

"MY TURN"

By
Carol
Ellis



AFTER YOU READ THIS on May 1st, take a little time to go vote before you get started on your other weekend activities. We have an interesting senate race, local city council and school boards, plus three extremely strange state amendment proposals to vote on.

I believe that when you are unsure how an amendment proposal will affect you personally, you should vote against it, no matter how good they try to make it sound.

Friend Deanne Clark sent a letter for the editorial page, but since Bill and I usually make most of our editorial comments in this space each week, I'm going to relinquish my spot to Deanne for discussion of Proposition #1. . . .

Dear Editor,

I am aware that several groups and school people have endorsed the proposed Constitutional Amendments which will appear on the May 1 ballot. I am enclosing a statement by Montie Hasie, our district member of the State Board of Education in opposition. He, along with the Association of Professional Educators and several grass roots groups such as the Texans Against Robin Hood Taxes and several legislators are warning voters about the negatives in the proposals.

I remember the Tax Relief Amendment, the implications that the funds from the Lottery would go for education, and now yet another plan, the Robin Hood plan, which are not what they seem.

Please print Mr. Hasie's comments for the benefit of those who have not decided about the propositions. Thank you.

Deanne Clark

The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) voted overwhelmingly at its recent convention to oppose the three proposed constitutional amendments on school finance that will go before the voters on May 1.

"This vote sends a clear message to our state leadership that we will not accept a band-aid solution," said Cathy Fletcher, ATPE state president. "It is time to restructure our tax system and develop a long-term solution."

"We have been laboring for 24 years with an identified inequitable public school funding system, and now the status quo bandwagon is overloaded with individuals who have chosen to do what is politically correct and not what is right," said Fletcher. "ATPE cannot stand by and allow our children to be taken on this ride that only leads to a dead end."

"We are not willing to accept a political solution," she added. "We are willing to accept a solution that is best for the children of Texas."

With 58,200 members, ATPE is the largest non-union educators' association in the U.S. ATPE membership consists primarily of classroom teachers, but also includes administrators, para-professionals, retired educators, students and public members.

In 1991, House Bill #1130 was blocked from going to the State House for a vote. This bill would have set higher academic standards for our schools and would eliminate "grade inflation" in order to promote youngsters to the next grade. More money is not the key to improved education.

Hasie has also noted that our state lawmakers have had plenty of opportunity to work on the state's education problems, yet no new legislation has been passed during this session (since January.)

"Prop #1 will destroy local control and convert local property taxes into state property taxes" he added.

Just to be on the safe side, vote NO on all three propositions.

Happy Birthday
EXCEL
25 Years In Parmer Co.



RIBBON EVENT....The Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting for Kevin's Auto, a new business in Bovina. Shown from the left are former owners Paul and Ola Lee Jones, Chamber president Bret Whitten, Suzan and Kevin Hughes, D'Lynn and Taryn Jamerson, Kenneth Waters and Jeff Steelman.

Excel Packing Plant Observes 25th Year

The Friona Division of Excel Beef Industries, Inc. (KBI), Missouri Beef Packers, Inc. (MBP) was founded in 1965 and commenced operations in 1966 at Rock Port, Missouri. MBP opened the Friona plant in 1968 and the facility at Plainview in 1971.

In 1974, MBP merged with KBI and the new company was called MBPXL. The XL in that name referred to Excel, the name of KBI's former Wichita operation. Cargill acquired MBPXL in 1979 and the name was changed to Excel in 1982.

In addition to Friona and Plainview, Excel today operates beef-processing plants in Dodge City, Kansas; Ft. Morgan and Sterling, Colorado; and Schuyler, Nebraska.

Excel Corporation is one of the nation's top three meat processors, producing beef, pork and further-processed meats. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Cargill, Excel is headquartered in Wichita, Kansas, with production facilities across the United States.

Excel Corporation evolved through a series of business combinations dating to 1946, when Excel Packing Company was formed in Wichita. In 1970, the

company was succeeded by Kansas Beef Industries, Inc. (KBI).

Missouri Beef Packers, Inc. (MBP) was founded in 1965 and commenced operations in 1966 at Rock Port, Missouri. MBP opened the Friona plant in 1968 and the facility at Plainview in 1971.

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In addition to Friona and Plainview, Excel today operates beef-processing plants in Dodge City, Kansas; Ft. Morgan and Sterling, Colorado; and Schuyler, Nebraska.

Excel has pork-processing facilities in Ottumwa, Iowa, and Beardstown, Illinois. It operates meat further-processing plants in Booneville, Arkansas; Ft. Branch, Indiana; Marysville, California; and Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Also located in Wichita, Kansas, is the Excel Product Development Center, which opened in 1992 to create new products for the food service industry.

In addition to the plants already listed, Excel has a dozen distribution centers and six regional U.S. sales offices. International sales offices in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan; Paris, France; and Toronto, Ontario play a key role in Excel's growing international business.

