



Santa and slightly interested friend

Lambda Beta, Yaddow first in Christmas parade

Merkel's Christmas parade was a sure hit with everyone. It was an especially great time for the youngsters who were on hand to greet Santa Claus. They followed him around the parade route and then later lined up at the Fire Station to sit on his lap and to explain exactly what they wanted for Christmas.

Some of the younger citizens didn't really know what to think of all that white hairy stuff Santa was hiding behind and didn't really think he was too friendly as they were thrust onto his lap.

However, they warmed to the task and before returning to the arms of a smiling parent were sure they had been good

boys and girls this year and Santa will honor their requests.

Meanwhile, the weather was excellent--although a little cold for some members of the parade--for the parade and a large turnout was on hand to help officially open the Christmas season in Merkel.

Lambda Beta was judged best float of the parade and featured some old fashioned carol singers. It was an excellent job and showed the long hours of preparation by the sorority.

Second among the eight floats entered was the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Merkel 4-H Club was third.

Todd Yaddow, dressed as Santa Claus won first place among the bicycle riders while Judy Glasscock riding her horse



Lambda Beta has winning float

Blair water group meets Monday

Monday night is the deadline for joining the Blair Water Supply Corporation without having to pay additional deposits and meter installation charges.

The Blair Water Supply Corporation will meet at the Taylor Electric Co-op building at 7 p.m. The Board of Directors will be present to take the required \$100 deposit to get on the line. After this meeting the fee will increase.

President J. D. Sandusky said the meter locations are needed in order that the engineer can start designing the system.

The Blair WSC includes a zone bounded by Interstate 20 on the north--Tye--707--277 on the east, FM 89 on the South and the White Flat-Nolan communities in Nolan County on the West.

Also present at the Monday meet-

ing will Don Newhouse from the FHA and the directors to answer any questions concerning the new water supply area.

Directors are Justin Sandusky, Lloyd Gilmore, Opal Garner, A. L. Moore, R. E. Clemmer, Frank Brnovak, W. R. Scott of Trent, Wier Joiner of Tye and Pauline Butman of Abilene.

Eason named Noodle homecoming queen

Beula Jones Eason of Anson was honored as Homecoming Queen at the Noodle Homecoming held at the Merkel Lions Club building. She was presented a corsage by the association. Beula started school at Noodle seventy years ago in 1906. It was then the Crossroads school, three rooms, taught by Bessie and Lila Medlin and Myrtle Barclay. Beula Jones and Henry Eason were married in 1917.

Mr. Eason is deceased. They had five children, three of whom are living, Billy of Abilene a Church of Christ minister and Melba Joyce and Lettye Faye.

Honored as Ex Teacher was Mrs. Charles Loveland of Potosi, business and history teacher in 1973 when the school closed. She is presently teaching at Jim Ned in Taylor County. Roger Sosebee was honored as Mr. Ex, he was with the class of 1936. Roger is retired after serving several years as Highway Patrolman and

law officer.

Opal Vick Garner of Merkel was Master of Ceremonies for the occasion. Cline Satterwhite of Abilene presided over the business session. New officers elected for the 1978 Homecoming were: President, Frances Goode Carter; Vice President, Modell Eoff; and Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Vernon Stanley.

Prayer was offered by Ernest Tate of Abilene. Three Sosebee sisters Leona Ferguson of Sterling City, Billie Goodrich of Fort Worth and Louise Woodward of Anson sang, accompanied by their newly released record, songs by all eight Sosebee Sisters, Vicky Vick of Abilene played piano selections.

Two ex-students were from out of state, Eugenia Williams Valgmore of Wickenburg, Arizona and Enola Simpson May of Gonzales, Louisiana.

In closing, Andrew Wheeler of Anson gave some thoughts of early days in Noodle.



Beula Jones Eason, Anson

THE MAIL



By Carl Dingler

There's nothing like a Christmas parade, the arrival of Santa and the decoration of a Christmas tree to get one in the spirit of things.

That, and the arrival of more winter looking weather. Now, if I only had all the shopping chores out of the way.

It is this time of season that I'm especially happy to be in a community the size of Merkel. There isn't the constant hassle of traffic and shoulder-to-shoulder people running over you to snatch and curse as they vey for parking spaces and gifts.

Yes, it is much easier to be in the Christmas mood when one doesn't have to fight such a fast, hectic pace of living. Just don't understand what it is all those people living in the big cities see in their way of life--if living is what one wishes to call it.

Certainly, they must feel it is the only way they can

Noodle revival set

The Noodle Baptist Church will hold a weekend revival Saturday and Sunday.

The church is located 12 miles north of Merkel on FM126. Saturday services start at 7 p.m. and Sunday services are 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

W. O. Williamson of Artesia, New Mexico will be the preacher for the revival with Jerry Sanders in charge of music.

Williamson was formerly a pastor of churches in the Mitchell-Scurry Association before moving to New Mexico.

City Council meets Dec. 10

The Merkel City Council will change its regular meeting December 10 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. in order to open bids for the proposed \$30,400 Water System improvements project.

The Council is taking sealed bids until 2 p.m. December 10.

Other regular business on the agenda also will be taken care of at this regular meeting.

School holiday schedule

Merkel and Trent students will get two weeks vacation for the Christmas holidays.

