmages.

After the scrimmage and viewing films of the workout, coach Jerry McLeod said "We were pretty pleased. We saw a lot of improvement in many areas." Holding his two fingers about a quarter inch apart he said, "We are just about that far away in lots of spots."

He pointed out that Hamlin scored on the long pass and long run which he predicts the Badgers can prevent

by better pursuit and getting the people in the right positions.

"We know we can correct these things," McLeod said. He finally began to single out individual performances, naming Larry Smith, Glenn Braune, Mark Shaw and Ricky Howes as being real aggressive and doing a good job tackling. "All did a fine job," McLeod said. "They didn't slip many tackles."

On offense, guard Roger Doan was praised for doing a great job; Quarterback David Pfister is "improving everyday" and strong end Brad Pursley is "catching and blocking well. He is an aggressive athlete."

On the negative side, under questioning, McLeod admitted they need to improve the offense, the execution and that the team made too many mistakes.

"The biggest disappointment is the offensive line has not come along. Guess you just have to say it is due to inexperience and that we hope it comes along."

He added, "We're not consistent yet. Just haven't developed it yet. Some have a tendency to coast."

He admitted the Badgers stood around and watched Hamlin knock them around. "I don't know where they got into that habit," Coach McLeod said.

## Merkel schools menu

Thursday	Braised beef tips with brown gravy	Lettuce Wedges with choice of dressing
	Whipped potatoes	Biscuits
	Seasoned blackeyed peas with snaps	Sliced Peaches with topping
	Hot rolls	1/2 pint milk
	Apricot cobbler	
Friday	Sloppyjoe	THURSDAY
	Pickle relish	Beef and Cheese Pizza
	Sliced onion	Green Salad with choice of dressing
	French fries with catsup	Buttered whole Kernel Corn
	Glazed cinnamon rolls	Chilled Applesauce
	Orange juice	1/2 pint milk
MONDAY	No School	FRIDAY
		Hamburgers
TUESDAY	Fried Fish with Tartar Sauce	Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, Pickles
	Potatoes AuGratin	French Fries with Catsup
	Black Eyed Peas with Snaps	Peanut Butter Strips
	Corn Meal Twists	Orange Juice
	Lemon Pudding	1/2 pint milk
	1/2 pint milk	Open house
WEDNESDAY	Chicken Pot Pie with Vegetables	Open house will be held in the new home of the Melvyn Whites at 408 Scott Street in Tye Sunday, September 5 from 2 to 5 p.m.

**Football schedule**  
THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE  
THURSDAY--Merkel 8th at Baird, 6 p.m.; Junior Varsity at Baird, 7:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY--Baird at Merkel, 8 p.m.  
HOMECOMING WEEK SCHEDULE  
THURSDAY--Merkel 7th at Jim Ned, 5 p.m.; 8th at Jim Ned, 6 p.m.; Junior Varsity at Jim Ned, 7:30 p.m.; 9th at Colorado City, 7:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY--Benjamin at Trent, 7:30 p.m.  
SATURDAY--Jim Ned at Merkel, 8 p.m.

**Farmers Union to meet**  
The Taylor County Farmers Union is to meet in Abilene, Saturday September 4th at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at Mack Eplens Cafeteria, in River Oaks, on South 14th. Bring your family, appetite and money.  
Members who are unable to attend the dinner are urged to come for cake and coffee at 7:30.  
There will be a surprise speaker, a surprise subject and you might be on candid camera, or in the first Taylor County Farmers Union scrapbook.  
A short business meeting will be held following the cake and coffee.

**Benefit dinner**  
Miss Softball of America will sponsor a Mexican dinner September 11 at the High School cafeteria.  
Mrs. Ascencio will serve the Mexican food from 4:30 until 7 p.m.  
Proceeds will help to pay the expenses of the past Miss Softball season.  
Dinners will be \$2.50 for adults and \$2 for children.  
Anyone wanting to donate food, time or money to the program may contact Linda Williams at 928-5096.

**SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED!**  
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**The Merkel Mail**

**Carriker Food Store**

**Home State Bank**

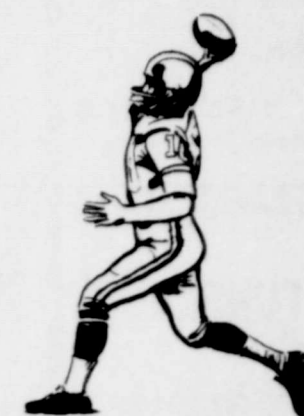
**Wylie Shamrock**

advertisements will not be recognized.



# GO BADGERS

## FOOTBALL 1976 FOOTBALL 1976



### Dallas Cowboys 1976 Schedule

#### LEAGUE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Kickoff (Dallas Time)
Sun., September 12	PHILADELPHIA	1 p.m.
Sun., September 19	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Sun., September 26	BALTIMORE	3 p.m.
Sun., October 3	at Seattle	1 p.m. (3 p.m.)
Sun., October 10	at New York Giants	1 p.m. (noon)
Sun., October 17	at St. Louis	8 p.m.
Sun., October 24	CHICAGO	1 p.m.
Sun., October 31	at Washington	4 p.m. (3 p.m.)
Sun., November 7	NEW YORK GIANTS	1 p.m.
Mon., November 15	BUFFALO	8 p.m.
Sun., November 21	at Atlanta	1 p.m. (noon)
Thu., November 25	ST. LOUIS	2:30 p.m.
Sun., December 5	at Philadelphia	1 p.m. (noon)
Sun., December 12	WASHINGTON	3 p.m.