Cargill itself processes beef, pork and poultry at various overseas facilities in Canada, Mexico, Honduras, Argentina, Brazil, England, France, Japan, Taiwan and Thailand. Domestically, Cargill produces chickens, turkey, catfish and further-processed egg products.

Founded in 1865, Cargill is based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is a privately held merchandiser, processor, transporter and warehouse of agricultural and other bulk commodities. Cargill employs more than 67,000 people worldwide.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

By June Floyd

Although Fred and Artie Faye O'Hair, who live at 500 Avenue F have only lived in Bovina twenty-five years, they've been residents of Parmer County many, many years.

These two are typical "farmers moved to town." Since Fred's retirement, they've confined their yen for farming to growing flowers and a few vegetables.

Fred, the fourth of seven children born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Jim O'Hair, grew up on a farm in the Ring Community of Collingsworth County.

He and Artie Faye Painter, the only child of the late Mr. and Mrs. Claude Painter, who grew up in the Quail Community, which is also in Collingsworth County, were married December 23, 1935, in Enid, Oklahoma.

Artie Faye is a 1934 graduate of Hedley High School, Hedley, Texas.

The first few years the couple were married, they farmed in the same county they grew up in.

Their first home in the Panhandle of Texas was in Bailey County. Before moving to the Oklahoma Lane Community, they farmed near Stegall, Baileyboro and Maple, all in Southern Bailey County.

The couple's children, Michael, Claudia, Sonja and Freddie Mac, are all graduates of Bovina High School.

As a young girl, Artie Faye's parents insisted that she learn to play the piano and gave her lessons.

"However, she remembers, 'I wasn't too much interested, so didn't accomplish much.'"

She continued, "For many years I was so busy taking care of children, doing farm chores, helping my husband, attending school



Fred and Artie Faye O'Hair

functions and doing other things that I really didn't even have time to think about piano playing."

Following their retirement, Artie Faye took piano and art lessons and became very proficient in both fields.

Another of her hobbies, which she continues to pursue, is growing flowers.

Fred's hobbies, besides helping Artie Faye, are woodworking and playing dominoes.

The O'Hairs have nine grandchildren. Michael and his wife, the former Mildred Young, who grew up in the Oklahoma Lane Community, now live in New Boston, Texas.

Their children are Dena, Michael, Shane, Brian and Carla

Faye. Michael is serving in the United States Army and is currently stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Dena is employed in Austin. Shane and Brian are high school students and Carla Faye is in the fifth grade.

Claudia and her husband, Morris Reed, have three children, Allen, J.J. and Faron. They all live in Longview, Texas.

Freddie Mac and Rhonda also live in Longview and have a three-year-old daughter, Megan.

The O'Hairs are members of Bovina's First Baptist Church and spend a great deal of time being good neighbors, helping others less fortunate than themselves and making their community a better place in which to live.

Plans Finalized For "Prom Party"

Plans have been finalized for the Bovina Chamber of Commerce sponsored all night drug free party, which is scheduled for Saturday, May 1, after the prom.

In addition to a bowling session at Cannon Air Force Base and skating in Clovis, there will be numerous prizes including the grand prize, which will be a color television set with remote control.

Bret Whitten, president of the sponsoring organization, reports, "We're pleased with sixteen high school students have signed up to attend."

They are Melecio Marrufo, Jaime Fuentes, Darla Stormes, Rudy Flores, John Stormes, Leonel Salazar, Cecelia Perez and Brandy Rocha.

Also, Laura Saenz, Jose Javier Correa, Tony Rodriguez, Cheraye Spence, Cesar Marques, Elida Flores, Luis Gomez and Manny Saiz.

Postal Service "We Deliver"

"United States Postal Service employees deliver mail from Bangor, Maine to Pago Pago, in American Samoa, all for the same universal price," Postmaster Laura Bartlett says. "And, we do it so well, we are taken for granted," she points out.

Over the past twenty years, the Postal Service has been operating in a business-like manner with a mandate to offer universal service at reasonable, uniform rates. "We have achieved a break-even status—that is, to make postal revenues fully cover postal costs—and we have done so without using a single penny of tax dollars for operating purposes," says Postmaster Bartlett.

"Our nation's letter carriers, unlike milkmen and doctors, still make house calls," said Bartlett. "Many of the hundreds of thousands of letter carriers across the nation are long-term, dedicated employees who not only care about the job they do, but care about the welfare of the neighborhoods they serve."

Bartlett added that the letter carrier represents just the tip of the

iceberg. "Internally, we have gone from manual sortation to mechanization and now to automation," the postmaster

(Continued On Page 8)

City Sets Date For Vaccinations

Pet owners: The City of Bovina requires that all pets within the city limits must receive rabies vaccinations and city tags on a yearly basis.

Dr. Bret Whitten will be administering vaccinations on Saturday, May 1 and Saturday, May 8 from 2-5 p.m. at the Bovina Fire Station.