School will let out December 17 and will resume Monday, January 3.

make a living or that they can make enough to retire to the country. Guess, we have "retired" early, without the funds of course.

Still, it is really great to be able to accept the joys of Christmas and friends without the feeling of having to rush. Have a happy holiday season.

Nearly everyone has attended Six Flags amusement park. Well, if you attended this year, you know how crowded it was. No wonder. Attendance was up 7 per cent over the previous year with 2,277,006 counted. And, there have been 29,217,532 attending since the park opened in 1961.

Park officials report work has started for the 17th season which begins in mid-March. There will be a new major thrill ride, an addition to the show lineup and some structural changes to give the Park a look of newness.

Taken from here and there:
Do you paw the ground while waiting for a bus, an appointment, or in a queue? Subtract ten years.

Do you run up and down stairs? Begin getting estimates now for the installation of a new heart. They are in short supply and you may have to manage with the one you have worn out.

Do you relax and enjoy the scenery when you're a passenger? If you share the driver's tension, subtract ten years. Do you sprint to catch the bus immediately after eating? It is a guaranteed method of acquiring a stroke, if you have always wanted one.

Do you blow your top and sizzle over like a coffee perculator? It's your blood pressure; enjoy it!
Do you play a few sets of tennis on a hot afternoon as you did when you had hair? Keep enough ready cash in the house so your wife can purchase a complete new black outfit on short notice.

Do you manage with just a few hours of sleep each night? The cemetery is very quiet and restful; you'll catch up over eternity.

Do you eat what you like whenever you feel the urge regardless of calories and vitamin specifications? Hospitals now have waiting lists, so make your reservation in advance to enjoy their blue plate gruel special when your stomach refuses to cooperate.

If you have said "No" to all the above questions; you do not belong in this generation.

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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
MEMBER 1975

The Merkel Mail

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GARAGE SALE-Monday December 13th through Monday December 20th, 1526 Heath. Also sell shelled pecans, \$2.00 lb. 928-5443. 42-1tc

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Nursing care with elderly couple, 55-4-7827, Tuscola, after 6 p.m. 41-2tc

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HELP WANTED, Needed immediately relief and fulltime LVNs. Please apply in person, Starr Nursing Home, Merkel. 42-1tc

FOR SALE

FOR SALE-1970 V. W. window van with 3 seats-1,000 miles on new motor. Less than 100 miles on new rear end. C. V. joints guaranteed 6-months or 5,000 miles and like new inside. 1965 long wide, automatic and air Chevrolet pick-up, 928-5324 after 4:00. 42-1tc

FOR SALE-New Zealand Reds, Whites, and Blacks. Good show rabbits, Jody Pittman, 3249 Melinda Lane, Abilene or call 672-9654. 40-4tp

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Ladies purses make nice Christmas gifts. Have several made up in different colors, \$5.00 & \$10.00 each. 403 Runnels or call 928-5940. 42-2tc

WANT TO BUY: baby crib and mattress. Call 928-5319. 42-1tp.

CARD OF THANKS

OUR HEARTFELT Thanks to all who extended comforting sympathy and help in our recent sorrow. For the beautiful floral offerings, and other kindnesses, we are deeply grateful.
The Family of Ruth Owens
42-1tc

WE WISH TO THANK Everyone who extended comforting words and help in the recent sorrow of the death of our father Bob Campbell. For the beautiful floral offerings, food, for those that made contributions to cemetery fund and rehabilitation center. Your thoughtfulness shall always be remembered.
The Family of Bob Campbell
42-1tc

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MERKEL VFW POST 5683 MONTHLY REG. MEETING 8:30 P.M.

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

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. Members urged to attend.
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PUBLIC NOTICE

The time of the regular City Council meeting for December 10, 1976 has been changed to 2:00 p.m., with the following items on the agenda:
Opening of Bids and awarding of contract for water system improvement program
Public hearing on community development block grant application for the year 1977
Auditors report
Accounts
Any and all interested persons are urged to attend.
Lou David Allen
Mayor
42-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council for the City of Merkel will hold a public hearing at 2:00 p.m., December 10, 1976, for the purpose of discussing a community development block grant pre-application to address the needs of the citizens of Merkel. A report on the Housing Assistance Program for the City of Merkel will be presented. And all interested parties are urged to attend. Said meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 107 Lamar Street, Merkel, Texas.
Lou David Allen
Mayor
42-1tc

GENERAL MOTORS BEST C. B. REG. \$199.95 NOW \$149.95 SAVE \$50.00 PALMER PONTIAC & GMC

All Members of the MERKEL ART ASSOCIATION AND AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION wish to express their gratitude for the most generous support received from all Merkel Businesses and Individuals during their benefit show on behalf of the AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION held at the MERKEL COUNTRY CLUB December 4, 1976. This show was a tremendous success and all proceeds have been donated to the Lung Association in their continuing fight against lung and respiratory diseases.

Pat Neff, President Ann Doan, Vice-President
Mrs. Jack Hogan, Secretary/Treasurer
Don W. Hensley, Fund Raising Chairman ALAT

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

City of Merkel
107 Lamar Street
Merkel, Texas 79536
Telephone 915-928-4911

To All interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:
On or about December 15, 1976 the above named City of Merkel will request the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL-93-383) for the following project:
Name-City of Merkel Water System Improvement Project
Purpose-Improvement of the public water supply system
Location-City of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas
Cost Estimation-\$81,300.00

An Environmental Review Record respecting the within project has been made by the above named City of Merkel which documents the environmental review of the project. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying, upon request.