### 1976 Merkel Badgers Football Schedule

Sept. 3	Baird	Here	8:00	
11	Jim Ned	Here	8:00	Homecoming
17	Roscoe	Here	8:00	
24	Eastland	There	8:00	
Oct. 1	Colorado City	Here	7:30	
8	Ballinger	There	7:30	
15	Winters	Here	7:30	
22	Stamford	There	7:30	
29	Open date			
Nov. 5	Wylie	Here	7:30	
12	Coahoma	There	7:30	

### JUNIOR VARSITY SCHEDULE NINTH GRADE SCHEDULE

Sept. 2	Baird JV	There	7:30
9	Jim Ned NV	There	7:30
	Colorado City 9th	There	7:30
16	Roscoe JV	There	7:30
	Wylie 9th	Here	7:30
Oct. 7	Colorado City 9th	Here	7:30
14	Winters 9th	There	6:00
	Winters JV	There	7:30
28	Winters 9th	Here	6:00
	Winters JV	Here	7:30
Nov. 4	Wylie 9th	There	6:00
	Wylie JV	There	7:30

COACHES— Jerry McLeod, Edgar Cowart, Tony Mauldin  
CHEERLEADERS— Becky Watts, Kathryn Irvin, Marsha Clyburn, Cindy Boone, Gay Plester  
TRAVIS DAVIS, Superintendent      LEE PRESSWOOD, Principal

### JUNIOR HIGH SCHEDULE Seventh-Eighth Grade

Sept. 2	Baird 8th	There	6:00
9	Jim Ned 7th	There	5:00
	Jim Ned 8th	There	6:00
16	Roscoe 7th	There	5:00
	Roscoe 8th	There	6:00
23	Eastland 7th	Here	5:00
	Eastland 8th	Here	6:00
Oct. 7	Colorado City 7th	Here	5:00
	Colorado City 8th	Here	6:00
14	Winters 7th	Here	6:00
	Winters 8th	Here	7:30
28	Winters 7th	There	6:00
	Winters 8th	There	7:30
Nov. 4	Wylie 7th	Here	6:00
	Wylie 8th	Here	7:30

COACHES— Greg Henderson, Russell Gee  
PRINCIPAL— John Cain

**THESE MERCHANTS SUPPORT YOUR TEAM. SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION BY SUPPORTING THEM.**

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Black Pipe Co.

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Mansfield Farm & Ranch Supply

Jack South Grain

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Merkel Drug

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National Bank

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Luskey's Western Store  
Abilene

Wylie Truck Terminal  
and Shamrock Cafe



# Round Rock honors Breaux

The Round Rock newspaper recently honored a former Merkel resident in its Mainstream column written by Ken England.

Here's the article:  
In 1974 Eddie Breaux was recognized nation-wide as the outstanding marketing representative for Trinity Universal Insurance Company. Edwin Earl Breaux was born at Abilene on December 11, 1934. His father is Frank Breaux, former manager for the Lone Star Gas Company in Merkel.

Eddie got all of his public school education at Merkel, Texas, where he graduated from high school in 1953. While in high school, he played offensive half and defensive safety on the football team. He also played basketball and was third baseman on the baseball team. In track, he specialized in half mile and mile runs, and was part of the mile relay team that won district three years in a row. In 1953 he ran the mile in the state meet at Memorial Stadium.

After high school, Eddie attended Abilene Christian

College majoring in physical education. There he ran the middle distances and cross country. Later he spent several years in the men's clothing business in Midland.

Following this, he enrolled in insurance marketing courses at Louisiana State University, and in 1966 went to work for the Trinity Universal Insurance Company. He was stationed at Lubbock as marketing representative with the job of calling on company and independent agents to help them with production. In 1970 he was sent to Corpus Christi and in 1971 became production manager for the company's Austin office.

In 1973 Mr. Breaux was recognized as the outstanding marketing representative in the Austin area of the Texas Field Men's Association, and he served as the association's vice president that year. In 1974 he was recognized as the outstanding marketing representative in Texas, and served as the organization's president for two years. In that same year he received national recognition by his company.

