

The Post Dispatch

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Dozen injured, two killed in big wreck north of Post

As many as 30 cars and trucks pile-up in thick dirt storm



Firemen, EMTs and other volunteers assisted victims injured in last Thursday afternoon's huge pile-up on U.S. 84 about five miles north of Post. (Photo by Jerry Taylor)



R.L. Simpson (middle) works with EMTs to assist his wife Jimella following the 30 vehicle wreck north of Post on U.S. Hwy 84 last Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Simpson suffered a cut on her ear. (Staff photo by Tim Burnett)

by Sheri Lewis

Jimella Simpson of Post said she has never seen a dust storm quite like the one that blanketed Garza County last week.

Simpson and her husband, R.L., were coming home from Lubbock at around 2 p.m. Feb. 19. Winds gusting in excess of 60 mph rocked the couple's pickup, and visibility was poor and getting worse.

"We noticed the darkness and decided we'd just come home," she said. "When we got to (the area five miles north of Post on US 84), we paced our speed and distance with the car in front of us.... When we came through this big, blinding gust, their taillights disappeared into the dust, and R.L. decided (to pull over). We started pulling over off the shoulder to get over and be safe and we were hit from the rear."

The Simpsons' pickup was one of 27 vehicles involved in a pileup that left two individuals dead and at least 10 injured. The scene, which involved multiple collisions, straddled both the northbound and southbound lanes of the highway.

Jerry Taylor of Post was traveling northbound on US 84 at about the same time Thursday afternoon. As he drove past the caprock, he observed what he described as a "typical sandstorm."

"You could see a block, a block and a half," he said. "Then I hit this spot - it looked darker."

Taylor was involved in a collision with a pickup in front of him. He decided to get out of his car and head for the safety of the bar ditch.

"I know you're not supposed to get out of your vehicle in a situation like that, but no telling how many injuries there would have been if people had stayed in their cars," he said.

While standing in the bar ditch, Taylor watched as another vehicle struck his car from the rear. Reduced visibility restricted his view of much of what was going on, but Taylor said he could hear vehicles crashing into each other up and down the roadway.

Luis Guzman, 55, of Muleshoe and his 55-year-old wife, Tomasa, were traveling together in the same 18-wheeler when their vehicle was involved in a collision with another 18-wheeler, according to Department of Public Safety reports. Luis Guzman, assumed to be the driver of the vehicle, was dismembered in the accident. He died at the scene. Tomasa Guzman suffered extensive injuries. She became unresponsive while being transported to University Medical Center in Lubbock and was pronounced dead at the hospital.

DPS Trooper Lyndon Couch said another accident victim sustained critical injuries, but is expected to make a full recovery.

The names of all of the accident victims were unavailable as of press time.

Simpson said she and her husband sustained "no permanent injuries," but she needed 15 stitches in her right ear after her head hit the window when the couple's pickup was hit. Her husband's head struck the pickup's back window, shattering the glass.

Taylor, who was traveling alone, said he sustained a few bruises as a result of his collision, but "nothing serious."

Simpson said she believes she and her husband were about 10 seconds ahead of what she described as the "big impact."

Taylor said he was directly across from the point of impact between the two 18-wheelers, but was unaware of that collision because of the poor visibility.

Couch was at the DPS regional office in Lubbock when he learned of the accident at about 2:45 p.m. Knowing there was at least one fatality involved and after listening to radio traffic, Couch and his partner, on their way back to Post, requested assistance from other DPS troopers in the area.

Couch said it took more than 20

minutes to get to the accident scene. Much of the last half-mile of his drive was on the shoulders of the roadway. "The highway had pretty much closed itself down," Couch said, noting that many drivers had pulled their vehicles off the highway.

He described the scene as a "massive accident - the biggest mess I ever saw."

Visibility was about 20 feet at the time of his arrival, Couch said, but others at the scene put that figure much lower.

"It dropped down to almost nothing," said Taylor. "And it stayed that way for a while."

"Visibility was less than zero, if that can be," said Simpson. Someone could have been standing in front of our pickup and we couldn't have seen them."

Constable Daniel Yarbro was one of the law enforcement personnel on the scene. He said visibility was so poor with his glasses on that he pulled them off in a move that proved to be a mistake. After working in the blowing sand for much of the afternoon, Yarbro was forced to make a trip to the emergency room that evening after his eyes swelled shut. Medical personnel advised the tissue in his eyes had been "sandblasted," he said, causing temporary blindness. As of Tuesday, Yarbro said his vision had returned but his eyes were still somewhat sore.

DPS troopers and law enforcement personnel from throughout the area assisted at the scene of the pileup. EMS personnel from Post, Slaton and Lubbock responded, as did Texas Department of Transportation personnel, employees of the Giles W. Dalby Detention Center and numerous other volunteers.

A group of reservists with medical training drove up on the scene and volunteered Taylor said. Others with medical backgrounds and at least one minister also offered assistance. "God provided," he said. "It was amazing. If it hadn't been for Him, there might have been more deaths and injuries."

Simpson lauded the response of Post's EMTs, volunteer firefighters, DPS troopers and health care district personnel.

"They came through," she said. "Not just for us, but for everybody."

US 84 was closed for two to three hours to accommodate the accident investigation and cleanup, and traffic was rerouted. Once visibility improved, Simpson said she counted cars backed up for as far as she could see. She counted more than 60 cars waiting to get through at one point in the afternoon.

Taylor, who remained at the scene until he caught a ride back to town at about 5 p.m., said the most devastating collisions seemed to have occurred in the southbound lane of US 84.

On Saturday, DPS personnel re-

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Post Notes

Little League softball registration

The Post Little League is announcing the addition of girls' machine pitch softball for ages 7-10. This season, softball girls ages 11-12 will also compete in Lubbock and area towns. Registration for all ages is \$25 and will be held Friday, February 27 at the MAD DADS building from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Parents or individuals interested in assisting or coaching should contact Isabel Overton at 543-3603.

Summer baseball workday Saturday

Another workday is scheduled for Saturday, February 28 beginning at 9 a.m. at the baseball park. All parents and coaches are urged to attend.

Parent conference day Feb. 26

Parents conferences at the Post Elementary School will be held Thursday, February 26 with students to be released at 1:30 p.m.

Fast-pitch softball meeting Sunday

The Post girls' fast-pitch softball organization will hold a meeting and registration Sunday, February 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the CitizensBank community room. Girls interested in registration must bring a birth certificate.

Antelope Booster Club meets March 1

The Post Antelope Booster Club will meet Monday, March 1 at 7 p.m. in the PHS commons. All members and fans are invited and encouraged to attend.

"Community Closet" organized

A "Community Closet" is being organized to assist families in need. Organizations or individuals interested in donating canned goods, personal grooming products, diapers and baby products, please contact Pixie Grisham at 495-4154, Jason Portr at 495-4884 or the First United Methodist Church at 495-2942.

Fish Fry February 27

The Holy Cross Catholic Church Fish Fry will start Friday, February 27 and continue every Friday until Lent. The fish fry events are from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Holy Cross Hall, with a \$6 per plate with drink suggested.

Post Commerce & Tourism banquet

Plans are being finalized for the annual Post Commerce & Tourism Banquet to be held at 7 p.m., February 28 at the Post Community Center. Call 495-3461 for more information on tickets.

Fastpitch softball seeks players

Registration deadline is March 1, 2004 for the 2004 Girls Fastpitch League in Lubbock's softball season. Age divisions are Machine pits 6-8 year olds, 10 and under, 12 and under, 14 and under and high school ages 15-18 (age as of January 1, 2004). Games are played at Mackenzie State Park. The season begins April 16 with opening ceremonies and a pre-season tournament. Call Jaquita Blevins at 495-2517 to register. Coaches are needed for Post teams.

EMS classes available in Tahoka

The Lynn County EMS is offering EMT Class beginning in April. Classes will be held in Tahoka two nights a week. Anyone interested in becoming an EMT to help our service in Post is encouraged to attend this EMT class. Call 269-0075 for more information.

Little League registration til March 5

Little League registration continues through March 5 at the MAD DADS building on North Broadway. Registration will be open from 3:30 to 5:30 every afternoon except weekends.

Hallelujah Chorus at Graham Chapel

The acclaimed 60 member Hallelujah Chorus of Lubbock will sing at Graham Chapel Church of Christ at 5 p.m., Sunday, March 7. Everyone is invited.

Baseball umpires needed

The Post Little League is seeking individuals interested in officiating baseball games. Behind the plate umpires will be paid \$10 for Little League games and 425 for Jr./Sr. games. Please call Joey Stone at 495-1256 for more information.

U&FWCD to elect two directors

The Garza County U&FWCD will elect two directors on May 15, 2004. Positions on the ballot are Precinct 1 and Precinct 3. Those positions are currently held by Ferrel Wheeler and Ronnie Graves. Deadline for filing for the election is March 15, 2004. Filing for the ballot is available at the district office in the courthouse.

Bar-B-Q plates February 28

The Post Church of the Nazarene will offer Bar-B-Q plate lunches and sausage wraps Saturday, February 28 from 11 a.m. until sold out. The sale of lunches will benefit the church's building fund. Minimum donation requested is \$5 per plate. The Bar-B-Q pit will be located at the corner of Broadway and Main Street. For more information or to place advance orders, call 495-3044.