The cost for the rabies shot and city tags will be \$7.50. If your pet needs other vaccinations, they will be available upon request.

Errors Costly To Mustang Nine

Bovina Mustang baseballers opened district play on April 19 by hosting Paducah.

If only earned runs had counted, Bovina would have won the game, 6-1. However, the Dragons scored nine unearned runs, and the actual score was Paducah 10, Bovina 8.

BHS Sets Athletic Banquet

Plans have been completed for the annual Bovina High School Athletic Banquet. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 6 at the cafeteria.

Advance tickets will be sold for \$8.00 or they may be purchased at the door for \$10.00.

Persons interested in purchasing advance tickets may contact Donna Mitchell at McCallum Agency, 238-1167 or call her at home, 238-1678, or any of the following: Celia Quintana, 238-1317; Karen Kirkpatrick, 238-1547; or Ella Jo Stormes, 238-1222.

In the bottom of the seventh, Bovina loaded the bases with two men out, and Rusty Venable hit a line shot that would have tied the game, but the Paducah third-baseman stabbed the ball for the final out of the game.

On Friday, April 23, Bovina met Fort Elliott in a game at Amarillo Caprock, and lost, 14-13.

Wind gusts played havoc with the pitching and fly balls during the game.

The games left Bovina with a 2-10 season record and 0-1 in district.

Paducah 10, BHS 8

Lara, ss, 4-2-1; C. Marrufo, 2b 5-2-4; I. Marrufo, p 2-0-1; Stanley, c 5-1-3; Venable, lf 5-1-2; Rubalcava, cf 4-0-1; F. Gonzalez, rf 3-1-2; Hromas, 1b 4-0-0; J. Gonzalez, cf 2-1-0.

Ft. Elliott 14, BHS 13

Lara, 2b 3-2-1; C. Marrufo, c 5-2-2; I. Marrufo, 1b 4-2-1; Stanley, p 5-0-2; M. Maffufo, ss 3-2-2; Rubalcava, lf 3-2-0; F. Gonzalez, rf 3-2-1; Hromas, 3b 2-0-0; J. Gonzalez, cf 4-1-1.



SEEN BETTER DAYS---These old buildings located on the west end of Bovina's Main Street have been condemned and are being torn down for safety reasons.

Reflections

...from the files of The Bovina Blade

35 YRS. AGO--APRIL 30, 1958
 The first Teen-Age Rodeo in Bovina will be staged Saturday morning on the Bovina baseball field under the direction of the Bovina Junior Chamber of Commerce. Charles D. Smith, member of the Jaycees, is chairman of the event. The purpose of the Rodeo is to develop and encourage safe driving habits, and is a contest of driving skills and knowledge. Before the driving test, a written test was given Wednesday to the contestants. About 20 entries are expected to enter the contest, with 17 already signed up, according to Smith. The written and driving tests will be conducted with the assistance of a patrolman of the Department of Public Safety. Winner of the contest will enter the regional Teen-Age Rodeo in Plainview, May 11.

30 YRS. AGO--MAY 1, 1963
 A midnight fire destroyed a combination barn and grainery on Frank Burnett's farm seven miles northwest of Bovina. Burned with the building was some grain and ground feed, according to reports. Some 15 members of the Bovina Volunteer Fire Department answered the call to the fire at midnight Sunday night. The flames were out of control when they arrived at the scene, however. Size of the building was approximately 24 X 40. Firemen kept the flames from spreading to other farm buildings. They guarded the fire for about two hours and returned to town around 2 a.m. Monday. Origin of the fire was unknown.

25 YRS. AGO--MAY 1, 1968
 Bovina's bull statue and state historical marker will be located on the north side of Highway 60 between Bovina Restaurant and Sands Motel. The site was made

official Monday night at a meeting of Bovina Roping Club, the organization in charge of erecting the bull statue. Details of the historical plaque which will be erected in connection with the bull statue were made at a meeting of the Parmer County Historical Society here Saturday night. The inscription for the plaque, pointing out how Bovina was once the largest inland cattle shipping center in the world, was agreed on at the meeting. Leaders of the project hope the statue and plaque may be installed in time for the community's Bull Town Days celebration in August.

20 YRS. AGO--MAY 2, 1973
 C.E. Trimble, Bovina farmer-rancher, was injured Friday about noon when he was kicked by a horse on the George Trimble place just south of town. Trimble and Dolph Moten had just returned the mare to a corral and were finishing some chores when the horse kicked Trimble in the chest, breaking four ribs and puncturing his lung. He also suffered severe lacerations to his chin. Moten rushed him to the Parmer County Community Hospital in Friona where he was treated and hospitalized. He was released from the hospital Monday morning.