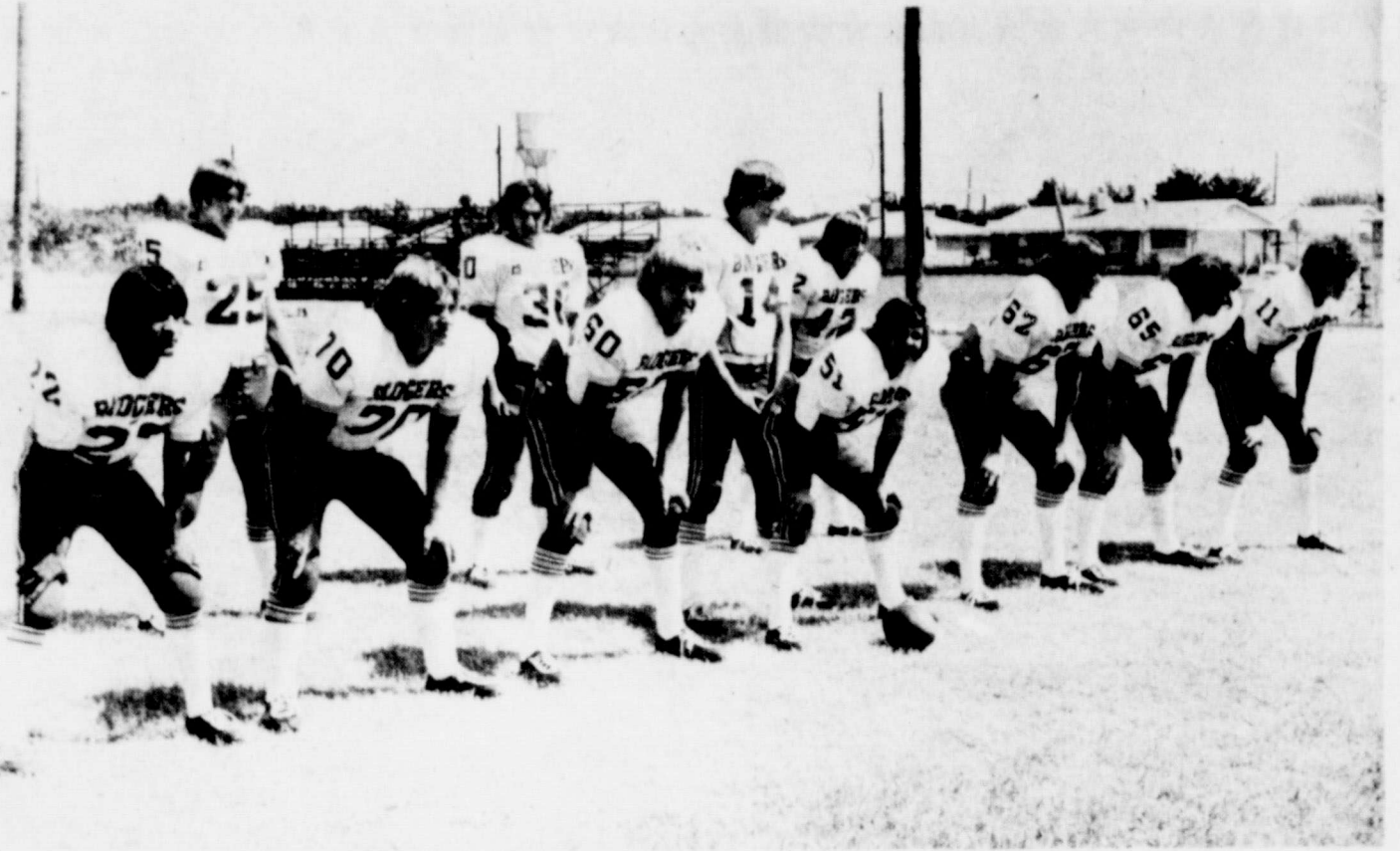
tion by his company.

In 1957 Eddie and the former Miss Janice Jones of McCamey were married. When Mr. Breaux was assigned to the Austin office, the Breaux's chose Round Rock because of the small town atmosphere and the good school system. While they were living in Corpus Christi, Mrs. Breaux began working in the insurance business. Since coming to Round Rock she has purchased a partnership in the Pennington Insurance Company in Georgetown which she now manages.

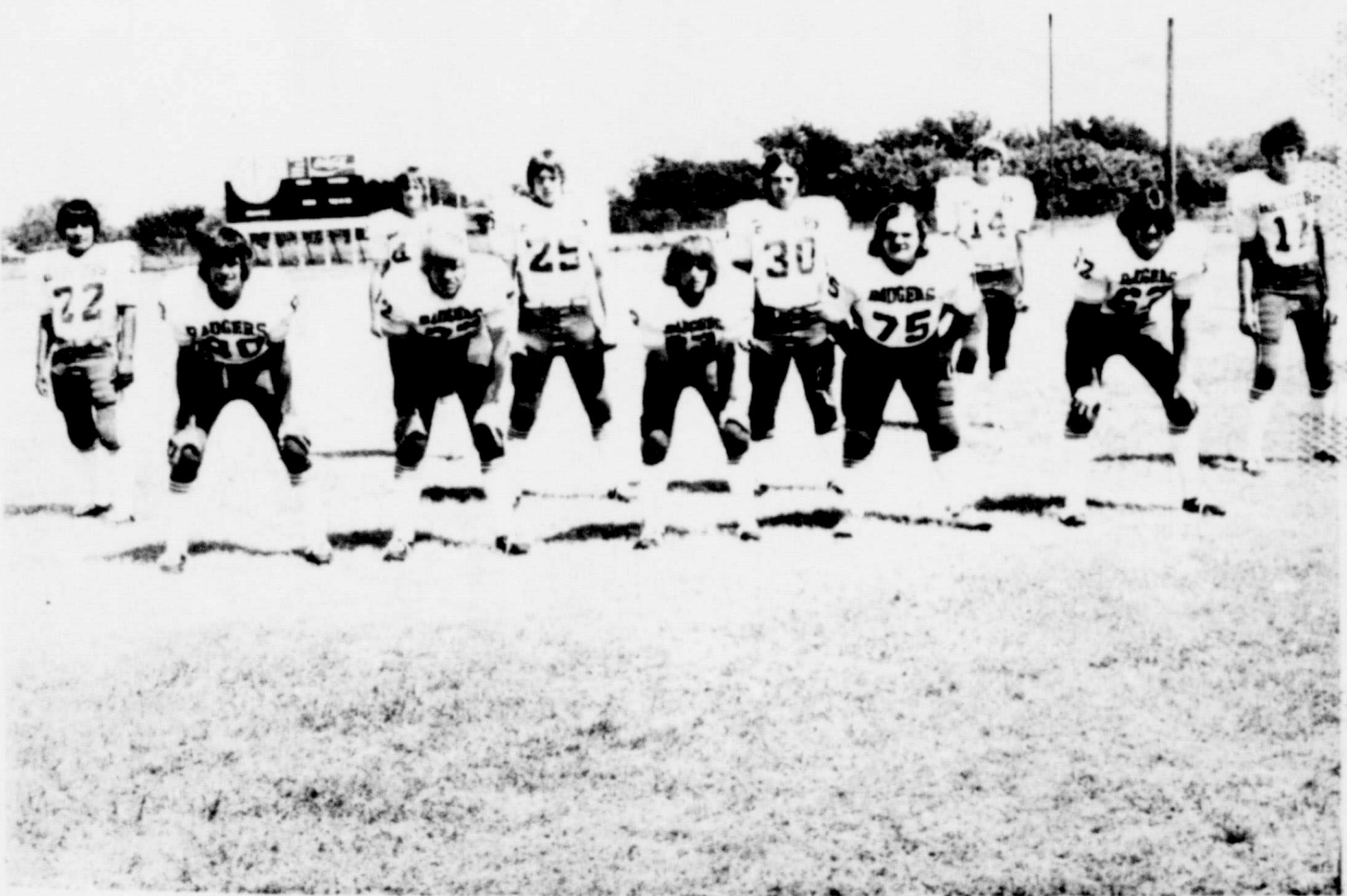
Eddie is actively interested in boy's sports; he has coached Little League and worked with the Little League All Stars. He has also coached Pop Warner football and went with his team to the Darrell Royal Bowl where the Round Rock team won the division title.