"Ragtown" featured entertainment for PC&TB's annual banquet

Tickets to Saturday's Post Commerce & Tourism Bureau banquet will be available through today, Feb. 26, from bureau directors or at the local Radio Shack location.

Cost for tickets is \$15 each.

The event will begin at 7 p.m. in the Post Community Center. The meal will be catered by Jerry's Barbecue, and members of the Post High School National Honor Society will serve the meal. Entertainment will include an abbreviated version of Chip and Glenn Polk's "Ragtown" production to be featured at the new facility currently being constructed north of the city.

A silent auction, featuring a bevy of items donated by local retailers, also will be conducted.

Awards to be handed out during the evening will include the Conservationist of the Year, Outstanding 4-Her, Outstanding Southland 4-Her, Outstanding FFA Student, the newest member of the Garza County Cowboy Hall of Fame, and Post's Business of the Year and Citizen of the Year awards. Commerce & Tourism Bureau members also will be recognized during the evening.

Local code enforcers collect \$43,708 during January

by Tim Burnett

Garza County and the State of Texas traffic code enforcers collected \$43,708 during the month of January, for highway travel fines issued here, according to reports of the two Justices of the Peace courts. The fund raising program, operated by county and state agents, took advantage of holiday travelers who violated State Transportation Codes.

JP Court 1 reported \$20,896.25, which included 163 traffic misdemeanor cases. JP Court 2 reported \$22,811.75, which included 200 traffic misdemeanor cases.

State and county code enforcement officers are "just doing their jobs" by enforcing the traffic code, but what was sold to the public in the 1920s for "safe" roads, is now a huge money making machine for corporate governments.

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) gradually shifted the scope of the Code so that all travelers appear required to register their automobiles with the State of Texas. A study into the underlying scope of the Texas Transportation Code should reveal exactly who is required to register their automobiles with the State.

After a precise study of the code, some may conclude that the code is in error. In fact, the code fits perfectly with the underlying right of the people to travel freely on the roads and highways of Texas. The legislature no doubt understood this right. This is why they entitled the code "Transportation."

The exact jurisdictional limits (scope) of the Texas Transportation Code can be ascertained by allowing it to narrowly interpret itself according to its strict construction. The scope of the Transportation Code is "Transportation."

Since the term "Transportation" is not defined in the Code, it must be defined according to the United States Transportation Code and Black's Law Dictionary. These sources reveal that the term "Trans-

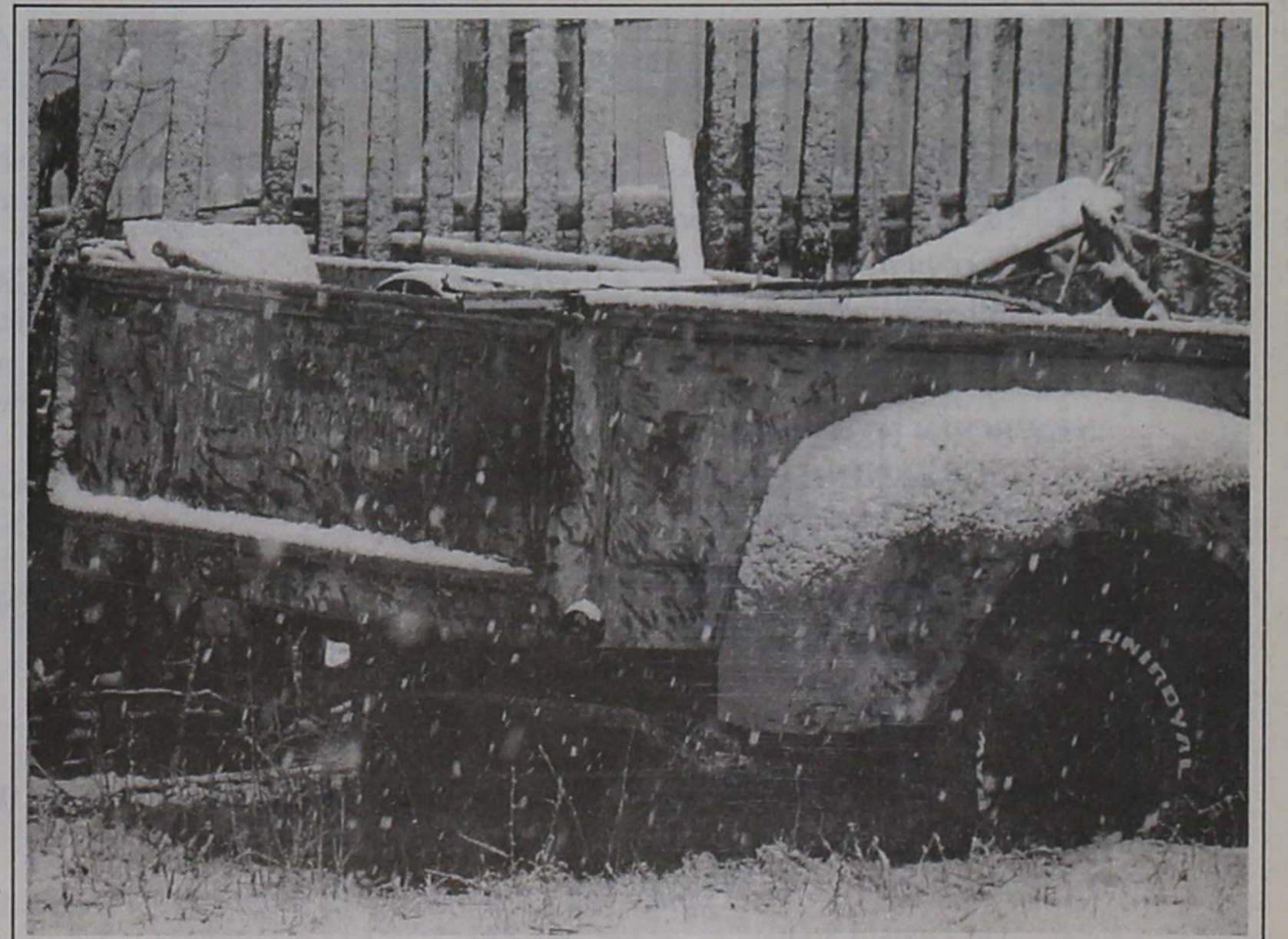
portation" means transportation by a carrier for hire.

Use of the roads and highways for purposes of "transportation for hire by carriers" is what falls under the scope of the Code. The Code protects the traveling public by regulating the vehicles using the roads for the purpose of "Transportation."

So why do we see State and County Officers enforcing the Code upon all travelers? The answer rests upon the registration of vehicles with the State of Texas.

All motor vehicles using the roads for purposes of "transportation" are

(Continued on Page 7)



For the second time this month, generous rain and snow blanketed Garza County (and the South Plains) earlier this week. Estimates of rainfall Monday and Tuesday ranged from one-half to an inch or more. Snowfall was less than an inch, ending in wee hours Wednesday. (Staff photo by Tim Burnett)

Call your family and community news to Judy Bush at 495-0227 for Judy's Jabberin'

I would appreciate your support for Re-Election

Lee Norman
Commissioner, Precinct 1

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Judy's Jabberin'

by Judy (Ballentine) Bush



Hey everyone, Well, after a three week bout with bronchitis and a viral infection on top of that, here I am!!! So sorry for the

missed weeks, but thankfully I am feeling much better now.

BIG SPECIAL THANK YOU

I want to say a big thank you to our EMS crews, our firefighters, deputies, highway patrol and the TXDOT guys for all of the work last week with the terrible wrecks.

All of these people could never be thanked enough for all that they do, but when something like last week happens, I think everyone realizes how very fortunate we are as a community to have them. So once again, THANK YOU for being there for the citizens of Post.

GET WELL SOON

I am sending a big get well wish to W.O. Fluit who is once again in the hospital in Lubbock. W.O. has had more than his fare share lately and I just want him to know that I love him and everyone is pulling for him to be well and up and around really soon.

DEFINITIONS OF LOVE

(Thanks to Mrs. Johnny Davenport for bringing this in) Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on cologne and they go out and smell each other. Kari, age 4

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen. Bobby, age 7.

If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate. Nikka, age 6.

There are two kinds of love. Our love and God's love. But God makes both of them. Noelle, age 7.

My mommy loves me more than anyone else. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.

Clare, age 6.

You really shouldn't say "I love you" unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget. Jessica, age 7.

Love is when mommy gives daddy the best peice of chicken. Elaine, age 5.

And the final one... Au author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly man who had recently lost his wife.

Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the olk mans yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his Mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."

COMMERCE AND TOURISM BANQUET

Everyone remember the Commerce and Tourism Banquet Saturday night. It will be at 7:00pm at the Community Center. Tickets are available at the Radio Shack.

TILL NEXT WEEK

Guess that is all for this week. Please call in your news. May God bless each of you, see you next week. Judy

Births

Gerardo Nathaniel Gonzales

Amanda and Gerardo Gonzalez of Amarillo have announced the birth of a son, Gerardo Nathaniel Gonzalez Jr., on Nov. 29, 2003, in Covenant Hospital in Lubbock.