15 YRS. AGO--MAY 3, 1978
 Entries for the annual "Little Buckaroo Rodeo," sponsored by the Bovina Roping Club, are now being accepted, it was announced this week. Entries are to be sent to Rouel Barron, Star Route, Bovina. An entry fee of 50 cents per event will be charged. May 20 is the deadline for entering the events. Divisions are slated for three years and under. Four through six, seven through nine and 10 through 12. Events will include goat ribbon races, greased pig scramble, water

bucket obstacle, flag race, father-son three-legged race and boot scramble. A stick horse race is featured on the younger divisions. Entry blanks are also available at Bovina Super Market and Don's Medicine Chest and may also be left at these locations.

10 YRS. AGO--MAY 4, 1983
 Bovina law officers were investigating five break-ins within the city on Monday night. Places vandalized were the Spudnut Shop, Dairy Freeze, Bovina Wheat Growers, the junior high school and Woodrow's Snooker Parlor. Mel Clark, Bovina City Marshall, said whoever perpetrated the acts seemed more beat on destruction than stealing, as some vandalism was visible at each place.

At Bovina Wheat Growers, for example, the vandals took an object and broke windshields and headlights on vehicles in the station, including a motorcycle. They also completely demolished a stereo-system. At Bovina Junior High, a vending machine was broken into. However, very little money was missed or even available at any of the places.

"We would appreciate the assistance of anyone having information that might help us solve the cases. We will be glad to talk to anyone who has anything to offer," Clark said.

5 YRS. AGO--MAY 4, 1988
 The Senior Citizens met at the Center on April 27 for their regular meeting. Those present were Clifford and Julia Leake, Erna Bradshaw, Charis Eubank, Maesie Flynn, Bessie Trimble, Wiley and Velma Lide, Tom and Nannie Rhodes, Elna Byrd, S.N. Teague, Mearle Morgan, Hattie Burnett, Joe and Reagan Looney, Lillian Warren, Jerry Ware, Wayne Gipson of Roswell, Willie and Ethel Gipson, Butch and Dorothy Ellison and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wilson of Muleshoe.

Mr. Wilson showed a film to the group. The group enjoyed being together for their regular luncheon and their next meeting will be May 11. This will be the birthday party for those celebrating birthdays in May. You are invited to attend the salad supper each Saturday night and at that time games of 42 and Skip-bo will be played.



Looking Up!

By RICHARD GRISHAM

Strong marriages are the foundation of a strong society. Jesus emphasized this fact in Mark 10:6-9, as He reiterated the words of the Creation account from Genesis, when God joined Adam and Eve as husband and wife in the Garden of Eden.

When a young man and a young woman come to me and say, "Pastor, we want to get married!", I always try to counsel them about what it takes to have a successful marriage today. In my first counseling session with them, I always emphasize what I call the four "C's" essential to building a lasting marriage.

First they need to know that love is spelled, "C-O-M-M-I-T-M-E-N-T!" Love is not a feeling, but it is a trust. The words "I do" constitute "vows" of commitment made before God to one another in the marriage relationship.

The Greek language has three basic words for love. "Eros" is the root for our English words "romantic" and "erotic." It speaks of what I refer to as "Hollywood love," and is based on selfish desire or lust. This word for love was not acceptable enough to be used in the New Testament. Another Greek word for love is "philia," which signifies friendship. Although of higher value than "eros," it too falls short of God's concept of love.

The New Testament word for God's kind of unselfish, sacrificial love is "agape." This is the root word for the love spoken of in John 3:16 and in I Corinthians 13. It implies one's total commitment to the well-being of another. It is a love given to every believer in Christ by the Holy Spirit (see Romans 5:5). Only this kind of love, Godly love, will build a strong, lasting marriage in today's violent, destructive society. Have you told your spouse today, "I am totally committed to you and to you alone?"

A lasting marriage also involves good COMMUNICATION. Two men were walking one day. One said to his friend, "I am going to divorce my wife." "What for?" his friend asked. "Well," he replied, "she hasn't said a word to me in three whole months!" After a pause, his friend responded, "I'd think twice about it if I were you. It's not often you find a woman like that!"

Men often accuse woman of talking too much, but the truth is that in many marriages there is little communication by either spouse. Couples talk, but often only on a factual level. They may never really share, however, on an intimate, heart-felt level. Or else, if one partner does, the other is not truly listening. Men, more often than women, find it hard to express their true feelings. Even a good fuss may be better than silence!

But communication is a two-way street... or even better, a three-way sharing. Including prayer to God is also important to make a marriage truly intimate and sincere. It's hard not to love and appreciate someone who cares enough to pray with you and for you.

COURTESY is also essential for a healthy marriage. Jesus summed it up with His Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." I have known a few men who treated their dog, their pickup, and their John Deere tractor with more respect than they did their wives! Then they wondered why their wife had such low self-esteem, could care less how she looked and always had the proverbial headache.