Mr. Breaux was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Fred Bradley as city councilman, and in 1975 he was elected to that post. Looking forward, he sees Round Rock moving out of the "bedroom town" category to become a "viable community on our own."

The Breaux's are members of the Round Rock Booster Club, and he has served as vice president of that organization. The Breaux's and their four children are members of the Round Rock Church of Christ.



OFFENSIVE STARTERS--Members of the Merkel High offensive starting unit are left to right John Biera, Mike Keith Shields and Brad Pursley. In the backfield are Ricky Howes (25), Keith Austerman (30), David Pfeister (14) at center, Garth Doan, Bart Whisenhunt at center, Roger Doan, quarterback and Larry Smith (42).



DEFENSIVE STARTERS--On the defensive starting unit for Merkel High's Badgers are left to right Grant Murrell, Brad Pursley at linebackers and Larry Smith and David Glen Bourne, Mark Shaw, Dwayne English and Roger Doan Pfeister at safety.

## HERO Club news

The HERO (Home Economics Related Occupations) club held their first meeting of the school year on Friday, August 27. The club ordered HERO shirts, discussed fund raising projects, and elected the HERO officers for the 1976-1977 school year. The officers include: President-Mike Henry; Vice-President-Judy Diltz; Secretary-Cherie Aiken; Treasurer-Saadia Harris; Sgt. of Arms-Sherry Collins; Program Chairman-Becky Rister. Refreshments prepared included ice cream and cookies. Others attending were Kathy Dason, Crystie Gardner, Teresa Griffith, Dana James, Kristi Nease, Carolyn Ross, Doug Roysden, Suzette Santee, and Deborah White. HERO sponsor is Mrs. Mary Grimes.

## Art Association

The Merkel Art Association elected officers for 1976-77 year at a recent meeting. New President is Pat Neff, Vice-President Ann Doan, Secretary-Treasurer Ruth Hogan, Reporter Elizabeth Hicks and Historian Ruth Cox.

Artist of Month were featured last year at Farmers and Merchants National Bank in Merkel and the group also is planning to make an exhibition in the near future.



Freezing decreases onion flavor, increases the flavor of garlic and spices.

The whole Emergency Medical Services System in Merkel is dependent on getting immediate care to the critically ill and injured.

In some cases the few minutes that elapse before professional emergency technicians arrive could mean a great deal of difference in the care and condition of a patient.

For this reason the more people who have emergency medical care training, the safer the man on the street.

The American Red Cross offers courses in First Aid. In the event of an accident around the home, on the ranch, or in the middle of town-the Red Cross-trained citizen can render first aid until an ambulance arrives.

For more information on services offered by the Red Cross, contact the Abilene Chapter of the American Red Cross by calling (915) 677-2622.

Also the American Heart Association (AHA) offers an 8-hour course on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). This training enables someone to help a cardiac patient in the event of a "heart attack."

## Cothern trains

Cadet Douglas C. Cothern, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold T. Cothern of Route 1, Merkel, recently completed a U.S. Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps field training encampment at McConnell AFB, Kansas. During the encampment, cadets receive survival and small arms training and aircraft and aircrew indoctrination. They also have the opportunity to observe careers in which they might wish to serve as Air Force officers. Cadet Cothern is a student at Texas A & M University.

## Feeder cattle

Things aren't too bright for the feeder cattle market, at least for the remainder of 1976, says a livestock marketing specialist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Feeder prices are expected to weaken into the fall and winter due to continued weakness in fed cattle prices, big feedlot losses, no major drop in sight for feed-grain prices, a big supply of feeders still available, and more competition from other meats. Choice feeder steers in the 600-700-pound range will likely move to the low \$30's by October, with many feeders moving to slaughter during that period.