The infant weighed 2 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 15 1/4 inches in length.

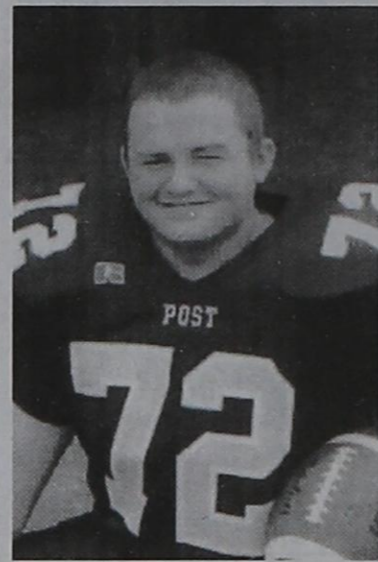
Maternal grandparents are Soyla Soto of Post and the late Victor Soto and Javier Martinez. Paternal grandparents are Margarita Gonzalez of Mexico and the late Joventino Gonzalez.

Great-grandparents are A.T. and Felicita Reyna of Post, Victor and Wanda Soto of Gruver and Tillie Martinez of Garden City, Kansas. Great-great-grandparents are Isabel Soto of Post and the late Gregorio Soto Sr., the late Amado and Agapita Fuentes Sr. and the late Jose and Guadalupe Martinez.



Gerardo Nathaniel Gonzales

Post Rotary Club Recognizes PHS Seniors



Will Todd



Eboni Gonzalez

Texas Cooperative EXTENSION

The Texas A&M University System

Neighbor to Neighbor

by Julie Neitsch,

Garza County Extension Agent-Family & Consumer Science

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Create an Environment that Fosters Reading in the Home

One of the easiest and most important activities you can do with children is to read to them out loud. This is true for preschool aged children, including those who are reading independently. Children who are read to frequently tend to become superior readers and also end up doing better in school than children who are read to infrequently.

Educators have discovered that reading stimulates the imagination, enhances children's vocabularies, introduces them to components of stories (i.e., characters, plots, action, and sequence), and provides them with information about the world surrounding them.

A child's environment has a strong influence on his or her desire to learn. Children who are exposed to books and reading from a very young age are more likely to express an interest in reading at a later stage.

Listed below are action steps to take to help encourage your child's involvement in reading:

Build up a collection of children's printed materials: Children will show more interest in reading if books and other print materials are readily available. Begin collecting a variety of children's books and magazines and keep them in convenient places. School age children are also beginning to pay more attention to current events. There are a number of junior versions of popular magazines that appeal to children's interest (e.g., Sports Illustrated for Kids.)

Visit the Library: Public libraries are great resources for children's print materials. Make frequent visits to the library. Check out some books and allow children to explore the vast selection of reading materials. Encourage children with parent's support to obtain a library card in the child's name.

Set aside a special time for reading each day: Children will come to expect and look forward to the daily reading time if you allow a consistent schedule. Parents, take the opportunity to also read to your children on a regular basis and make a positive difference in the language and literacy of development of a child.

Read books that peak children's curiosity: Books allow children to use their imaginations to explore people, places, and things that go beyond their limited life experiences.

Defer questions until after you finish reading: If possible, when you are reading aloud, especially to school age children, have them hold their questions until you are finished reading. This can help children focus more on the content of the story.

Stop reading at a suspenseful point in the book: Reading a good book can be exciting. Every now and then, time it just right so your reading time is over about the same time that you arrive at a spot where something exciting is about to happen in the book. Children will be very eager to hear what is going to happen the next day!

Source: Reading is Fundamental (2003). Tips for Reading Aloud with Elementary-School Children.

The Residents and Staff of Golden Plains Care Center

Would like to commend the following for their courageous and heroic response on U.S. Hwy 84: Constable's Office, Sheriff's Office, Post Volunteer Fire Department, Department of Public Safety and the Post Ambulance Service as well as those from other counties who helped. Each and everyone of you are **TRUE HEROES** to us!

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PHS Debate Team heads for state meet

Two Post High School students qualified for the 2003-04 UIL State Cross-Examination Meet set for March 15-20 at the University of Texas in Austin.

James Soto and Jordan Tatum qualified for the state meet by placing first at the UIL Cross-Examination District Meet held Feb. 11 at Shallowater.

UIL debate competition develops skills in our students that directly prepare them for real world situations by challenging their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities, said Jana Riggins, UIL debate director. This year's cross-examination debate topic requires students to research extensively the United States ocean policy.

The PHS team of Cole Easterling and Kayla Dunn placed third at the district contest and were named district alternates.

Eight teams competed at district, with the following results:

Post 42 points (first and third places)

Shallowater 21 points (second place)

Idalou 10 points (fourth place)

Teams representing New Deal, Roosevelt and Tahoka earned no points in the competition.



Post High School Debate Team members qualifying for UIL All State competition are (left to right), James Soto (1st), Kayla Dunn (3rd), Cole Easterling (3rd) and Jordan Tatum (1st). Staff photo by Tim Burnett

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Commissioner, Precinct 1
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Horse & Hound Club Meeting
4-H will have an organizational meeting for the formation of a dog club and a horse club Monday, March 1, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at the Texas Cooperative Extension office, 215 West Main in Post. You do not have to own a horse or dog to be involved. If you have questions or you're interested but can't attend, please call Kim Reiter at 495-2774.

Congratulation to.....
.....all Garza County youth that participated in the San Antonio Livestock Show. Those placing included: Coby Jones - Reserve Breed Champion, Heavy Weight 2nd. Place Simbrah; Skylar Jones - 2nd. Place Light Weight Simbrah; Allison Blevins - 7th. Place Heavy Weight Chianina; Steven Hair - 13th. Middle Weight Charolais.

Golden Clover 4-H Club.....
.....will meet Tuesday, March 9, 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office at 215 West Main in Post.

Garza County Texas Community Futures Forum
Garza County Texas Cooperative Extension staff will host and facilitate the Texas Community Futures Forum set for March 25, 2004 beginning at 6:30 at the First United Methodist Church in Post.

This process will help to coordinate the partnering of county government, state agencies, organizations, businesses, and other groups to organize action teams to address needs of the community. For more information about participating in the TCFP please contact Julie Neitsch or Greg Jones at the Garza County Extension Office at (806) 495-4400 or visit this website:
<http://futuresforum.tamu.edu>.

Sheriff reports 7 arrests

Seven individuals were booked into the Garza County Jail last week, according to records provided by the sheriff's department.

On Feb. 17, a 19-year-old male was arrested for possession of marijuana. Two individuals, ages 23 and 45, were arrested for family violence/assault on Feb. 19. A 20-year-old male was picked up on Lubbock County warrants on Feb. 20, while a 27-year-old male was arrested the following day on a Jones County warrant.

Two men, ages 42 and 23, were arrested on DWI-related charges on Feb. 22. The older man was picked up for driving while intoxicated with a child passenger, while the younger man was charged with DWI/second offense and possession of marijuana, under two ounces.

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Obituaries

Dorothy Austin Dennis

Services for Mrs. Wiley Bert Dennis were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2004, in Johnson's Funeral Home with the Rev. Ben Hubert and the Rev. Karen Schmeltekoph officiating. Burial followed in the Fairmount Cemetery.



She died Feb. 23.
Born Dorothy Lee Austin on March 15, 1915, in San Angelo to Rose and Robert Austin, she was the granddaughter of H.R. Rowlands and J.J. Austins, some of the first citizens of Tom Green County. She attended San Angelo schools, graduating from Central High, and attended San Angelo Junior College and San Angelo Business College. Later, she attended Texas Tech University. For five years she served as secretary to Louis L. Farr Jr., manager of the Sawyer Cattle Co. (Bar S Ranch).

On Sept. 9, 1938, she married Wiley Bert Dennis. The couple moved to Pecos County where the Dennis brothers operated a ranching business. They leased the Maud S. Kincaid (Saenger) Ranch where the couple resided for five years. In 1943, they purchased a ranch in Borden County.

Active in both ranch and community activities, she did research on the histories of Borden County ranches and families for the Borden County Historical Society. Her findings were published in several historical magazines. She served as president of the Altrurian Daughters Club in Snyder and in 1963 was president of the Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Auxiliary. She worked closely with the Miss Wool of Texas program and was named an honorary member of the auxiliary. While her children were in

school, she was closely associated with Borden County School activities. She was a member of the Martin Preuitt Jr. Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Snyder. An avid needlepoint enthusiast, she owned a shop in Snyder for eight years and was a member of the American Needlepoint Guild and the Embroiderers Guild. She was a member of the First Christian Church in San Angelo.

In 1997, she published her autobiography, *In Pursuit of Happiness*. The book chronicles her memories of life in San Angelo and as a ranch wife in Pecos and Borden counties.