The City of Merkel will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Merkel is certifying to HUD that the City of Merkel and Lou David Allen, in his official capacity as Mayor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decisionmaking and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Merkel may use the Block Grant funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following basis: (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer of applicant approved by HUD; or (b) that applicants, environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental process. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to HUD at:
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
AREA OFFICE
2001 BRYAN TOWER
DALLAS, TEXAS 75201

Objection to the release of funds on basis other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after January 1, 1977 will be considered by HUD.
Lou David Allen, Mayor
City of Merkel
107 Lamar Street
Merkel, Texas 79536
Telephone 915-928-4911
42-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
County of Taylor
NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of a certain ORDER OF SALE issued out of the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, of the 8th day of November 1976, by The District Clerk of said Taylor County for the sum of Four Thousand Four Hundred Eighty & No/100,000,000 Dollars and costs of suit, under a Order of Sale, in favor of Allen Hodges in a certain cause in said Court, No. 35,199-A and styled Allen Hodges vs. Walter A. Shed et al, placed in my hands for service, I Jack Landrum as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did, on the 29th day of November 1976, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit:
The West 70 feet of Lot 6 and West 70 feet of the South Half of Lot 5, Block "P" Hughes Subdivision of Lot 4, Block 204, original town of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, and levied upon as the property of Walter A. Shed and that on the first Tuesday in January 1977, the same being the 4th day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., by virtue of said levy and said Order of Sale I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Walter A. Shed.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County, Texas.
Witness my hand, this 29th day of November 1976.
By R. P. Blackley, Deputy.
Jack Landrum
Sheriff Taylor County, Texas.
42-3tc



MISS MERRY CHRISTMASSES--Elected Miss Merry Christmas from Merkel Schools are left to right, Kerrie Jones of Tye Elementary School and Amy Irvin of Merkel Elementary School in front of Alane McGee of Merkel Middle School and Annemarie Rankin of Merkel High School.

Smith, Shaw, Biera first team All-District

Larry Smith has been named to both the offensive and defensive first teams by District 6-AA coaches.

Smith was named at a running back on offense and as a linebacker on defense.

Smith was the only member of the Badger team to be named to the first offensive team.

However, on the second team offense are Roger Doan as a running back, Brad Pursley as a receiver and Glen Braune as a lineman.

Mark Shaw was named to the first team defensive team along with John Biera as a defensive first team back.

The Badgers finished third in District 6-AA with a 7-3 season and 5-2 district record.

Smith scored 10 touchdowns and 11 extra points for 71 points to lead the district in scoring. Doan scored 18 points on three touchdowns during the year.

Shaw was outstanding on defense and Biera was one of the key safety men and was a constant threat on defending on kickoffs and in stopping punt returns. The All-District teams:

Offense-1st Team
Quarterback-Ray Torres, senior, Colorado City.

Running backs-Don Earl, senior, Stamford; Larry Smith, Merkel, senior; Ken Kelso, senior, Coahoma; Gary Hulme, sophomore, Colorado City.

Receivers-Bill Harrell, senior,

Stamford; Pete Parham, senior, Colorado City; Benny Arispe, senior, Colorado City.

Linemen-Jim Jordan, senior, Colorado City; Kevin Herm, senior, Colorado City; Terry Don Roberts, junior, Coahoma; Kenny Fryrear, senior, Coahoma; Phillip Colburn, junior, Winters.

Offense-2nd Team
Quarterback-Bryan Tabor, senior, Stamford.

Running backs-Jim Bob Phillips, senior, Coahoma; Jimmy Chapman, senior, Winters; Roger Doan, senior, Merkel; Frank Sanchez, junior, Colorado City.

Receivers-Brad Pursley, junior, Merkel; Allen Ritchey, senior, Ballinger.

Linemen-Ruben Ornelas, senior, Colorado City; Billy Smith, senior, Coahoma; Benny Herman, senior, Stamford; Tom DeBerry, junior, Wylie; Glen Braune, senior, Merkel.

Defense-1st Team

Linemen-Bobby Fryar, senior, Coahoma; Jackie Ellis, senior, Colorado City; Steve Belvin, senior, Colorado City; Phillip Colburn, junior, Winters; Mark Shaw, senior, Merkel.

Linebackers-Ruben Ornelas, senior, Colorado City; Ken Kelso, senior, Coahoma; Greg Haley, senior, Ballinger; Larry Smith, senior, Merkel.

Backs-Tim Greenfield, junior, Coahoma; Wayne McKee, senior, Colorado City; John Biera, senior, Merkel; Rast Rosenquist, senior, Stamford.

Trent girls capture crown

Trent High's girls basketball team will go after another tournament championship when they travel to Hermleigh Thursday.

The girls won the Jim Ned tournament last week, beating Jim Ned, 54-35, Merkel, 37-36 and Winters, 67-43.

Robbie Freeman led Trent scoring with games of 34, 20 and 38 points and joined Brenda Griffith on the All-Tournament team.