On the other hand, Proverbs 21:9 reminds women, "It is better to live in the corner of the attic than with a crabby woman in a lovely home" (Living Bible)! So, in order to be treated like a King, treat your wife like a Queen!

The last "C," and most important, is CHRIST. The home where Christ is Lord will be a lasting, happy home. I sincerely believe that the Lord brought Velma and I together. And we know He is with us to help us succeed in all we do. He keeps our marriage and home looking up!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOVINA
 May 3-Kelly Williams
 May 6-Tami
 Larry Dopp, Alex Dopp
 May 7-Joyce Gill
 Schilling.
 (Editor's note: If your family is having a birthday, please call the office at 238-1523 for that members of the may wish them a Happy Birthday.)

Abbit Fifth
 Bovina students Abbit Society list for weeks, released by principal, include:
 Armando Saucedo, Ivan Vela, Jill S. Aguilon, Jake Stee, Widner, Lacie Y. Gilbreth, Courtney J. Vera, Xochitl Gue Cruz, Rosario Perez, Mike Olvera, Chance Stull, Nike Danner, Thomas Grissom, Joaquin Marin, Adolfo Perez and Ag.



Third grade-Angela Villarreal, Cordova, David G.

Principals
 Bovina students through the fifth honored by being STARS list, released Sue Nuttall, principal. Second grade-Cecilia, Amber Y. Aguilon, Lacie Y.

Honor Is Given
 The Bovina students making the roll for the entire year are listed below:
 The honorees in Sixth grade-E.J.T. Roach, Alfred Vanegas, Jose Villarreal.
 Seventh grade-Beauchamp, Eric G. Guevara, Luke S. George Villarreal.
 Eighth grade-Nora Uriegas and An. Freshmen-Car Jay Grisham, He Angie Uriegas and M. Sophomores-Rob Brooke Charles, David Gonzales, Kody Wilson and Juniors-Matt H. Seniors-Darren

Refinancing loan

RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 1ST & 8TH
 2-5 P.M.
AT THE BOVINA FIRE STATION

\$7.50 PER PET

FIXED RATE LOAN PLAN

Long-term Rural Real Estate Loans

Fixed Rate for First 10 Years

7.85%*


* Annual percentage rates are 8.07% to 8.23% depending on length of contract; after 10-year fixed rate period. Variable rates are subject to change.

LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE AT THESE RATES

- NEW PURCHASES ONLY
- LONG-TERM LOANS FULLY AMORTIZED
- ASSUMABLE
- RATE CONVERSIONS AVAILABLE AT END OF FIXED RATE PERIOD
- OTHER LOAN PLANS AVAILABLE

FEDERAL LAND BANK ASSOCIATIONS IN TEXAS

Offices Located Throughout the State



Federal Land Bank Association of Muleshoe
 316 S. Main Muleshoe

Police Report

On April 14 at about 9 p.m., officers were called to 402-3rd St. in regard to a domestic dispute between a husband and wife. Upon arriving, Bovina Police and Parmer County Sheriff's officers made contact with the complainant, Tonya Koelzer, who told officers that she and her husband, Kevin Koelzer, had been arguing and that a fight had ensued during which both she and her son had been struck.

Charges were filed the next day in the County Court for assault and injury to a child against Kevin Koelzer. Mr. Koelzer was arrested on April 15 and was taken to the Parmer County Jail where he was later released on bond.

On April 17 at about 8:15 p.m., Bovina Police arrived at the Pay-N-Save store where a hit and run accident had just occurred. According to the complainant, she was pulling into the parking lot when a red car backed out and ran into the side of her car. When she went into the store to call the police the driver of the other care left.

At about 8:40 p.m., officers found the car south of Bovina on FM 1731. The driver, Constantino Reyes, Jr., was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident and for felony DWI. He was taken to the Parmer County Jail where he later was released on bond.

On April 23, Mrs. Alice Culvahouse of Brownfield notified the Bovina Police that her storage buildings on her property on U.S. 60 had been burglarized. After an initial investigation, a search warrant was obtained from Justice of the Peace Vi Hutto.

Upon executing the warrant, several of the stolen items were recovered and a suspect was arrested. Arthur White, of Bovina, was taken to the Parmer County Jail on a charge of burglary of a building, a second degree felony. Mr. White was later released on bond.

Consolidated Report of Condition of **FIRST BANK**

of **MULESHOE** And Foreign and Domestic Subsidiaries, a member of the Federal Reserve System, at the close of business **March 31**, 19**93** published in accordance with a call made by the Federal Reserve Bank of this District pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Reserve Act.