Survivors include her children, Steve Dennis and wife, Nancy, of Odessa, Joel Dennis and wife, Betty, of Borden County and Lisa Dennis Mahler and husband, Keith, of San Angelo; four grandsons, Jeff Dennis of Lubbock, Bert Patrick Dennis of Odessa and Andrew Dennis Mahler and Matthew Lee Mahler of San Angelo; and several nieces and nephews, including Jenny Robert Dennis of Bedford, David Dennis of Post, Mary Ann Dennis Awtry of Orange City, Iowa, Jacqui Dennis Whalen of Borden County and Sally Munn Lacy of Water Valley.

Her husband preceded her in death in 1995. Her grandsons served as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Joe Canon, Mickey McMeans, Frank Beaver, Carl Dillaha, Rich Anderson, Bill Sims and Bill Nickum.

The family has suggested memorials be made to the Borden County Cemetery Fund, the Borden County EMS, the Borden County Historical Museum, Hope House of San Angelo, Hospice of San Angelo or First Christian Church in San Angelo.

Letters to the Editor

Big Thank You to Volunteers

A word of thanks and praise to all the Paramedics, EMT's, Firemen, Sheriff Deputies, DPS Troopers and other agencies, from the communities of Slaton, Tahoka, Crosbyton, Snyder, Lubbock and Post for their quick and efficient efforts in working the terrible accident(s) that occurred 5 miles north of Post on US 84 a week or so ago. Your efforts saved lives and kept a terrible situation from getting worse. We appreciate you and your community.

Archie Gill, Mayor, City of Post

The very best of Post...

During the last two weeks R.L. and I have witnessed the very best of Post, Texas, and now realize why we prefer to live in a small town.

On Feb. 14 we had our 50th anniversary celebration at the historic Garza Hotel. The turnout of friends was overwhelming. All of our out-of-town guests had only compliments for our choice of sites to have a celebration.

Two couples toured the hotel and said they would plan a weekend there in the near future. It is such a nice place. Jim and Janice can compete with any bed and breakfast and come out on top. Mary Cade is helping them now, so that is also an A+ for the hotel because she is known as the best cook in Garza County.

Jay and Juanetta from the Bee Hive did an excellent job on our corsages. So why would we think of going to a big flower shop in Lubbock where we would be "just a customer?"

Bob from Hudman's Greenhouse did a beautiful large bouquet for our sons to present to us. No one out of town would care like he did and use his usual personal, professional touch.

Then on Thursday, Feb. 19, R.L. and I were coming back to Post from Lubbock when we were involved in the sand storm pileup. Almost immediately a passerby from Snyder stopped to help. A moment later the DPS and EMT from Post were on the scene to help. Daniel was the first to check on us.

Then came Jason and Trudy, Darrell was there with the fire department. Each one helped us with encouraging words and showed me how to keep

from bleeding so much. They would help us, then go to someone else and come back to check on us.

They offered to take me to Lubbock, but I declined. We waited for the weather to clear a little, and I called my brother Deljuan and his wife, Sandy, to come get me. An officer told R.L. to stay with the pickup, which was totaled from being struck from behind. He had a large knot on his elbow, but did not require attention.

My brother and sister-in-law took me to the clinic here in Post. There I got very personal attention from Dr. Bisbee, Tanya and Patricia. I got immediate attention, which was 15 stitches in my right ear. I did not have to wait in an emergency room where I would be a stranger and have to wait my turn to be treated.

I was home only a few minutes when the doorbell rang. It was Kip. He had heard that we were involved in the pileup and wanted to check on us to see what he could do.

A few minutes later, E.A. and Glenda came to see how they could help. The phone started ringing and didn't let up until late Friday. Our church friends immediately put us on the prayer chain and kept our phone and doorbell busy.

What I'm trying to say is that there is just nothing like living in a town small enough to be known and cared for by so many, but large enough to take care of its citizens. We have some of the best businesses around. Also, we have a very fine clinic with caring people working there. With community support and financial support for growth, it could compete with clinics anywhere. Our clinic, EMTs, fire department and DPS are the very best in this area.

Thank you everyone who helped us in any way, large or small. R.L. and I are so blessed that our God protected us and our friends cared about us. May God bless you all.

R.L. and Jimella Simpson

Garza County Texas Community Futures Forum Set for March 25

Garza County Texas Cooperative Extension staff will host and facilitate the Texas Community Futures Forum set for March 25, 2004 beginning at 6:30. The event will be hosted at the First United Methodist Church in Post. This process will help to coordinate the partnering of county government, state agencies, organizations, businesses, and other groups to organize action teams to address needs of the community.

As an individual or representative of an agency or organization, you can bring your best ideas to the Garza County Forum and work with fellow residents will identify the most critical needs and concerns in Garza County, and prioritize the issues in terms of importance and ability to make an impact. Participation from citizens, organizations, and groups is essential in making this a successful event. We look forward to your participation.

Items that will be addressed during the County Forum are:
What does our community need for the future? What would make life better for everyone who lives here?

How do our future needs differ from today's?
How can agencies and organizations work together to improve the quality of life?

What can you do to help make things better for our community?
For more information about participating in the Texas Community Futures Forum please contact Julie Neitsch or Greg Jones at the Garza County Extension Office at (806) 495-4400 or visit this website: <http://futuresforum.tamu.edu>.

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Post Devotional Page

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

God Protects His Child...Matthew 2:12-23

Last week we looked at the arrival of the Magi that they might pay homage to the "King of the Jews." While en-route to Bethlehem they were filled with great joy because they saw "his star" (Jupiter) reach its highest ecliptic point just over where Jesus lived. Upon their arrival they saw the "young child" in a house with his mother Mary. As pre-determined, they gave gifts to Jesus and paid him proper homage as the "King of the Jews." We now continue with Matthew 2:12-23.

"And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way." God is so loving and gracious to all who reverence Him. The Magians were not Israelites. Yet they were humble to the signs in the heavens. They were meek to search out the scriptures and begin their journey to Jerusalem and ultimately to Bethlehem. Even their gifts of treasures were not held back. And they showed proper respect to the young Child. God looks upon the heart.

Continuing with 2:13, "And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, 'Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 'Out of Egypt have I called my son.'" There should be no doubt that Joseph was a man after God's own heart. He put God and His word first on his list of priorities.

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men [Magi from the east], was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men." There it is...right in God's word. Herod discovered that the child was around two years old when he questioned the Magi (recorded in verse 7). His choice of two years and under was not random, but a result of a diligent enquiry into the Magi's astronomical observations. We can also note that this event was one of many spiritual attempts by the devil to kill the seed of the woman prophesied of in Genesis 3:15.

We continue with Matthew 2:17, "Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy [Jeremiah] the prophet, saying, 'In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.'"

"But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.' And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, 'He shall be called a Nazarene.'" Once again, Joseph received God's word and meekly moved. We can see throughout these accounts that God truly picked the best of His people to raise His beloved child Jesus Christ. They put God's will first in their lives. Their example of faithfulness and meekness was seen in Jesus' life when he said, "...nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." (Matthew 26:37-46).

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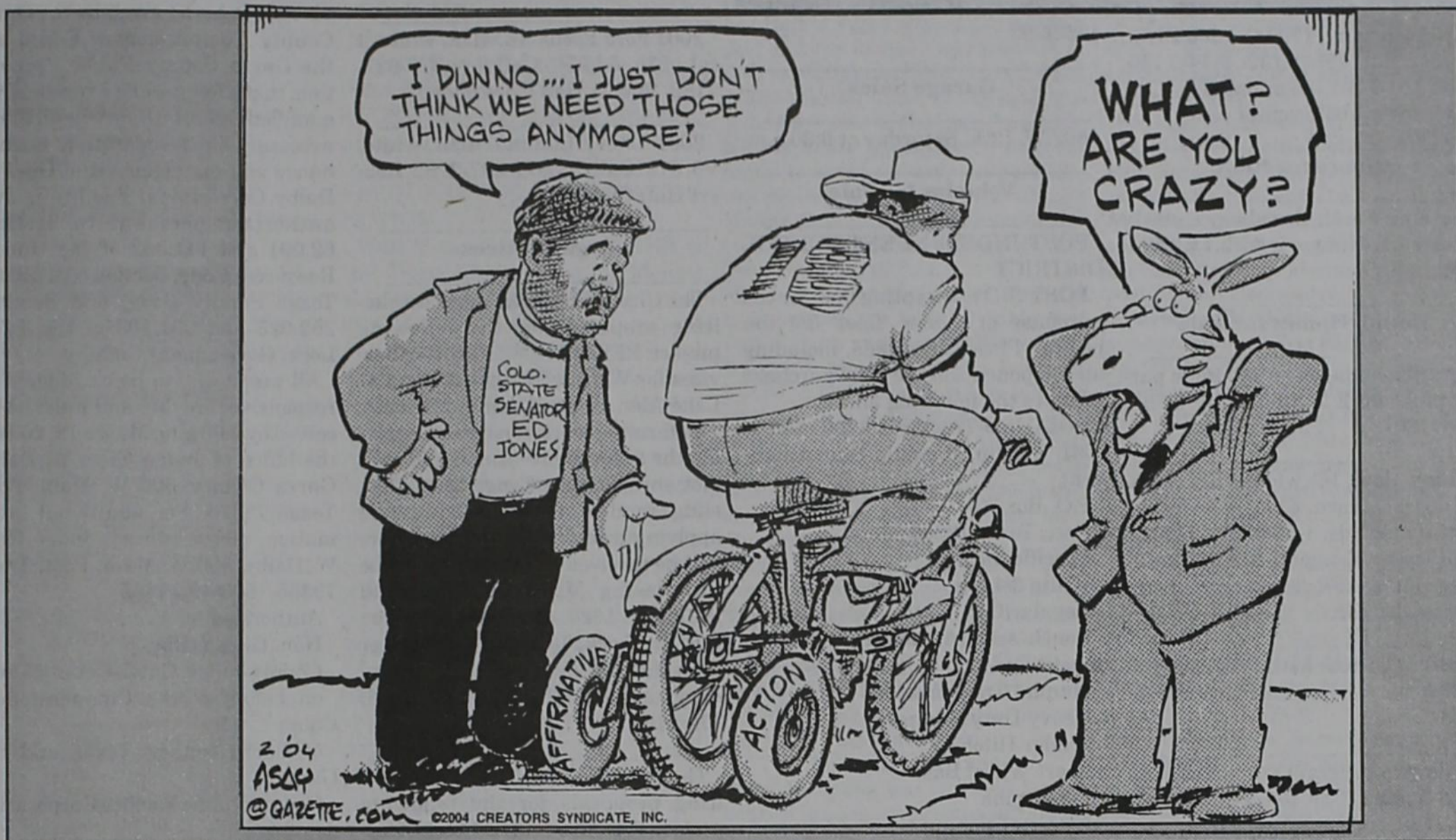
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Opinions