## Fall pastures

Perennial grass pastures should be fertilized now for increased fall production and quality, points out a forage and turfgrass specialist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Most grasses have plenty of time to grow, and the forage can be utilized for grazing or hay or left standing and grazed after frost. Moisture must be available for grass growth, and the eastern two-thirds of the state has a 50 to 80 per cent chance of receiving at least two inches of rain during September and October. Also, there is still time to make top quality hay and enter samples in the State Hay Show to be held October 2 at the Harold Green Farm near Austin. All entries should be sent to the Travis County Extension office by September 15.

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By Pat Castille

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY D. A.**

YOUR PLUMBER FRIENDS PAT & IKEY

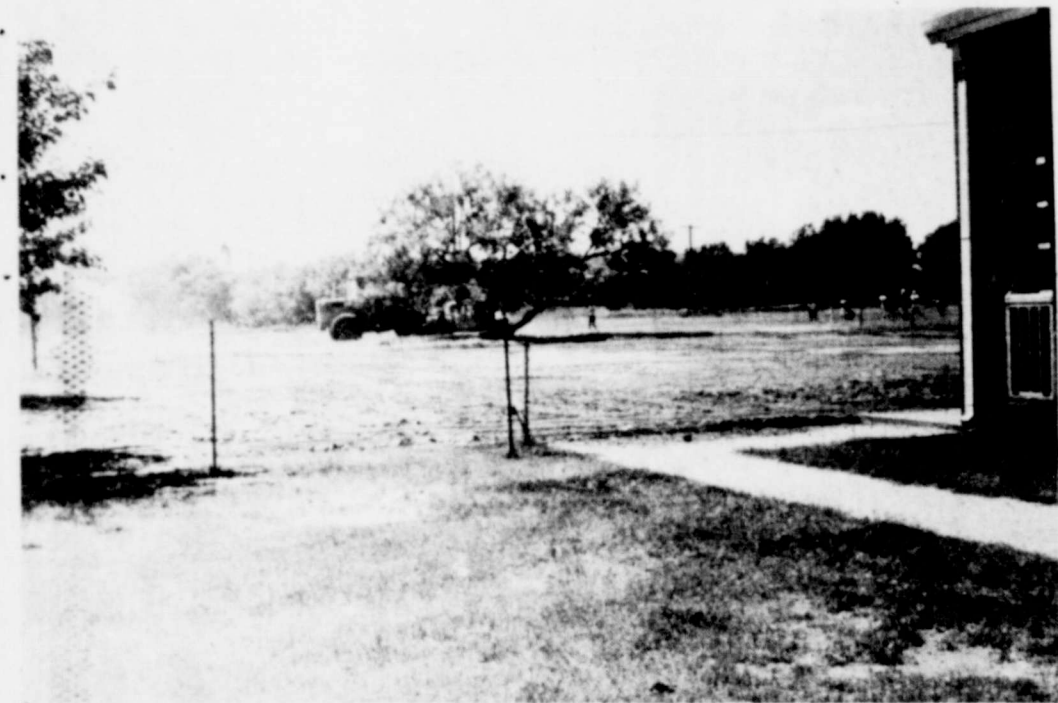
HIGGINBOTHAM BARTLETT





**REPAIR STANDS**--Members of the Trent High School Agriculture Mechanics class are busy this week getting the football stadium seats rebuilt in time for Friday's opening contest. The students aligned and welded railings and placed

new seats on the stadium foundation. The class under Rocky King will study farm structures, welding, motor mechanics and soil and water conservation. There are seven in the class. Kenny Nancy, Rocky Bryan and Jimmy Adams take their turn as King watches.



**CONSTRUCTION STARTS**--Work started last week on the new classroom facilities at Trent as workmen began leveling and dirtmoving operations south of the school.

**Riding Club news**

The Merkel Riding Club held its weekly play night Saturday August 28 at the arena. This was the last night for points for 76. Results were: Western Pleasure (12 and under)-1. Rodney Carroll, 2. Kevin McLernon, 3. Sherri Williams, 4. Mike Dokey and 5. Eddy Sparks.

(13-17)-1. Rebecca Sipe, 2. Ann Melton, 3. Vicki Campbell, 4. Penny Hatfield and 5. Norma Frazier.

(18 and over)-1. Barbara Whisenhunt, 2. Elby Frazier, 3. LaVenna Vaughn, 4. Cindy Sipe and 5. Jan Beck.

Barrels (12 and under)-1. Rodney Carroll, 2. Sherri Williams, 3. Eddy Sparks, 4. Dana Pursley and 5. Mike Dokey.

(13-17)-1. Ann Melton and Rebecca Sipe (tie), 2. Jan Melton and Norma Frazier, and 3. Vicki Campbell.

(18 and over)-1. Elby Frazier, 2. Patricia Boyd, 3. Barbara Whisenhunt, 4. LaVenna Vaughn and 5. Lynn Dokey.

Flags (12 and under)-1. Lisa Dokey, 2. Rodney Carroll, 3. Dana Pursley, 4. Sherri Williams and 5. Candace Henslee.

(13-17)-1. Sherri Frazier, 2. Ann Melton, 3. Norma Frazier, 4. Jan Melton and 5. Vicki Campbell.

(18 and over)-1. Patricia Boyd, 2. Elby Frazier, 3. LaVenna Vaughn, 4. Lynn Dokey and 5. Charles Hatfield.

Poles (12 and under)-1. Rodney Carroll, 2. Eddy Sparks, 3. Sherri Williams, 4. Mike Dokey and 5. Lisa Dokey.