The girls also defeated Highland, 55-44 with Freeman scoring 31 to make up for an earlier loss to Highland. Meanwhile the boys lost to

Highland, 53-45 with Rocky Bryan scoring 23 points.

In the Jim Ned tourney Trent boys lost to Jim Ned, 81-47 as Bryan and Alan Morris each had 18 and were eliminated by Woodson, 44-38 with Bryan scoring 20.

Trent was to play at Hawley Tuesday before meeting Hermleigh Tuesday in first round tourney action. Trent girls play at 7 p.m. and the boys at 9 p.m. The tourney continues Friday and Saturday.

Tuesday Trent then hosts Hawley at 7 p.m. in boys and girls games before taking a break for the Christmas holidays.

First game after the holidays will be December 30-31 and January 1 in the Hawley Holiday tourney.

Also, a junior high game with Lueders-Avoca has been rescheduled for Trent, January 3.

Merkel schools in new book

Merkel schools' shaky, but determined beginning, is discussed in a chapter of a new book published by the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers of Austin.

The chapter on Merkel is taken from a book published by Mrs. H. C. Reid of Merkel, noted authority on the history of Merkel Schools.

The book, "Journey From Ignorant Ridge," concerns the early history of schools in Texas.

It is an official Bicentennial project and uses many early-day pictures and stories on the history of early education in Texas. It is the day-to-day drama of schools in Texas in the 1800's.

Girls battle Winters Thursday

Merkel High School's girls take on District 6-AA opponent Winters Thursday, starting at 6:30 p.m. with the JV girls meeting Winters JV. The varsity girls follow the JV contest.

The game had been scheduled for Friday in Merkel's gym but was changed to Thursday to allow Winters to enter a tournament starting Friday.

Coach Pat Penick's crew then meets Colorado City Tuesday for its third district game before the holidays. They then meet Aspermont in the first round of the Aspermont tournament December 16 at 8:45 p.m.

Last week Merkel girls lost to Anson, 36-28 then beat Woodson, 49-42 in first round of the Jim Ned Tournament.

ment. Kandi Ascencio led scoring with 18 for Merkel. In second round combat, Merkel lost to Trent, 37-36, and was eliminated from the tournament. Gayle Teaff had 12 points for Merkel. None of the Merkel team was named all-tournament.

Meanwhile the Junior Varsity was entered in the Divide varsity tournament and captured a title.

They beat Blackwell, 45-20 with Gweyn Tarpley scoring 25 and Cindi Smith adding 15. They then won the championship, edging McCaulley, 31-

30, as Smith scored 15.

Tarpley and Sherry Frazier were named all-tournament.

Merkel girls were to open District 6-AA play Tuesday night at Coahoma.

Badgers open District 6-AA Tuesday

Merkel High School's varsity reached the finals of the Jim Ned tournament last week before losing to Sweetwater's Junior Varsity, 59-52.

It was the second loss in six games for Coach Tony Mauldin's charges. The Badgers travel to Abilene Friday to battle Abilene High's B team at 6:30 p.m. before opening District 6-AA combat Tuesday at Colorado City.

They then travel to Aspermont to play Aspermont in the 7 p.m. first round tournament December 16.

Against Anson, the Badgers worked the press for an easy 51-28 victory. Keith Wolf led Merkel scoring with 12. Brad

Pursley, David Pfeister and Donny Riggan each had 8, Garth Doan 7, Grant Murrell 4, Ricky Howes 3 and Craig Hutchins 1. First round of the Jim Ned

Basketball schedule

THURSDAY--Merkel 9 boys, 5 p.m. Merkel 7, 8 boys at Stamford, 6 p.m. Winters at Merkel High girls, 6:30 p.m.
FRIDAY--Merkel High boys at Abilene B, 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY--Merkel 9 boys at Stamford, 5 p.m.
TUESDAY--Merkel High boys, girls at Colorado City, 4 p.m.
DECEMBER 16--Merkel 8 boys, girls at Rotan, 5 p.m. Wylie at Merkel 9 boys, 5 p.m.
DECEMBER 16--Merkel High boys, girls vs. Aspermont, 7 and 8:45 p.m. in Aspermont tournament.
DECEMBER 16-18--Merkel 7 boys, girls in Buffalo Gap tournament.
DECEMBER 21--Merkel High boys, girls at Eula, 6:30 p.m.
DECEMBER 27-29--Merkel High boys at Hardin-Simmons tournament.

Tournament five Badgers scored in double figures as Merkel beat Woodson 79-56. Pfeister had 14 points and 12 rebounds and Wolf had 14 points and 11 rebounds. Mike Sims also scored 14 points, Riggan had 12 and 5 rebounds, Pursley 11, Doan 4 points and 8 rebounds, Howes 4, Murrell 4 points and 6 rebounds and Randy Cox 2 points.

Next the Badgers beat Jim Ned, 66-57 with Riggan taking scoring honors with 23. Pursley had 10, Pfeister, Doan and Murrell 8, Sims 2 and Howes 1.

Merkel lost the championship to Sweetwater JV, 59-52 after leading by as much as 15 points at one time during the contest. Too, three Badgers fouled out.

Pfeister led scoring with 20. Wolf had 8, Pursley 7, Murrell 6, Riggan 5, Howes 3, Doan 2 and Sims 1.