Goodies cost...

by Walter E. Williams



The first concept an economics student learns is that for every benefit there's also a cost — or, as my longtime colleague and friend Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman has put it, "There's no free lunch." While the person who receives the benefit might not pay or even be aware of the cost, as sure as night follows day there is a cost paid by someone.

One of the effects of competition is that of revealing costs and least-cost methods of production. When the government gave AT&T a monopoly over much of the telecommunications industry and the Civil Aeronautics Board sponsored the airline cartel, both telecommunication and air travel were far more expensive than they are today. The introduction of competition not only revealed that the services could be provided more cheaply, but brought about massive innovation, as well.

International trade is a form of competition, and as such it also reveals costs and least-cost methods of production. American workers are the most productive workers in the world. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2002 the United States led the world in worker productivity: U.S. workers averaged \$71,600 in output each (in 1999 dollars). The next highest country was Belgium, where each worker averaged \$64,100. But worker productivity can be sabotaged.

Suppose an American textile worker is paid \$100 a day, while his Indian counterpart earns \$20. If the American is 10 times as productive as the Indian worker, then the wage costs of using the American worker is lower. However, \$100 in wages is not the only cost of hiring the American worker. There are numerous federal and state regulations that add to worker costs, such as: OSHA requirements, EEOC mandates, Social Security and Medicare, Family Medical Leave and many other workplace regulations. Added to worker costs that businesses incur are: Americans With Disabilities Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act and many other regulations.

I'll take free choice anytime

by Sheldon Richman

Intellectuals who disdain the common man's freedom never run out of rationalizations for government control. In a recent New York Times op-ed touting his book, *The Paradox of Choice: Why More Is Less*, psychology professor Barry Schwartz criticized political reforms aimed at expanding choice. He argued that "for many people, increased choice can lead to a decrease in satisfaction. Too many options can result in paralysis, not liberation."

He offered empirical evidence that a large range of choice makes people less happy, not more. For example, he cites research showing that "as the number of flavors of jam or varieties of chocolate available to shoppers is increased, the likelihood that they will leave the store without buying either jam or chocolate goes up." Schwartz comments: "In cases like these, increased choice often enables people to improve their lives by some objective measure — quality of jam, rate of return on investment, suitability of a job to one's ultimate career objectives, and so on. But it also makes people feel worse."

Which leads Schwartz to the question, "Do we care about objective results or subjective results when we're out to improve the general well-being? I think that once people's standard of living is above subsistence levels, it is usually the subjective quality of the experience that really matters. And increased choice does not seem to improve the subjective quality of experience."

So, Schwartz says, government really does us no favors when it gives us more choices in retirement plans, schools, and medical care. We can't handle it.

There is much to be said against this thesis. First, if choice makes us unhappy, why do so many of us stop patronizing mom-and-pop stores and rush to Wal-Mart the moment we get the chance? The opponents of freedom really must get their stories straight. They decry the little retail shops' being driven out of business when the "big box" stores open nearby. But here's Schwartz telling us lots of choices make us unhappy. Which is it, guys?

Moreover, regular people understand that we each have ways to manage a bewildering number of choices. Consumer Reports magazine is one method. A recommendation from a friend is another.

But there's a more fundamental objection to Schwartz's argument. The amount of choice we have should be none of the government's business. Government doesn't give us choices. It either interferes with free choice or it stays out of the way. To speak in terms of government's "throwing an ever-greater menu of options at the American people" is to beg the question: should government have the power to constrict peaceful activities in the first place? Government

Then there are all sorts of frivolous and not-so-frivolous lawsuits brought against businesses. According to an Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration study, "The Impact of Regulatory Costs on Small Firms," federal regulatory costs on U.S. businesses were \$451 billion in 2000. They cost small businesses (20 or fewer employees) about \$7,000 per employee; medium businesses (20 to 499 employees) paid about \$4,300; and large businesses (500 employees or more) paid about \$4,400.

There're no two ways about it: There are benefits from all the costly federal, state, and local regulations imposed on American businesses. But we must also acknowledge that our federal, state and local regulatory agencies have no jurisdiction in India, China, Southeast Asia, Mexico and Latin America. That means for many products and services, people who are far less productive, in a physical sense, than we are can beat us in the global marketplace.

We all can agree that there's no benefit that's worth any cost. If that weren't true, we'd do damn near anything that has a benefit, and that would include mandating a 5-mile-per-hour speed limit. Why? The benefits would be enormous in terms of the tens of thousands of highway fatalities and injuries avoided. We don't have a 5-mile-per-hour speed limit because we've decided that its benefit is not worth the enormous cost.

As said earlier, competition reveals costs and least-cost methods of production. One need not take a position one way or another on the worthiness of the benefits of regulation to acknowledge that there are costs associated with them. But I think that intelligent decision-making requires that we take their costs into account. It's not intelligent to stick our heads in the sand and deceive ourselves by pretending that others are to blame for our lack of competitiveness in some areas.

To find out more about Walter Williams, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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can expand our choices only if it has previously limited them by physical force.

Choice in the marketplace grows out of individual freedom. I want shoes. Many people are free to sell me shoes. That presents me with choices, requiring me to pay attention and to discriminate. What's the alternative? Government control aimed at limiting choice. Where's the evidence that that makes people happy?

Schwartz is a professor. If someone were to suggest that too many books, journals, and magazines crowd the shelves, that all this choice makes people unhappy, and that government could serve us better by restricting the number of choices, Schwartz and his ilk would scream like banshees.

So let's make a deal. The government will interfere with neither the freedom of choice that Schwartz likes nor the kind he cares little for, such as choice in consumer products, retirement plans, medical care, and schools.

Schwartz may believe that "there may be a point when choice tyrannizes people more than it liberates them." But I'll take metaphorical tyranny over the real McCoy any day.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Va., author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*, and editor of *The Freeman* magazine. FutureofFreedomFoundation@fff.org

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The Post Dispatch, Thursday, February 26, 2004 Page 5

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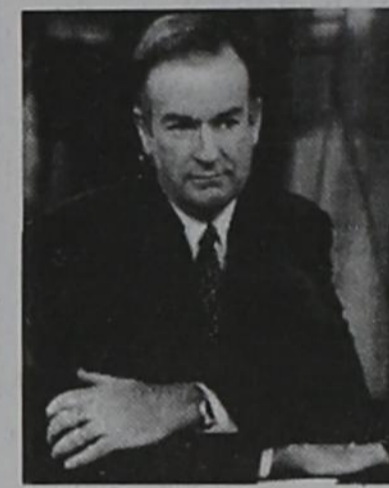
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Hating Mel

by Bill O'Reilly



Here's a no spin review of Mel Gibson's movie "The Passion of the Christ," which opens on Ash Wednesday (2/25). First off, the film is a faithful rendition of the execution of Jesus according to the four Gospels. Only twice does Gibson stray from Scripture. The initial departure is to introduce Satan into the narrative; that does not happen in the Bible. Second, Gibson beefs up the role of Simon of Cyrene, the Jew who was forced by the Romans to carry Jesus' cross when he could no longer do it.

Simon emerges as a heroic figure.

The film runs two hours, and at least half of it is explicitly violent. The pain Jesus endured at the hands of the brutal Roman soldiers became numbing to watch after a while, at least to me. Gibson clearly wants the audience to be uncomfortable because the torture scenes are unrelenting. This kind of exposition, of course, is not for everyone.

If you are familiar with the writings of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, nothing in the film's script will surprise you. There are Jewish villains and Jewish heroes. Most of the Romans are awful. The storyline does not depart from traditional Christian teaching. Yet the movie and Gibson himself continue to be viciously attacked. Why?