(13-17)-1. Clyde Carroll, 2. Sherri Frazier, 3. Ann Melton, 4. Norma Frazier and 5. Rebecca Sipe.

(18 and over)-1. Barbara Whisenhunt, 2. Patricia Boyd, 3. Don Simpson and 4. Lynn Dokey.

Boat Race (5 and under)-1. Laura Callas, 2. Traci Boyd, 3. Dawn Henslee, 4. Amy Callas and 5. Amy Sparks.

(6-8)-1. Denese Pursley and 2. Mike Boyd.

The Down Roping-no catch Ribbon Roping-1. Felix Boyd and Jamie Allred, 2. Elby Frazier and Robby Williams and 3. Mike Callas and Laura Callas.

There will be a jack pot roping at the arena Wednesday starting at 8 p.m.

Below is the results of the Merkel Junior Rodeo.

Bareback Riding (16-19)-1. Crig Jackson, Hico; 2. Jessie Sparks, Merkel.

The Down Roping-1. Jim Bob Haley, Abilene-12.87; 2. Ross Birdrick, Coleman-

26.07 plus 10.

(16-19)-1. Raymond Hallabough, Stamford-10.51; 2. John Gust, Abilene-10.65; and 3. Shorty McIlwain, Hamlin-13.81.

Breakaway Roping (12 and under)-1. Alan Davis, Talpa-6.56.

(13-15)-1. Freddie Hernandez, Abilene-2.68 and 2. Billy Dale Haley, Abilene-3.07.

Ribbon Roping (16-19)-1. Billy Dale Haley, Abilene-10.41; 2. Kenwen Denton, Coleman-11.63 and 3. Shorty McIlwain, Hamlin-11.94.

Poles, Girls (12 and under)-1. LaTeshia Kiker, Sweetwater-22.81 and 2. Tracy Miller, Valley Mills-23.85.

Boys (12 and under)-1. Gene Baker, Tuscola-23.09 and 2. Doug Brown, Benjamin-23.41.

Poles (13-15)-1. Debra Morris, Haskell-23.58; 2. Lynn Washburn, Snyder-23.90 and 3. Melinda McGinnis, Roby-24.20.

Poles (16-19)-1. Cheryl Terry, Roby-21.43 and 2. Cindy Tanier, Sweetwater-23.42.

Steers-1. Mark Nolan of Hico, 2. Cindy Nolan of Hico and 3. Gene Baker of Tuscola.

Bulls (13-15)-1. Kelly McLaughlin of Baird, 2. Ronald Shadder of Hico, 3. Randy Shadder of Hico and Seth Smith of Eastland (tie).

Flags Girls (12 and under)-1. Cindy McAdams, Abilene-10.07 and 2. LaTeshia Kiker, Sweetwater-10.46.

(13-15)-1. Amber McLaughlin, Baird-9.68; 2. Kay McDorman, Sweetwater-9.93 and 3. Debra Morris, Haskell-10.00.

(16-19)-1. Cindy Lanier, Sweetwater-9.50 and 2. Deb Cortis, Baird-10.17.

Barrels Girls (12 and under)-1. Cindy McAdams, Abilene-18.04; 2. Lisa Keith, Abilene-18.41 and 3. Lisa Dokey, Merkel-18.43.

Boys (12 and under)-1. Gene Baker, Tuscola-18.37, Girls (13-15)-1. Kay McDorman, Sweetwater-17.77; 2. Lynn Washburn, Snyder-18.04 and 3. Amber McLaughlin, Baird-18.12.

(16-19)-1. Cheryl Terry, Roby-17.40 and 2. Cindy Lanier, Sweetwater-17.92.

Bulls (16-19)-1. Kenneth Black of Hico,

**Mrs. Stephens rites held**

Services for Mrs. Eugene Stephens, 39, of Bakersfield, California, formerly of Merkel and Abilene, who died Saturday, were held Wednesday at Starbuck Funeral Home Chapel in Merkel.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor of First Baptist Church officiated and burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery. Survivors include her husband, Eugene; a son, Warren of Bakersfield, California; a daughter, Lisa of Bakersfield, California; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Whiteaker of Tuscola; three brothers, Thomas Whiteaker of Tuscola and Alton and Marvin Whiteaker, both of Clyde; and two sisters, Mrs. R. H. (Doris) Hicks of Lake Fort Phantom Hill and Joy Brown of Bakersfield, California.

**Economic program set in Abilene**

Among the professional talks for area residents at the 1976 meeting of the Rolling Plains Economic Program: the weather (what's it going to do?) and swine (how's a Crowell producer managing them?).

The scores of persons at the meeting here on September 9 in the Abilene Civic Center will also hear some answers to other questions: who can apply agricultural chemicals? and what about the future of area economic development programs?

Herman A. Propst of Anson, chairman of the executive committee for the Rolling Plains Economic Program (R-PEP), said the annual meeting would have something for everyone, from the formal talks at a general assembly to the information available at seminars.

A \$5 fee for the registration at 8:30 a.m. includes the noon meal, at which John Wright, president of Abilene First State Bank, will talk about agricultural financing in the Rolling Plains.

Seminars are scheduled by the R-PEP Task Force on Cotton, Task Force on Wheat and Grain, Task Force on

**Russell named new principal**

Jacky Russell has been promoted to principal in the Richardson school system. He is a 1957 Merkel graduate and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell of Merkel.

He was a math teacher and assistant football coach and head track coach at Lake Highlands before becoming Junior Unit Principal at Richardson High School.