STATE BANK NO. 2720-02
 FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT NO. 11 13 22965

CITY	Muleshoe	COUNTY	Bailey	STATE	Texas	ZIP CODE	79347-0565	CLOSE OF BUSINESS DATE	March 31, 1993
Dollar Amounts in Thousands									
ASSETS									
1. Cash and balances due from depository institutions:						2,167	1.0		
a. Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin						0			
b. Interest-bearing balances						23,895			
2. Securities						5,800	3.0		
3. Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank & of its Edge & Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs:						0			
a. Federal funds sold						0			
b. Securities purchased under agreements to resell						0			
4. Loans and lease financing receivables:						21,745	4.0		
a. Loans and leases, net of unearned income						391			
b. LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses						0			
c. LESS: Allocated transfer risk reserve						0			
d. Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve (Item 4.a minus 4.b and 4.c)						21,354	5.0		
5. Assets held in trading accounts						1,139	6.0		
6. Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)						968	7.0		
7. Other real estate owned						61	8.0		
8. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies						0			
9. Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding						0			
10. Intangible assets						77	9.0		
11. Other assets						717	10.0		
12. a. Total assets (sum of items 1 through 11)						56,178	12.0		
b. Loans deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j)						N/A			
c. Total assets and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 12.a and 12.b)						56,178	12.0		
LIABILITIES									
13. Deposits:						50,447	13.0		
a. In domestic offices:						8,813	13.0.a.(1)		
(1) Noninterest-bearing						41,634	13.0.a.(2)		
(2) Interest-bearing						0			
b. In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs:						0	13.0.b.(1)		
(1) Noninterest-bearing						0	13.0.b.(2)		
(2) Interest-bearing						0			
14. Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank & of its Edge & Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs:						0			
a. Federal funds purchased						0			
b. Securities sold under agreements to repurchase						0			
15. Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury						0			
16. Other borrowed money						0			
17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases						0			
18. Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding						0			
19. Subordinated notes and debentures						224	20.0		
20. Other liabilities						0			
21. Total liabilities (sum of items 13 through 20)						50,671	21.0		
22. Limited-life preferred stock and related surplus						0			
EQUITY CAPITAL									
23. Perpetual preferred stock and related surplus (No. of shares outstanding)						0			
24. Common stock (No. of shares: a. Authorized, b. Outstanding)						50,000	24.0		
25. Surplus (exclude all surplus related to preferred stock):						3,007	25.0		
26. a. Undivided profits and capital reserves						0			
b. LESS: Net unrealized loss on marketable equity securities						0			
27. Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments						0			
28. a. Total equity capital (sum of items 23 through 27)						5,507	28.0		
b. Losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j)						0			
c. Total equity capital and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 28.a. & 28.b)						5,507	28.0		
29. Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, equity capital, and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 21, 22, and 28.c)						56,178	29.0		
MEMORANDA: Amounts outstanding as of Report of Condition date:									
1. a. Standby letters of credit, Total						189	1.0		
b. Amount of Standby letters of credit in memo 1.a. conveyed to others through participations						0			

NOTE: This report must be signed by an authorized officer(s) and attested by not less than three directors other than the officer(s) signing the report.

Linda Lutz, Cashier
 Name and title of officer authorized to sign report

[Signature]
 Signature of officer authorized to sign report

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Signature]
 Director

[Signature]
 Director

[Signature]
 Director

(MAKE MARK FOR NOTARY'S SEAL) State of Texas Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of April 1993 and I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank. My commission expires 11-2-95

FIRST BANK BOVINA MEMBER FDIC

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOVINA!!!

May 3--Kelly Wilburn.
May 6--Tami Kunselman,
Larry Dopp, Alex Dopp.
May 7--Joyce Gilbreath, Todd Schilling.

(Editor's note: If someone in your family is having a birthday coming up, call the Bovina Blade office at 238-1523 in advance, so that members of the community may wish them a Happy Birthday!)



LUKE STEELMAN

Luke Steelman Named Academy Award Winner

The United States Achievement Academy announced this week that Luke Steelman has been named a United States National Award winner in English, mathematics and science.

This award is a prestigious honor very few students can ever hope to attain. In fact, the Academy recognizes less than ten per cent of all American high school students.

Luke, who attends Bovina Junior High School, was nominated for this national award by Lawrence Widner, a science teacher at the school; Virginia Rhodes, an English instructor; and Francis Willard, a math teacher.

Steelman will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Official Yearbook, published annually.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly United States

Achievement Academy award winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, executive director of the United States Achievement Academy.

The Academy selects USAA winners upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors or other school sponsors and upon the Standards of Selection set forth by the Academy. The criteria for selection are a student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, dependability, and recommendation from a teacher or director.