Badgers beat Abilene B

Merkel High's Badgers scoring the opening goal and led all the way Tuesday night to capture their home opening basketball contest, defeating Abilene B team, 71-61.

The Badgers outscored Abilene B, 23-13 the opening quarter and remained 9-12 points ahead the rest of the way.

The game was erratic at times, especially the third quarter when the Badgers appeared to be tiring and Abilene attempting to put on a faster pace in its bid to catch up.

Too, the game became rougher the second half encouraged by erratic officiating.

Merkel was outscored 14-12 the second quarter but still led 35-27 at halftime. The

Badgers then outscored their opponent 14-13 and 22-21 the final two quarters to capture their fifth win against two losses.

Keith Wolf scored the opening two baskets for the Badgers and went on to get 18 for the game. He also had 9 rebounds and a steal.

Donny Riggan add 18 points, three rebounds and a steal; Brad Pursley had 15 points, 4 rebounds and five steals; David Pfeister scored 10 points, led rebounding with 10 and had two steals; Garth Doan added 8 points, two rebounds and three steals; and Craig Hutchins had two points and one rebound. Ricky Howes had two rebounds and a steal.

Scoring was divided among five Abilene cagers in double figures. McClean led the scoring with 12.

In an earlier game, Merkel's Junior Varsity lost, 86-47, falling behind 26-4 after one quarter.

Scoring for Merkel were Kelly Wolf with 10, Jay Boyd and Mike Davis with 9, Billy Harris with 7, Mike Brady with 6, Terry Criner with 4, Keith Shields with 2.

Next home game for the varsity boys is January 4 when Ballinger comes to Merkel for a District 6-AA contest.

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NINTH STREET GROCERY
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Dallas Cowboys 1976 Schedule

Cowboys 11-2

Date	Opponent	Kickoff
September 12	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
September 19	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
September 26	Baltimore	3 p.m.
October 3	at Seattle	3 p.m.
October 10	at New York Giants	noon
October 17	at St. Louis	3 p.m.
October 24	Chicago	1 p.m.
October 31	at Washington	3 p.m.
November 7	New York Giants	1 p.m.
November 14	at Atlanta	noon
November 21	St. Louis	2:30 p.m.
November 28	at Philadelphia	noon
December 5	Washington	3 p.m.



SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

MONDAY
Fried fish and tartar sauce
Seasoned green beans
Whipped potatoes
Hot rolls
Lemon pudding

TUESDAY
Braised beef tips with brown gravy
Buttered rice
Creamed carrots
Lettuce wedges with choice of dressing
Hot rolls
Chilled sliced peaches

WEDNESDAY
Ranchstyle beans with ground beef
Cabbage pepperelish
Buttered squash
Cornbread
Apple Cheese crisp

THURSDAY
Turkey and dressing with giblet gravy
English peas and cream sauce
Celery sticks
Hot rolls
Jelled cranberry fruit salad

FRIDAY
Beef and cheese pizza
Mixed vegetables
Lettuce and tomato salad with choice of dressing
Fruit float
Orange juice

Former Merkel man honored

Cited for "high caliber performance, which sets an example for other employees," Jerry W. Kitchens of Odessa was named outstanding employee of the third quarter for the McDaniel Company, which supplies and services the energy industry in the Southwest.

President Jerry Ewing made the announcement at the Fall sales meeting in Coleman, as representatives gathered from nine locations in Texas and Oklahoma.

The Merkel native, educated in Snyder, spent 10 years with the Supply Division of Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation before joining McDaniel in 1975.



VFW displays second place float in Saturday parade

SONJA'S BEAUTY SALON

OPEN WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY MORNING
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ALYCE WARREN WILL BE WORKING THURSDAYS IN ADDITION TO HER REGULAR HOURS
CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

ALYCE WARREN AND CATHY GREGORY WILL BE OFFERING A
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PRICE INCLUDES SHAMPOO, SET, HAIR CUT AND COLD WAVE.

SPECIAL GOOD THURS. AND FRI., DEC. 9-10; AND DEC. 13-17.

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GOWNS **\$6.00**

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Scout entry goes in style



Brownie Troop busy singing Christmas carols



Judy Glascock captures second place trophy



Christmas in West Texas float with tumbleweed snowman



Todd Yaddow, as Santa, wins first among cyclist



Every parade has to have some horses



Fire Department entry

School Board to meet

The Merkel School Board will hold its regular meeting Monday night. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Merkel High School.

CHRISTMAS IS HERE!

COME IN AND SEE WHAT SANTA RECOMMENDS!