He also was summer school principal at Lake Highlands. Russell has been in the education field 16 years and this is his first administrative position.

Also, Elbert Harp, executive director of the Grain Sorghum Producers Association at Lubbock; Bill Nelson, executive vice president of the Texas Wheat Producers Association at Amarillo; Charles Bragg of the National Cotton Council at Memphis, and John Mathews, Abilene rancher representing the National Association of Land Owners; Dr. Dale A. Lovelace, Extension Service agronomist, and Dr. Gilbert R. Hollis, Extension swine specialist.

**4-H Club news**

The Merkel 4-H Club met at the Jack Boone home August 26.

The following new officers will begin their duties in September: President-Tonya Moore, Vice President-Mark Bland, Secretary-Cathy Holloway, Reporter-John Townsend and Council Delegate-Cindy Boone.

The evening was spent making plans for the club entry in the Educational Booth of the West Texas Fair. Those members present were Tonya Moore, Maury Moore, Mark Bland, John Townsend, Cindy Boone, Jay Gibson, Vicki Michael and Lee Reddin and Cathy Holloway. Adult leaders present were Mrs. Jerry Gibson, Mrs. John Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reddin, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Moore, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Boone.

All members are urged to be getting their West Texas Fair Entries together as they are to be entered September 8. This includes any needlework, canned goods, hobbies and crafts they may have completed the past year.

The next meeting will be a covered dish supper at Stith Community Center Monday at 4 to work on the Education Booth for the Fair. The following evening will be the regular monthly meeting at 7:30 at Stith. At this time Joe Wilson, our county agent, will be the guest speaker, and all members are urged to attend as we will re-enroll all members and any new members are welcome and urged to attend Tuesday.

**Cemetery Donations**

The following have made donations to the Merkel Cemetery Association

Cemetery Association, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Reddin  
Cornelia E. Stanley  
Myrtle C. Paul  
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Stanford  
Mrs. Pet Touchstone and J. B. and Mollie Jordan in memory of Dillie Farmer Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Tucker  
S. P. Stevens  
Mrs. Linnie Martin  
Mary L. Sloan  
Mr. and Mrs. Price Mitchell  
H. H. Teaff  
Mr. and Mrs. George Starbuck  
Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Justice  
Jacqueline E. Lininger  
Mrs. Chas. R. Williams  
Mrs. V. P. Tippett  
Mrs. Anna Dunn in memory of Doc and Annie Vaughn  
Mrs. Clyde Sears Sr.  
Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Toombs Dr. and Mrs. Philip T. Weisbach  
Mrs. Wynona Scroggins in memory of Mrs. C. M. Presley  
Rev. and Mrs. Russell McAnally  
Mrs. A. A. Reagan  
Mrs. Leno L. Swafford  
Mr. and Mrs. Pat Cypert in memory of Doc Vaughn  
George P. and Louise Woodard  
Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Clark  
Mrs. J. C. Hoops  
Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Swafford  
Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Reese  
Johnny Sears Snyder  
Mrs. Mary Jo Leverett  
Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Pirkle  
Mrs. Lola Pyle  
Mr. and Mrs. E. Yates Brown  
Mrs. Clarence R. Collins  
Mrs. Joe R. Kisinger  
Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Parsons  
Mrs. M. E. Herron

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rhoden  
Mrs. L. D. Sumner  
Mr. and Mrs. Luther J. Pence  
Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Murphy in memory of Dillie Farmer  
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Windham  
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Wozencraft  
Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Thornton in memory of Ollie Skidmore and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thornton  
H. A. Vick  
Martha White  
Mr. and Mrs. Billy C. Young  
Lance Sears  
Mr. and Mrs. Bertram H. Mayes  
Grace, J. W. Tipton  
N. B. Teaff  
Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Shelton  
Mary Collins, et al  
Mrs. John Toombs in memory of Dillie Farmer  
Mrs. D. W. Slegitz  
David Tarpley Estate  
Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Tarpley  
W. D. Ramsey in memory of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ramsey  
Mr. and Mrs. Wren Durham in memory of Doc Vaughn  
Edith Perry  
C. Roy and Hazel Stevens  
Mrs. F. G. Sears  
Troy Sloan  
Bennie Windham  
Inez V. Smith  
A. C. Terry  
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Warren in memory of Homer Finch  
H. B. Robertson  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Reddin  
Mr. and Mrs. David Gamble in memory of Homer Finch and Doc Vaughn  
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baze in memory of Doc Vaughn  
Ernest Newsom  
Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Noster  
M. E. Ryals  
Lloyd Walker in memory of Doc Vaughn  
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Witcher

**Stanford's Electronics**  
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C.B. RADIOS AND SUPPLIES  
123 KENT MERKEL 928-5762