His parents are Joe and Esther Steelman and Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Steelman of Bovina and Mr. and Mrs. Porfirio Mejia of Memphis, Texas are his grandparents.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CLINIC MAY 6, 1993

Bovina Ridgelea Elementary School
10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

The Farmer County Cooperative for Special Education serving the Friona, Bovina, Lazbuddie and Farwell Independent School Districts, is offering a FREE clinic for children 3, 4 and 5 years old. This clinic is to identify children who may need early classroom experience because they seem to have problems in: HEARING, TALKING, SEEING, PLAYING LIKE OTHER CHILDREN, LEARNING ABOUT THEIR WORLD, USING THEIR HANDS (Using scissors, crayons, pencils, etc.) or who may have a PHYSICAL HANDICAP. Certified specialists will be working with children at this clinic which is to be held at the Bovina Ridgelea Elementary School, May 6, 1993 from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. If you are concerned about your child's growth and development in any of these areas, bring your child to this clinic. If you need additional information,

Call: Charles Turner
Friona, 247-3315

Abbit Society Gives Fifth Six Weeks List

Bovina students named to the Abbit Society list for the fifth six weeks, released by Sue Nuttall, principal, include:

Second grade--Maritssa Salazar, Armando Saucedo, Kris Galvan, Ivan Vela, Jill Sorley, Edgar Aguillon, Jake Steelman, Amber Widner, Lacie Young, Melissa Gilbreth, Courtney Jamerson, Juan Vara, Xochitl Guevara, Destiny Cruz, Rosario Perez, Trent Black, Mike Olvera, Chance Danner, Sean Stull, Nike Danner, Jessica Estrade, Thomas Grissom, Josh Kerby, Joaquin Marin, Austin Clayton, Adolfo Perez and Agustin Ruiz.

Third grade--Dustin Ward, Angela Villarreal, Jonathan Cordova, David Garcia, Christen

Stowers, Rocio Antillon, Jennifer Cantu, Tabitha Englant, Danny Martinez, Amber King, April Martinez, Diego Ruiz, Krystal Weber, Paula Chavez, Stephen Olivarez and Silvino Silva.

Fourth grade--Levi Steelman, Raynie Trimmell, Tyson Kerby, Yancy Graves, Lorena Carmona, Cameron Charles, Krysta Morris and Patricia Robles.

Fifth grade--April Stull, Nancy Vela, David Martinez, Sara Sorley, Alvaro Martinez, Brittney Danner, Melissa Cano, Marisol Antillon, Walter Kessler and Jessica Chilton.

Making the Principal's Recognition List were: Victor Banuelos, Lorena Hernandez, Tommy Fuentes, Dina Flores and Sandra Chairez.

High School Honor Roll Is Released

The secondary school honor roll for the fifth six weeks has been announced by Joe Rackley, principal.

Those on the list were as follows:

ALL A'S
Sixth grade--Alfred Uriegas and Jose Vitolas.
Seventh grade--Tony Beauchamp, Maricela Guevara and Luke Steelman.
Eighth grade--Amber Willard.
Freshmen--Henry Renteria and Angie Uriegas.
Sophomores--Roberta Borquez, Isabel Viernes and Kody Wilson.
Juniors--Matt Hromas.
Seniors--Darren Hromas and Maria Perez.

A'S AND B'S
Sixth grade--Gina Beauchamp, Evangelina Casas, J.T. Roach, Derrick Vanegas and Josh Willard.
Seventh grade--Chris Arias, Pauline Borquez, Erik Galvan, Carolina Gomez, Patricia Kessler, Priscella Martinez, Wanda Munoz, Bonnie Quintana, Lorena Rubalcava, Jessica Saucedo, Hector Vela and George Villarreal.

Eighth grade--Lori Beauchamp, Lisa Hromas, Melissa Nicholas, Miguel Perez, Joey Rackley, Jaime Salazar and Nora Uriegas.
Freshmen--Carmen Campos, Jay Grisham, Anna Quevado and Mandy Wilson.
Sophomores--Richard Beauchamp, Brooke Charles, Benji Chisom, Andy Espinoza, David Gonzales, Ignacio Morales, Sally Noriega, Charlotte Quintana, Cynthia Reyna and Wayne Stormes.

Juniors--J.J. Arias.
Seniors--Stephanie Rackley and Rosalinda Serna.

Top Students Recognized For Month
Top students for the month of April at Bovina elementary school were recognized this past week. They included:
Second grade--Mrs. Chavez's class, Rosario Perez and Christopher DeLaCruz; Mrs. Widner's class, Ruben Ovalle and Claude Tamez; Mrs. Steelman's class, Alma DeLaCruz and Marcelino Rubalcava.
Third grade--Mrs. Side's class, Adriana Jimenez and Romana Gomez; Mrs. Trimble's class, Christen Stowers and Travis Stanberry; Mrs. Carlyle's class, Dina Flores and Julie Rodriguez.
Fourth grade--Mrs. Burney's class, Carlos Rivera and Abel Vega; Mrs. Graves' class, Alvaro Ramirez and Mark Pena; Mrs. Deen's class, Michelle Guzman and Chris Antillon.
Fifth grade--Mr. Martin's class, April Stull and Mario Rios; Mrs. Sealey's class, Adriana Guevara and Joe Olvera.