WATCHES BY BULOVA
DIAMONDS
I. D. BRACELETS
EARRINGS

LOTS OF GIFT ITEMS ALSO

A NEW SHIPMENT OF
HAND CUT LEAD CRYSTAL
WILSON JEWELRY

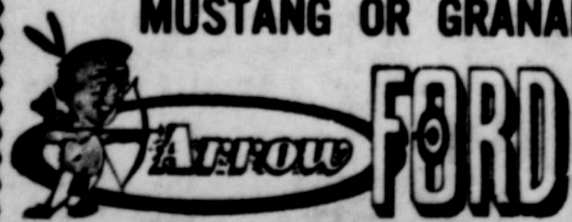
41 EDWARDS

928-5621

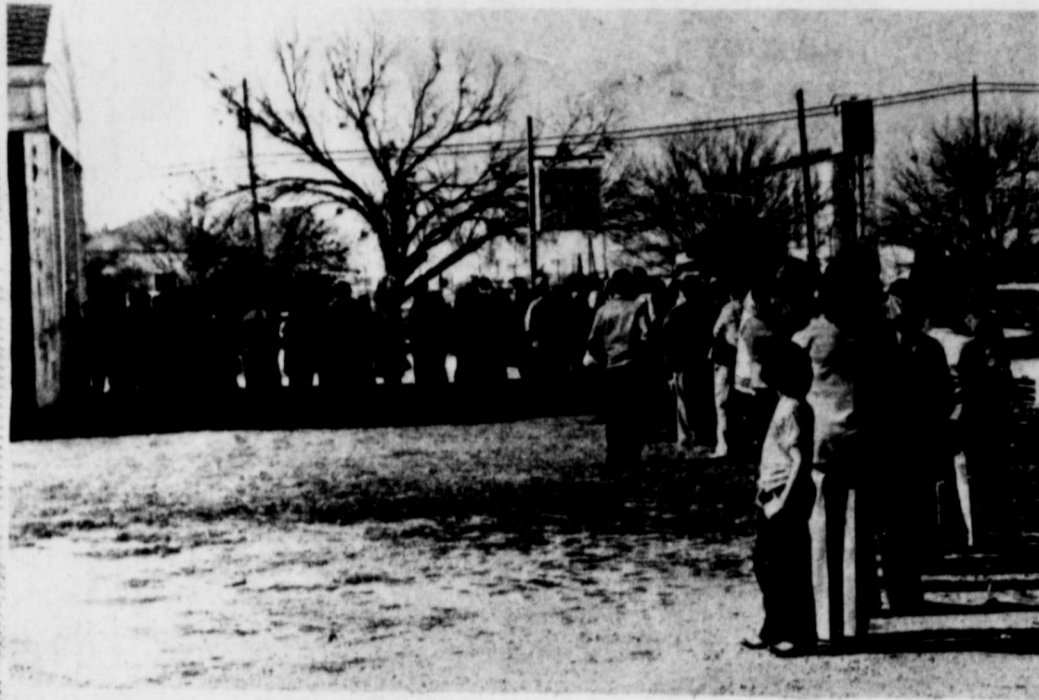
REGISTER FOR A PICK-UP LOAD OF GROCERIES GIVEN AWAY CHRISTMAS EVE

NOTHING TO BUY-NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN-MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE TO BE ELIGIBLE-JUST COME IN NOW AND REGISTER ON OUR SHOWROOM FLOOR

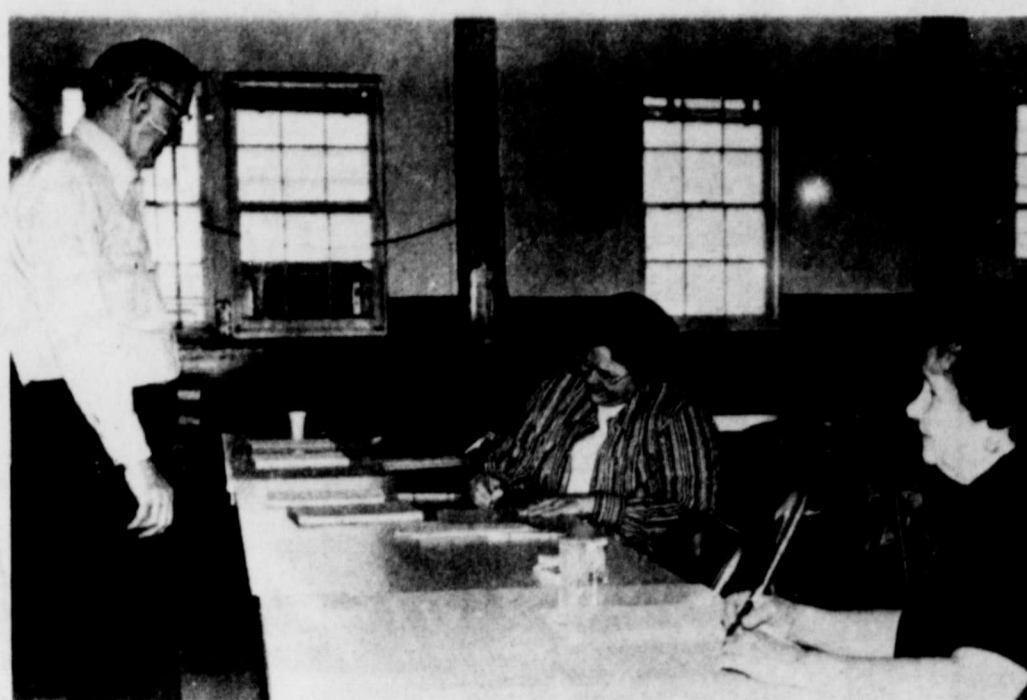
WE ARE ALSO GIVING AWAY A FREE C B RADIO WITH EVERY NEW PINTO, MAVERICK, MUSTANG OR GRANADA WE SELL!



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Long line awaits start of Swine Flu shots at Lions Club.