Even Abraham Foxman, the militant leader of the Anti-Defamation League, now admits the film is not anti-Semitic. Yet Foxman continues to object to it on the basis of what it might do. And that's the crux of this matter. Some Jews believe persecution is just a shout away, to quote Mick Jagger. This prospective must be respected. For thousands of years Jews have been treated with brutality and disrespect, often by the followers of Jesus.

So fair-minded people can understand the emotion that some Jews feel when they hear that a Jewish character, Judas, betrays Jesus and another Jewish character, Caiaphas, agitates for his death in the movie. The apprehension is real and understandable, but it is wrong to use it as an excuse to vilify a man who wants to tell a scriptural story that he believes illustrates his faith.

As the Muslim killers on 9/11 and the pedophile Catholic priests prove, there are bad people in all religions. Rational individuals understand although evil has many faces, it does not reside in any particular race. Even at the height of Third Reich atrocities, there were good Germans.

People who hate Jews don't need a movie to fuel their neurosis. Haters will find a way. And ironically, Mel Gibson's movie is about love. Christians believe Jesus loved mankind so much that he willingly gave up his life to give human beings redemption from their failings. Also, please remember that Jesus, above all, was a Jew.

The brutal attacks on Gibson may themselves create bad will. Most Americans who see this movie, I believe, will respect Gibson for making it. They may well see the defamation that has been heaped on him as grossly unfair.

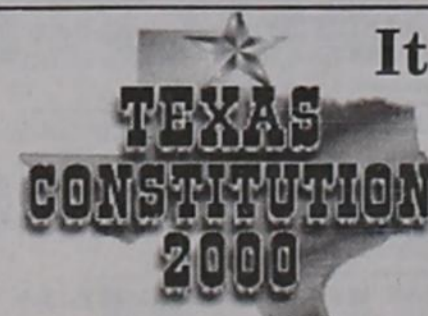
In the interest of full disclosure, I have done some business with Mel Gibson. His company optioned my novel "Those Who Trespass" for the movies. This was long before "The Passion" was in production.

So I know the guy a bit, and I know his passion is to persuade people that Jesus was a man to be admired and imitated. It is Gibson's prerogative to use the Gospels to make that point. It is also the prerogative of his critics to frown on the project. But trying to destroy the man's reputation is something else. It reminds me of Roman justice: Guilt or innocence really didn't matter as long as the harsh punishment set a frightening example. Ad hominem, indeed.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the new book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com.

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the graveside services. May God bless you.

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The City of Lubbock, Texas is soliciting proposals for the following project: RFP #011-04 * Farming Services for Wildlife Mitigation Area at Lake Alan Henry * Annual Pricing. The farming work consists of applying the following treatments to each plot: shredding rank vegetation, chiseling, tandem discing, seeding and applying granulated fertilizer. Offers will be received in the Office of the Purchasing Manager, Municipal Building, 1625 13th Street, Room L04, Lubbock, Texas 79401 no later than March 4, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Documents are available by calling (806) 775-2167.

The City of Lubbock, Texas is soliciting proposals for the following project: ITB #029-04/DC * Aerial Herbicide Spraying Services at Lake Alan Henry Wildlife & Mitigation Area. The contractor will provide the appropriate airplane specifically designed to apply aerial chemicals and an experienced pilot; all equipment, mixed chemicals, and fuel/oil as necessary to transport the chemical to the site, apply the chemical in the volume and per acre prescription and in the pattern of application as di-

rected. Offers will be received in the Office of the Purchasing Manager, Municipal Building, 1625 13th Street, Room L04, Lubbock, Texas 79401 no later than March 25, 2004 @ 2:00 P.M. Documents are available by calling (806)775-2167.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the Garza County Commissioners Court and the Garza County Public Corporation, that a Request for Proposal from qualified Offerors to provide all things necessary for the operation, maintenance and management of Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility is duly authorized pursuant to Sections 62.001 and 141.042 of the Human Resources Code, Section 51.12 of the Texas Family Code, and Sections 252.025 and 351.103 of the Texas Local Government Code.

All proposals, to be considered as responsive, are due and must be received by 2:00 p.m. March 18, 2004 at the office of Judge Giles W. Dalby, Garza County, 300 W. Main, Post, Texas 79356. For additional information, please contact Judge Giles W. Dalby, 300 W. Main, Post, Texas 79356, (806)495-4405.

Authorized by:
Hon. Giles Dalby,
County Judge, Garza County, Texas on behalf of the Commissioners Court of Garza county, Texas and the Garza County Public Facility Corporation

More Classified on Page 7

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1994 Nissan pick-up, ext. cab, maroon, V6, 2WD, 112k, \$5,500. Camper painted to match. Call Jay 877-637-2182, Robert Hall Chevrolet.

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Garza County Treasurer's Office is accepting sealed bids on the following Equipment:

- 2 - Dell Dimension XPS R350MHz Pentium II minitower Base 512K Cache, complete setup includes Intellimouse, keyboard, modem, Windows 98, MS Office
- 1 - Epson DFX-5000+9-Pin Dot Matrix Printer

Bids should be mailed or delivered to Treasurer's Office before 9:00 a.m. Friday, March 5, 2004.

Lake Alan Henry Water District Election Set for May 15th

The Lake Alan Henry Water District has ordered an election of May 15th for the purpose of filling Place 2 and Place 3 on the Board of Directors for 4 year terms. The deadline for candidates to file for election to the available positions is March 14, 2004 at 5 p.m. Applications may be filed with Odie C. Hood, Board Chairman, P.O. Box 137, Justiceburg, Texas 79330.

Jim White of Kent County and Mark Kirkpatrick of Garza County were initially appointed to these positions in the legislation creating the district effective September 1, 2003 and each has filed for election to the Board.

To be eligible to serve as a director, a person must be at least 18 years of age and be (1) a resident of the district; or (2) an owner of real property in the district; or (3) an owner of at least 10% of the outstanding interest of a corporation or limited partnership that owns real property in the district; or (4) an agent, employee, officer or director of a corporation or partnership that owns real property in the district; or (5) a person who served as an initial director; or (6) a member of the commissioners court of either Kent County or Garza County.

However, the Texas Water Code disqualifies a person from serving on a board of a water district who is a developer of property in the district or is an employee or related to such a developer.

The Lake Alan Henry Water District covers all of the City of Post lying within Garza County Commissioner Precinct 4 and ten sections in Kent County abutting Lake Alan Henry.

Post ISD is receiving sealed bids for the construction of bleachers at the High School Baseball Field in the David Nichols Baseball Park. For specifications in detail, contact the Superintendent at Post ISD. Bid opening will be March 8th, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. at Post ISD Superintendent's office. Send bids in sealed envelope labeled "Bleacher Bid #2004-003" to Post ISD, 501 South Avenue K, Post, Texas 79356.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
POST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Notice to Bidders
Post Independent School District
REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
BEING A 202.767 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, IN GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS
BID #2004-001
Request for bids for sale of Real Property being a 202.767 acre tract of land, more or less, in Garza County, Texas. The official bid package is available from: Marlin Marcum, 501 South Avenue K, Post, Texas 79356. Bid date due: 4:00 p.m. on March 9, 2004.

Post School District is accepting (Sealed bids) to

1. Purchase 3/4 ton pickup (New or Near) 806-495-3855
2. Sell 1985 1/2 ton Chev pickup Bid 2004-004

POST ISD reserves all rights to accept or reject bids.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NOTICE

West Texas Centers for MHMR is the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation ("TDMHMR") designated mental health and mental retardation Local Authority (LA) established to plan, coordinate, develop policy, develop and allocate resources, supervise, and ensure the provision of community based mental health and mental retardation services for the residents of Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Fisher, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Howard, Kent, Loving, Martin, Mitchell, Nolan, Reeves, Runnels, Scurry, Terrell, Terry, Upton, Ward, Winkler, and Yoakum Counties, Texas. The LA is publishing this Request for Information (RFI) Notice to request responses from potential providers for other interested parties interested in the community services described in the RFI Document. This RFI Process is only to determine interest and does not address any intent to contract or procure services. From information provided by the responders to the RFI Document, a determination will be made regarding actual contracting through a procurement process.

Copies of the RFI Document may be obtained by written request to WTCMHMR ATTN: Cindy Smith, Director of Network Management; 319 Runnels, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or via internet at www.wtcmhmr.org

INTERESTED PARTIES MUST RESPOND TO THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION BY 3:00 O'CLOCK P.M. CST, APRIL 30, 2004. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS IN PARAGRAPH 2.1 OF THE RFI DOCUMENT.

Questions regarding the RFI Process should be directed to Cindy Smith at 319 Runnels, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or cindy_smith@wtcmhmr.org.

NOTE: Similar RFI Notices are being published for many local service areas in Texas. Those interested in responding for a county other than the one(s) identified above, should contact that county's Local Mental Health and/or Mental Retardation Authority for further information or the RFI Document.

Code enforcers...

(Continued from Page 1)

required to be registered with the State. At the same time, any automobile that is registered with the State also falls within the scope of the Code. The registration stickers and license plates are the identifiers by which the Officers can determine whether or not a vehicle falls within their jurisdictional limits.