**SEPTEMBER SPECIAL SALE at CRAWFORD'S**

**MEN'S WESTERN SUITS** VALUES TO \$12.99 **\$9.99**

**MEN'S and BOY'S TANK TOPS** VALUES TO \$4.99 **\$1.99**

**MEN'S 100% NYLON SHELL JACKET** INTERLINING 100% POLYFOAM **\$12.99**  
WARM, WASHABLE  
WATER REPELLENT REG. \$14.99

**JUMPSUITS** VALUE TO \$15.00 **\$11.39**

**SPORT COATS** \$55.00 VALUE **\$29.99**

**MEN'S SUITS** VALUE TO \$80.00 **\$55.00**

**LEISURE SUITS** VALUES TO \$40.00 **1/2 PRICE**

**MEN'S DRESS SHOES** VALUE TO \$27.99 **\$13.99**

**TRACK SHOES** \$5.99 VALUE **\$3.99**

**BOY'S MERKEL BADGER T SHIRTS** **\$2.99**

**GIRL'S SADDLE OXFORD** **\$12.99**

**VELVETEEN OXFORDS** **\$8.49**

**LADIES SANDALS** **1/2 PRICE**

**NEW FALL COLORS CALCUTTA GAUZE** yd. **\$1.79**

**100% POLYESTER INTERLOCK** yd. **\$1.99**

**100% COTTON PRINT** yd. **79¢**

**100% POLYESTER DOUBLE KNIT** yd. **\$1.59**

**CRAWFORD'S**  
*Fine Clothing and Shoes for the Family*

Mastercharge 30 day accounts  
135 EDWARDS 928-5612

**HUNTING SEASON IS HERE!**

**SHOTGUN SHELLS**  
12, 16, & 20 GAUGE **\$2.99/BOX**  
(FIELD LOAD)

**22 LONG RIFLE SHELLS 99¢/BOX**

**HUNTING SUPPLIES, GUNS, RIFLES, ETC.**  
AVAILABLE AT REASONABLE PRICES

**WESTERN AUTO**

**It's embarrassing how low we've had to drop our prices!**

**EMMA'S CLOSETES**

**10% Off**

on All M E R C H A N D I S E

Thurs. Fri. & Sat.



*Would You Believe...*

**LOW PRICES Like these**

PRICES GOOD THURSDAY FRI & SAT SEPT. 2-3-4th

EYE DROPS VISINE 5 oz. PKG. **\$1.29**

COFFEE **FOLGERS**

1 LB. CAN **\$1.69** (1 LIMIT)

WITH \$10 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

Armour **TREET**

12 oz. can **98¢**

COOKING OIL **CRISCO**

24 oz. BOT. **79¢**

CHURNGOLD **SOFTOLEO**

LB TUB **45¢**

WOLF **CHILI**

19 oz. CAN **79¢**

PRINGLES **POTATO CHIPS**

TWIN PKG. **79¢**

GILLETTE THIN RED PKG. 4 ct PKG. **BLADES 29¢**

HEINZ KOSHER POLISH QT. JAR **PICKLES 73¢**

INST. TEA 3 oz. JAR **LIPTON \$1.29**

**MIRACLE WHIP**

3 LB. CAN **\$1.29**

**CRISCO KOOLAID FLOUR**

Sweetened 32 oz. CAN Asst. EA. **\$1.29**

**Frozen Foods**

PATIO MEXICAN DINNERS ASST. EACH **53¢**

MORTON 8 OZ POT PIES 2 FOR **49¢**

MORTON DONUTS GLAZED JELLY BOX **63¢**

FREE 2 32 OZ BOTTLES COKE COLA

When You Buy 4 32 OZ BOTTLES Mr. PIBB **98¢** PLUS DEPOSIT

GLADIOLA 5 LB BAG **63¢**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH HOMO MILK GAL JUG **\$1.53**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH BUTTER MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN **73¢**

KING SIZE **JOY 93¢**

GALLON JUG **CLOROX 79¢**

NORTHERN **TISSUE 69¢**

4 ROLL PACK

DEL MONTE SLICED OR CRUSHED PINEAPPLE 1/2 CAN 2 FOR **79¢**

VAN CAMPS 300 PORK & BEANS 2 FOR **53¢**

HUNTS SAUCE SPAGHETTI PINT JAR **59¢**

LIBBYS 46 oz. TOMATO JUICE CAN **49¢**

HUNTS 2 1/2 CAN PEACHES 2 FOR **98¢**

DEL MONTE W K. GOLDEN 303 CORN 2 FOR **63¢**

DEL MONTE 303 SPINACH 2 FOR **49¢**

SKINNERS THIN 12 oz. SPAGHETTI EA **33¢**

GRIFFINS 18 oz. JAR BARBQ SAUCE **53¢**

WELCHS 20 oz. ASST. JELLY **69¢**

LIPTON MAKE A BETTER BURGER ASST. BOX. **43¢**

BETTY CROCKER CAKE MIX STIR N FROST BOX **69¢**

KEEBLER Choc. Drops & C.C. Biggs COOKIES BAG **73¢**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH **LOWFAT MILK** GAL JUG **\$1.43**

**PEARS BARTLETT** LB **29¢**

RED DELICIOUS LARGE APPLES LB. **39¢**

ITALIAN PRUNES LB **25¢**

TEXAS NEW CROP YAMS LB **23¢**

FRESH CORN RUSSET SPUDS 2 EARS FOR **19¢**

10 LB BAG **79¢**

**How About a STEAK-OUT!**

CHOICE HEAVY BEEF FAMILY STYLE **89¢** LB

HORMEL BL **BACON WIENERS SAUSAGE** LB **\$1.59**

HORMEL BL **79¢**

HORMEL BL **85¢**

LITTLE SIZZLER PKG

FRESH **GROUND BEEF** LB **59¢**

HORMEL ALL MEAT **BOLOGNA** LB **98¢**

CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN **STEAK** LB **\$1.49**

**PIMENTO CHEESE** LB **\$1.59**

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS SHOP AND SAVE

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more

**CARSON'S SUPER MARKET**

MERKEL, TEXAS FRESH VEGETABLES

FREE DELIVERY MON WED FRI BEST MEATS IN TOWN