FIRST IN LINE--Jasper Massey of Merkel who was born in 1898 is the first in line Saturday for the Swine Flu shots as Mrs. J. H. Clark Jr. helps him fill out form and Mrs. Lewis Spratlan waits for second member to register.

Final rites held for Mrs. Peterson

Final rites were held Thursday for Mrs. Albert (Mell) Peterson, 85, of Abilene who died Wednesday in Hendrick Memorial Hospital in Abilene.

Dr. H. O. Wynne, pastor of South Side Baptist Church officiated and burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery of Merkel.

Born April 18, 1891 in Merkel, she moved to Abilene in 1915 and started to work for Abilene State Hospital, now

Abilene State School. She retired in 1959 as a supervisor.

She married Albert Peterson September 8, 1917, at La Junta, Colorado. He died in 1945. She was a member of the South Side Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Walter V. Webb of Abilene; a sister, Naomi Powers of Abilene; a brother, Dent Gibson of Merkel; and a granddaughter, Sharon Webb of Irving.

Cemetery donations

The following have made donations to the Merkel Cemetery Association.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Thaxton
The E. O. Carson Estate

Carson Super Market
Mrs. Harold L. Scott
Cecil Cochran
Mrs. Myrtle A. Buford and Jim Daniels

Mrs. A. B. Gregory
Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Riney
Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Moore in memory of Mrs. R. H. Kingston

Doreas Class of First Baptist Church in memory of G. D. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hudson
J. B. Browning
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. (Bill) Sheppard

Mrs. J. K. Blair
Floy Steward
B. F. Middleton
Nora M. Hendrix
Mae Seago in memory of Nancy Vessel
Don Hensley

Farmers and Merchants National Bank
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hughes, Lou Ella and Ma Mae Hughes, in memory of Mrs. S. O. Owens

Mrs. E. Q. Warren
Vera Ely
Mr. and Mrs. Dent Gibson
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Stanford

Alice Bigham
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Partlow
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Dubree
Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Musser

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Foster
Mrs. John Mansfield
Mrs. Bill M. Stinson
Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Fee
Mrs. A. J. Ford

Magra B. Martin
Don Doan
Mrs. Jack Chenaunt
Mr. and Mrs. Allen L. Cade Jr.

Mrs. Paul West in memory of Ruth Owens
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baze in memory of Mel Peterson and Ruth Owens

Albert and Jewell Criswell in memory of Mel Peterson
Mrs. Dan (Ruth) Reidenbach
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jones
Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Criswell

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Collins
Mr. and Mrs. Troy Dloan
National Credit Union Ad-

ministration in memory of Ruth Owens
Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Winter
Gloria West
Robt. L. and Julia C. Sanders

Virgie Mae Campbell
Ben Butman
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tucker
W. W. Hill

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carr
Alice Glenn Ricks
Mr. and Mrs. Weldon McAninch

Lance Sears
Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Riney
J. D. and Willie Ashby
Mr. and Mrs. Grover Gilbert in memory of Ruth Owens

NOTE: These do not include Special Christmas Memorials which will be run starting next week.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

APPRECIATION

Dear Merkel Mail Editor: Once again it is time to thank our many friends for being so wonderful in contributing to Pioneer Memorial's Lord's Acre Sale.

The weather was just right and we had a real fine crowd for the big supper and sale. Amount received was \$2,334.85.

Thank you so much for the Merkel Mail subscription. They always sell good. May the Lord be near to you and yours.

Sincerely,
Mary Russom
P. S. Plan now to attend next year. You'll enjoy it.

THANKS for help

To "The Editor"
Dear Sir: We are most fortunate, in this community, to have people that have pride in the manner in which their Cemetery is maintained. Our friends include local and out of town residents. The support they render include both time and money.

We would like to call attention to two firms that contribute an unusual amount of time toward this program, to wit: The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, and, The Merkel Mail.

The Farmers and Merchants National Bank, as our receiving depository, donates

Miller in pecan show

Jerry Miller won three second places and a third place in the youth division of the Abilene Pecan Show last week. Miller was third in the cookies division, second in candy, quick loaf bread and cake division.

Chef's Special

By Andy Anderson
Merkel Country Club

Pineapple cheese ball

Today we will see how easy it is to spruce up your holiday parties with a couple of very easy yet very nice appetizers. The first is:

Pineapple Cheese Ball
2 Pkg. (8 Oz.) cream cheese softened

1 can (8 Oz.) crushed pineapple (drained)
2 cups chopped pecans
1/2 cup finely chopped green pepper
2 tablespoons finely chopped onion

1 tablespoon seasoned salt
canned pineapple slices
Marachino cherries
parsley spices
assorted crackers

1. In medium bowl, with fork beat cream cheese until smooth, gradually stir in crushed pineapple, 1 cup pecans, 1/2 cup green pepper, onion and salt.

Attend funeral

Mrs. O. J. Reynolds and Bob attended funeral service at Clyde and burial service at Scranton Thursday of last week for Mr. John Frank Boland of Fort Worth and Eula. Mr. Boland was a cousin of Mrs. Reynolds.