Question for thought: Does the State and County have the lawful authority to enforce the Transportation Code upon travelers who are not involved with "transportation," and who voluntarily choose not to register their automobiles with the State?

The simple question concerns authority to enforce the Transportation Code upon those who do not fall within the scope of the code.

Yesteryears

Compiled by Donna Jones from the files of The Post Dispatch

10 Years Ago February 23, 1994

Post Pioneer, the late Roy Stevens, was inducted into the Garza County Cowboy Hall of Fame while life long resident Delores Redman was honored as the Post Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year for 1993. Business of the Year honor went to Hudman Furniture. Marine Lance Cpl Robby D. Blair recently reported for duty with 1st Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, Japan. Robby is the son of Roger D. and Brenda C. Blair of Post. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gonzales are proud to announce the birth of their son, Daniel Jr. He was born February 15, at University Medical Center in Lubbock. Daniel is welcomed home by his two brothers, Eric and Michael. Alicia Gail Pettyjohn and Gary Dean McKinney will marry April 9 at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tim Pettyjohn of Post. Judith Steel, wife of Post native Curtis Steel, has completed her eighth novel. Tender Deception, a historical romance was recently published by Zebra Book. The Steels currently live in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Judith is the daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Steel of Post.

20 Years Ago February 22, 1984

Patty McCowen was crowned Sweetheart of the annual Sweetheart contest held Saturday night. Sixteen young ladies from Post High School were presented to the audience during the event. Also honored were first runnerup, Kayla Peel and second runnerup, Leigh McCook.

A tragic two-car accident Sunday evening sent shock waves through Post with the death of Steve and Dianna Ladd. He was the Post High School band director and she was PHS choir director.

On February 5, the First Baptist Church of Post called Steve McMeans to be the new pastor of their congregation. Steve grew up in Post and Gail and graduated from Borden County High School in 1973.

1983-84 Varsity Lady Lopes include Leigh McCook, Marta Holly, Denise Smith, Doris Pringler, Golden Capps, Kim Carlisle, Jackie Wartes, Channa Williams, Cindee Jackson, Pam Ehret and Heidi Ehret. Head coach is Billy Max Gordon. He is assisted by James Easterling.

30 Years Ago February 21, 1974

Plans to construct a 60-bed nursing home and extended care facility on property just north of Garza Memorial Hospital at an estimated cost of \$500,000. Ground breaking for the new nursing home will take place within approximately 60 days. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Giddens and family have moved back to Post from Littlefield where Joe and Mrs. Giddens had been employed in the school system since the start of the school year. Giddens has been employed by the Post schools to set up a physical education program in the elementary grades. Mrs. Giddens has been re-employed as a teacher in the lower grades.

A federal grant originally approved for \$24,970, established a probation office for Garza County with Les Brown named by the commissioners' court as the probation officer. Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Gonzales announce the birth of a daughter, Valentine, born Feb. 14 in Garza Memorial Hospital. Post High School twirlers received a Division I (superior) rating and individual trophies in a National Baton Twirling Association contest at Cooper High School. The twirlers winning the honor for the local school were Jodi Norman, Jana McKamie, Tina McAlister and Donna Ammons.

40 Years Ago

February 20, 1964

Post's new Piggly Wiggly store, now under construction on almost a half block site between Seventh and Eighth St., on Avenue K will contain twice the sales area of the present Supermarket two blocks north and is expected to be opened in May.

Dee Ann Walker won the Post High School Valentine Sweetheart contest held Saturday night. Dee Ann represented the Student Council. Linda McMahon was first runner-up, representing the FFA chapter, and Pamela Stewart was second runner-up, representing the Cheerleaders.

Seniors Wendell Johnson and Nita Wilson were crowned Post High School basketball sweethearts between games at Tuesday night's doubleheader with Frenship. Johnson, was crowned Post Does' sweetheart by Miss Wilson, who is captain of the Doe team. Miss Wilson then was crowned Antelope sweetheart by Danny Odum, captain of the boys' team.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Jones are announcing the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Marianne Jones, to Royce Ray Hart, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hart. The wedding will be Saturday, March 14 in the Post Church of Christ.

For local rooters of Norm Cash, who've been wondering how Big Norm came out in his contract negotiations for the 1964 season with the Detroit front office, this is to report that the big slugger signed for the same figure he got last year. The amount - \$26,000. At least that's what Norm's dad, Bandy Cash, reported the other day at the coffee counter.

50 Years Ago February 23, 1914

Parakeets, one of the many species of parrots, are proving a profitable hobby for Roy Holly of Post, who was disabled in an automobile accident in 1948. Less than two years ago, Holly obtained 18 of the birds from the counselor for the Division of Vocational Education and Rehabilitation of the Texas Education Agency. Today, he has more than 150 laying hens and has found both wholesale and retail markets for the parakeets he raises.

Marca Dean Holland, 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Holland, was awarded the grand prize Friday night in the annual Lions Club Talent Review at Brownfield.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Rogers will observe their 60th wedding anniversary this afternoon in the home of their son, J. A. (Jess) Rogers of Post. The couple has five children - Jess of Post, Jim Rogers of Charleston, S.C., Vern Rogers of Beloit, Wis., Lester Rogers of Russell, Kans., and Mrs. Nellie Lilly of Pratt, Kans.

Danny and Dennis Odum were honored with a birthday party Saturday afternoon in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Odum. Danny celebrated his eighth birthday Feb. 16 and Dennis was seven on Feb. 16. Charles Chandler, Post High School senior student, was crowned sweetheart of the high school girls' basketball team at the Slaton games here last week.

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AUCTION

Wednesday, March 3, 2004 -- Sale Time 10 a.m.

Located: Lubbock, Texas From East Loop 289 12 miles East on FR 40, then South on CR 3860, then 1 mile East on CR 6700; or from Lorenzo, Crosby Co., Texas 5 miles South on CR 378, then 4 miles West on CR 40, then 1 mile South on CR 3860, then 1 mile East on CR 6700; or from Acuff, Lubbock County, Texas 2 miles East on CR 40, then 1 miles South on CR 3860, then 1 mile Est on CR 6700.

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for Sheriff

Democratic Party Primary Tuesday, March 9, 2004

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ACROSS

- 1 TX Bob Wills line: "___, take it away Leon"
- 5 East TX reptile, slangily
- 6 day of the week (abbr.)
- 7 TXism: "___ broke I couldn't change my mind"
- 8 oil additive
- 9 TXism: "a winner never quits and a ___ never wins"
- 16 TX Kick ___ Indians
- 17 TXism: "make hay while the ___"
- 19 TX Garner book: "How Are ___ Noddies?"
- 21 put more queso on the chip?
- 22 the latest (3 wds.)
- 27 TXism: "___ in the bag"
- 28 civilian aircraft manufacturer
- 29 put the steak back on the grill?
- 30 really not fresh? (2 wds.)
- 32 TX Hagman's role on "Dallas"
- 33 TXism: "he's gettin' ___ his britches"
- 36 Wynonna sang "___ the Light"
- 37 TX Holly sang "Peggy ___"
- 38 TXism "dark as a ___ black cats"

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "play possum"
- 2 TX billionaire Hughes (init.)
- 3 largest TX city
- 4 Fort Worth arts area is called "The ___ Southwest"
- 8 drove fast
- 9 survey forms
- 10 TX Bush worked with this world gov't. group on war in Iraq (abbr.)
- 11 TXism: "turn about ___ fair play"
- 12 TX Shelley Duvall film (77)
- 13 cowboy bolos
- 39 those "agin' it"
- 41 fancy word for "dances"
- 44 TX Autry's "That Silver-Haired Daddy of ___"
- 45 TXism: "all vine, ___ watermelon"
- 46 TXism: "he's a ___ in my side"
- 47 TXism: "blister ___" (handle)
- 48 boxing up
- 51 TXism: "gave ___ dose of his own medicine"
- 52 anger
- 53 ___ Rio, TX
- 54 "right fast" jet
- 14 TXism: "tie up the loose ___"
- 15 Mav's Dirk is careful not to ___ his ___
- 16 panhandle city
- 17 gliders on TX lakes; "jet ___"
- 18 extra tires
- 20 in Grand Prairie: "Ripley's Believe ___ Not"
- 22 first brand recorded in TX
- 23 Gulf shrimp catcher
- 24 Boerne's Cibolo Wilderness Trail has 3 ___ systems
- 25 defeats soundly
- 26 50s, 60s teen idol
- 28 applaud
- 31 African deadly snakes
- 34 TXism: "he couldn't ___ elected Fiddler General of Texas"
- 35 TX bumper snicker: "___ Wurth, I Luv Yew"
- 37 LBJ's last words: "___ Mike immediately!"
- 40 TX Roy Orbison could ___ with a 3-octave range
- 42 charged atom
- 43 ornamental flowers
- 49 melt or fuse ores
- 50 state where TX Buddy Holly died

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County considers proposals for Giles W. Dalby facility contract

Garza County officials are seeking RFPs (requests for proposals) for the operation, maintenance and management of the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility.

