## The Merkel Mail

Thursday, August 30, 1984...Merkel, Texas
Our 96th Year


The Badgers take off on a sweep in Rotan last Friday. They face Winters here Friday at 6 p.m. in the lasi tune-up before the season.
(Staff photo)
Badgers take on Winters here

The Merkel Badgers will scri- son well last week in a scrimmage scrimmage. The Badgers scored mmage Winters here Friday night at Rotan in which the Badger once on a nine play drive and got beginning at 6 p.m.
Admission to the scrimmage is a bar of soap that will be used
through the year by the MISD athletic department according to head football coach Dick Lepard.
The Badgers opened their sea-

## Booster club raising money

 has met the past two Monday evenings at the high school buil-ding. The next meeting will be The booster club voted to pay the additional cost in order for the athletic department to purchase
color film for filming football ames.
Student council already busy


## City buys computer, sets

## lower tax rate, hears report


The city had been looking for it's own computer system for about a purchase a Texas Insturments computer, business model and went along with city accountant
Billy Clark's reccomendation to Auystin to 0 from an individual in
Austin to run the city water-
sewer-sanitation billins
sewer-sanitation billings, as well
as general ledger accounting for
as gener
the city.
The city awarded the bid of
$\$ 6,240$ for the hardware and the
billing program will cost $\$, 500$ The city is currently coaying $\$ 2,500$. $\$ 6,000$ per year to have their bills computer generated and should pay for the computer system,
software and supplies in savings software and supplies in savings
over the next two yoars. Souncil hears
Comprohensive plan

Council members heard a preentation on the city's compre-
iensive plan funded by a Comensive plan funded by a Comhunity Development Block Grant. he plan looked at city streets,
tilities, housing, historical preervation and population densities ind growth patterns.
The plan was written by Randy landolph, a city planning and Abilene. Randolph showed council nembers numerous maps of the city showing housing and business
distrubution, traffic flow patterns, flood plains, current and projected opulation patterns and maps showing future growth patterns. Bylly Jacobs presented council
with maps showing water distruwith maps showing water distr
oution needs. Jacobs also "Felt jut " kouncil members opinions and alitudes on the negiotiations for a ew wholesale water pur-
shase fontract from the city of Abilene Merkel's contract will expire in March of 1985 . Council membersdid say they would like
for the cliy of Tye to work out for the cily of Tye to work out
their own purchase agreement with Abile h instead of purchasing
water from Merkel and having their usage mhow up on Merkel's Jacobs said if Tye could work
Jent Out their own water purchase with Merkel, our water system should
meet the neede of meet the needs of 3,000 people,
Merkel's projected population in 1995. Merke! wiff have to build an additional above ground or eleva-
tged tank in the future, with a tged tank in the future, with a
capacity of 300,000 to 400,000 , according to Jacoun. According to those reports,
Merkel has a total land area of
$\mathbf{1 , 5 6 7}$ acres with 31.5 per cent being $\mathbf{1 , 5 6 7}$ acres with 31.5 per cent being
used for single family rousing.
ton 704.12 acres are undevelopes. Of
total of 1,148 housing units, 4 wer vacant.
Downtown needs corviderel
vacant
most most critical were 190 additiona parking spaces, demmitio! o
dilapidated buildings fad "".os metic remodeling" of 54 Wuildirgs. Randolph pointed out to courccil
members that members that the compr mensi/e
plan is designed to help pounclplan is designed to help
men to manage the growt of
city, and to be prepared to city, and to be prepared to
increased workloads on works by an increasing



## ALISTSDS

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