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UP A TREE ABOUT WHAT TO GIVE?
MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EASIER WITH A SELECTION FROM A WESTERN HOUSE
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MERKEL, TEXAS

Scout news
After Troop 218 postponed their camp out for 2 weeks they finally made it. Last weekend 11 brave boy scouts and 1 scoutmaster braved 26 degree temperature Saturday night. Randy Leverich and Willie Townsend cooked for the boy scouts.
Boy scouts going were Scott Cain, Willie Townsend, W. A. Kinder, Randy Martin, Kyle Wolf, Greg Dickenson, Randy Leverich, Michael Tutt, Russell White, Lynn Wade and Roy Johnson; Scoutmaster is Calvin Wolf.
The Boy Scouts would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. John Townsend for letting them camp on their place. Also a thanks to Jimmy Leverich and John Cain for helping with the transportation.

Howard visitors
Visitors in the home of Minnie Howard during the Thanksgiving weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Malvin Howard of Fort Worth, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Howard and boys from Altus, Oklahoma, Sue Hill and children from Dallas, and Beth Ann Prigmore and daughters from Carrabelton.

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LADY LOVE
ALOE VERA COSMETICS VITAMIN E
NEW MERCHANDISE ARRIVING DAILY FOR CHRISTMAS
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE ---
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FREE Christmas Wrapping Service

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DEC. 9-10-11th

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1 LIMIT
WITH \$10 IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

Wm. A. ROGERS SILVERPLATED
SPOON RING
ADJUSTED TO ANY FINGER
REG. \$6.95
NOW ONLY **99¢** EACH
WITH \$3.00 IN TRADE

CONTACT CAPSULES
10 CT. PKG. **\$1.29**

BUNTE ASSORTED KINDS CANDIES
2 FOR **79¢**

WISHBONE DRESSING
FRENCH 8 OZ BOT **49¢**

CALA RIPE 2 1/2 CAN
PEACHES 2 FOR **89¢**
TEXSUN 46 OZ.
ORANGE Juice EA. **53¢**
NIBLETS 12 OZ.
Golden Corn 2 FOR **59¢**
KOUNTY KIST 303
Sweet PEAS 2 FOR **49¢**
BRUCE 303 WHOLE
Sweet YAMS 2 FOR **79¢**
CONTADINA 8 OZ.
Tomato Sauce 2 FOR **33¢**
GRIFFIN 303 DICED TURNIPS &
TURNIP Greens 2 FOR **43¢**
ASSORTED FLAVORS
TOAST'EM BOX **39¢**

NABISCO VANILLA
WAFERS 12 OZ BOX **59¢**

HERSHEYS DARK CHOCOLATE
BAKING CHIPS 6 OZ. PKG. **35¢**

Frozen Foods
WHOLE SUN ORANGE JUICE 12 OZ CAN **39¢**
PATIO ASSORTED Mexican DINNER EA. **53¢**
FLEISCHMANN 16 OZ. Egg Beaters TWIN PACK **89¢**

HEINZ **BAR-BQ-SAUCE** 16 OZ. BOTTLE **59¢**

SNOWDRIFT **SHORTENING** 3 LB. CAN **\$1.33**

FLOUR PARKAY TREET MAYONNAISE KRAFT 16 OZ. **49¢**

GLADIOLA 5 LB. BAG **63¢**
OLEO QUARTERS LB. **43¢**
ARMOUR 12 OZ. CAN **98¢**

I.G. FRESH 10 CT. **BISCUITS** 3 CANS FOR **29¢**

AMERICAN BEAUTY **ELBO RONI** 10 OZ. BAG **29¢**

PRINGLES 32 OZ. **POTATO CHIPS** TWIN PACK **73¢**
COCA COLA 6 PACK **\$1.29** PLUS DEPOSIT

I.G. DAIRY FRESH **HOMO MILK** 2 GAL. JUG **\$1.49** NO DEPOSIT

I.G. DAIRY FRESH **HOMO MILK** GAL JUG **\$1.59** NO DEPOSIT

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

FOREMOST **AVOCADO DIPS** 8 OZ CRTN **49¢**

REGULAR - SUPER **KOTEX** 12 CT. BOX **63¢**

DELSEY **TISSUE** 4 ROLL CRTN. **73¢**

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PORK ROAST FRESH POUND **59¢**



KLEENEX BOUTIQUE **TISSUE** 125 CT. BOX **43¢**
DIAPERS DAYTIME 30 CT. **\$2.19**

KING **TIDE** BOX **\$1.89** 1 LIMIT

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RUSSET **SPUDS** 10 LB. BAG **69¢**

FRESH **SPARE RIBS** LEAN-MEATY POUND **79¢**
PORK CHOPS FRESH END CENTER CUTS LB. CUT LB. 98¢ **79¢**
BACON GOOCH BR POUND **\$1.29**
FRANKS GOOCH BR JUMBO LB. **69¢**
STEAK CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN LB. **\$1.53**
PICNIC SPARE RIBS DECKER WHOLE SLICED LB. 69¢ LB. **59¢**
CHOICE BEEF POUND **55¢**

EX. FCY - ROME **RED APPLES** LB. **29¢**
FRESH **LETTUCE** LB. **19¢**
GOLDEN **APPLES** LB. **29¢**
TEXAS **ORANGES** 5 LB. BAG **63¢**
WAXED **RUTABAGAS** LB. **19¢**

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS SHOP AND SAVE
WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS
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CARSON'S SUPER MARKET
MERKEL TEXAS
FRESH VEGETABLES
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