The contract with the facility's current manager is set to expire soon, and the court will accept proposals from interested parties through 2 p.m. March 18. Proposals are being accepted in the county judge's office.

Proposal requirements include:

- A draft operation and management agreement that provides for compliance with state law.

- Proof of financial ability (which does not obligate the tax revenues of Garza County) and evidence of financing ability for the entire project.

- Evidence of the sheriff's role and function in the operation and management plan. (According to the RFP documentation, state law requires the sheriff to approve any such contract.)

- Description of the type and amount of liability insurance coverage relative to property, personnel and operational liability.

- An overview of various aspects relating to the proposal, including benefits to Garza County, the City of Post and the people/business of Garza County.

County officials may reject any or all proposals and are not bound to accept the lowest bid if the proposal is not considered to be in the best interest of Garza County, according to the RFP.

Additionally, the operator selected will be required to make available to Garza County a maximum of 14 beds in the unit. Cost for the first 10 beds will be \$5 per bed per day, while the remaining beds will carry a cost of \$25 per bed per day, according to the RFP. County inmates placed in these beds must be compatible in classification with other inmates housed in the facility in accordance with state standards.

The management bid will be awarded late next month.



One of the most vicious dirt storms in memory engulfed drivers on U.S. Hwy 84 last Thursday, killing two and injuring a dozen others. (Staff Photo by Tim Burnett)

Dozens injured ... (Continued from Page 1)

turned to the accident scene in an effort to reconstruct the events. Using vehicle locations marked on the day of the pileup, troopers used vehicles similar in size to those involved and placed them in the marked areas. DPS aircraft from Midland was flown in to take aerial photos.

Couch said DPS officials are hoping to use the photos to determine the "sequencing of the accident." The effort could take as long as 30 days.

Accident?

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Post High School Tennis Schedule

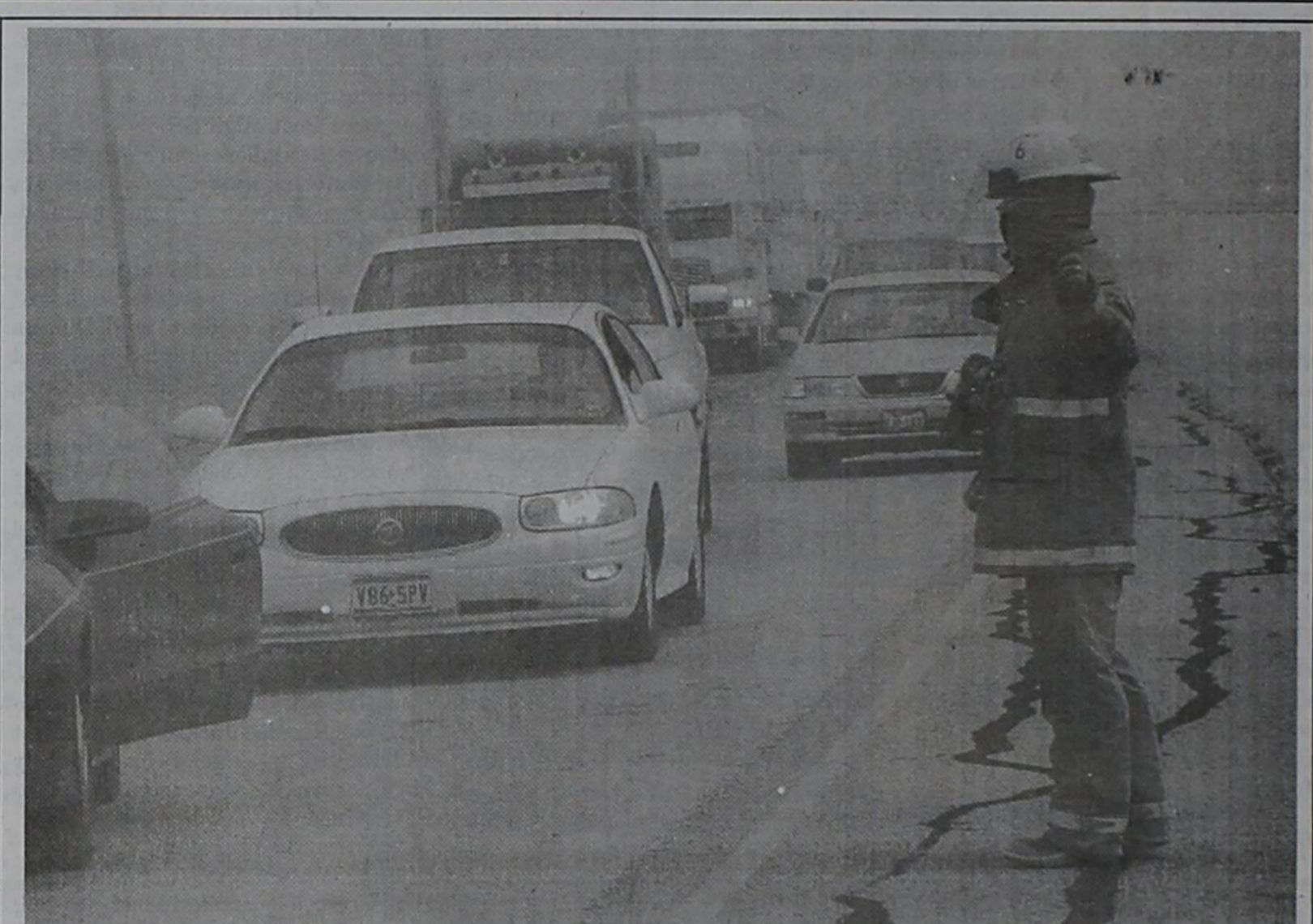
Feb. 27-28 - Brownfield
March 2 - Snyder
March 11 - Lubbock Estacado (dual meet)
March 26 - Levelland
April 2-3 - Abilene High
April 6-7 - District meet (Frenship)
Coach: Nick Dickson

Bold Gold Powerlifting Schedule

Feb. 28 - Floydada
March 6 - Women's regionals
March 13 - Men's regionals
March 19 - Women's state meet
March 27 - Men's state meet
Coaches: John Wright, Kyle Motheral

Bold Gold Baseball Schedule

Feb. 26 - Lubbock Cooper, there, 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 28 - Lockney, here, 1 p.m., 3 p.m.
March 2 - Colorado City, here, 6 p.m.
March 4-6 - Sweetwater Wood Bat Tournament, there, TBA
March 6 - Sweetwater, there, 6:30 p.m.
March 9 - Littlefield, there, 5:30 p.m.
March 11-13 - Snyder Tournament, there, TBA
March 16-19 - Spring break
March 20 - Slaton-DH, there, 1 p.m. District games
March 22 - Idalou, there, 4:30 p.m.
March 23 - Idalou, there, 4 p.m.
March 26 - Tahoka, here, 7 p.m.
March 29 - Roosevelt, there, 4:30 p.m.
March 30 - Roosevelt, there, 7 p.m.
April 2 - New Deal, there, 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.
April 5 - Shallowater, there, 4:30 p.m.
April 6 - Shallowater, there, 4:30 p.m.
April 9 - Open/Good Friday
April 13 - Idalou, here, 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.
April 16 - Tahoka, there, 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.
April 19 - Roosevelt, here, 4:30 p.m.
April 20 - Roosevelt, here, 5 p.m.
April 23 - New Deal, here, 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.
April 26 - Shallowater, here, 4:30 p.m.
April 27 - Shallowater, here, 4:30 p.m.
Coach: Max Kattwinkel



Breathing and seeing were major problems at the massive pile-up north of Post on U.S. Hwy 84 last Thursday afternoon. Travel on the highway was closed for several hours. (Staff Photo by Tim Burnett)

Post High School Track Schedule

March 6 - Roscoe (JV boys, varsity boys, varsity girls)
March 12 - New Deal (JV boys, varsity boys, varsity girls)
March 27 - Floydada (JV boys, varsity boys, varsity girls)
April 3 - Post (JV boys, varsity boys, varsity girls)
April 9 - Roosevelt (JV boys, varsity boys, varsity girls)
April 15 - Shallowater (JV boys, varsity boys, varsity girls)
April 23 or 24 - Regional qualifiers
April 30-May 1 - Regionals, Abilene
May 7 - State qualifiers
May 14-15 - State meet, Austin



Jerry Taylor was not injured, but his automobile suffered damages from the major accident on U.S. Hwy 84 last Thursday afternoon. Taylor had his camera with him and snapped several photos of the scene. (Photo by Jerry Taylor)

Congratulations J.V. Antelopes



(Back row left to right), Coach Nick Dickson, Keith Meredith, Adrian Zubia, Colter Creech and Eric Reyna (front row), Wilson Cash, Heath Fellhauer, D.J. Baiza, Zach Lopez, Roby Lester and Kenneth Garay.

Congratulations Varsity Antelopes



(Back row left to right), Coach Lonnie Scott, Kyle Gunn, Francisco Duran, Mitch Holly, Mark Norman and Jett Lott (middle row), Jerrad Grisham and Cole Easterling (front row), Coco Valdez, Mitchell Mills and Sterling Smith.

FARMERS Mitch & Mistie

Scott & Joy Creech

Rex & Terri Cash



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