Principal Names STARS Honorees

Bovina students, second grade through the fifth grade, were honored by being named on the STARS list, released this week by Sue Nuttall, principal. They were:

Second grade--Armando Saucedo, Amber Widner, Edgar Aguillon, Lacie Young, Maritssa

Salazar, Chance Danner, Xochitl Guevara, Nike Danner, Kathy Cantu, Courtney Jamerson, Destiny Cruz, Josh Kerby, Jill Sorley, Austin Clayton, Marcelino Rubalcava, Derek Weber, Jake Steelman, Agustin Ruiz, Sean Stull and Adolfo Perez.

Third grade--Dustin Ward, Rocio Antillon, Jennifer Cantu, Danny Martinez, Tabitha Englant, Noemi Viernes, Mitchel Vela, Alonso Vela, Arelly Chairez, Dina Flores, Amber King, April Martinez, Jeremy Ortiz, Briselda Rodriguez, Angela Villarreal, Krystal Weber, Jonathan Cordova, David Garcia, Paula Chavez, Stephen Olivarez, Margarita Hernandez, Jerry Sherbon, Silvino Silva, Christen Stowers and Stephanie Tamez.

Fourth grade--Juan Saucedo, Victor Banuelos, Tina Cervantes, Marissa Rodriguez, Jason Stone, Jimmie Dawn Jones, Krysta Morris, Alvaro Ramirez, Raynie Trimmell, Brenda Carmona, Eleazar DeLaCruz, Michell Vanegas, Paulino Gonzales, Joyce Martinez, Chris Antillon, Lorena Carmona and Casey Riley.
Fifth grade--Mario Rios, Sergio Nieto, Julie Grisham, Brittney Danner, Melissa Cano, Marisol Antillon, Marie Martinez, Misty Pruitt, Adrian Rubalcava and Sara Sorley.

Honor Roll Is Given

The Bovina secondary school students making the A/AB honor roll for the entire 1992-93 school year are listed below.

The honorees include:
Sixth grade--Evangelina Casas, J.T. Roach, Alfred Uriegas, Derrick Vanegas, Jose Vitolas and Josh Willard.

Seventh grade--Tony Beauchamp, Eric Galvan, Maricela Guevara, Luke Steelman and George Villarreal.

Eighth grade--Lisa Hromas, Nora Uriegas and Amber Willard.

Freshmen--Carmen Campos, Jay Grisham, Henry Renteria, Angie Uriegas and Mandy Wilson.
Sophomores--Richard Beauchamp, Roberta Borquez, Brooke Charles, Andy Espinoza, David Gonzales, Isabel Viernes, Kody Wilson and Cynthia Reyna.
Juniors--Matt Hromas.
Seniors--Darren Hromas.

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Scooter's Scoops

By Scooter Russell

Ronnie Cary has come home from the hospital and his mom said every day his condition improves, so we're all happy about that.

Our sympathies to the family of Odessa Finch, who passed away Monday morning at Clovis High Plains Hospital. Her husband, Ben, has been in St. Mary's Hospital in Lubbock having tests run but is out of the hospital now. Our thoughts are with the family.

Many of you remember Hilda Garza, who grew up in Bovina. She moved from here to Friona and then to Hereford. Her husband, Derk Powell, underwent surgery for a brain tumor and died on Monday of this week.

Services for Derk were held in Hereford, Wednesday afternoon, and graveside services held at Earth. He and Hilda had two daughters, Amanda and Cami.

Pat Holman of Childress

visited in Bovina with her son, Jay, his wife, Libby, and their son, Corbin. The family enjoyed a good time and she left on Monday.

Amanda Prather, daughter of Mike and Gina Prather, is hospitalized at the University Medical Center in Lubbock. She entered the hospital Monday night.

Herman Estes is a patient at the hospital at Coleman, Texas and on Wednesday, friends said his condition is very serious. His daughter, Suez Smith, and family are with him.

Galen and Elaine Carson and children visited recently in Austin with his sister, Joan and Mike Strawn and family. Elaine said the bluebonnets were in bloom and beautiful.

On Sunday, the family attended the River Bend Baptist Church with Gerald Mann as pastor. Said it was a beautiful, huge church and they

had four services on Easter Sunday. They had a great time together.

Nettie Lee Wilson passed away Wednesday morning at the hospital in Lubbock. She had been ill for a few weeks. Our thoughts are with her daughter, Nancy, and granddaughter, Tana, and her daughter. She was preceded in death only recently by her husband, Joe.

Wayne Stormes celebrated his eighteenth birthday on Thursday of last week. Wayne's mom, Ella Jo, and his brother, John, drove to Levelland and watched the one-act play that Bovina participated in and said it was great!

Kelli McClaran attended funeral services for her grandmother, Sybil Wood of Cleburne, Texas. She was 80 years old and passed away on Thursday of last week and funeral services were held Saturday. She was survived by two children and five grandchildren.

Maesie Flynn and her sister, Grace Parr of Friona, have just returned from a trip to South Texas.

They spent Easter weekend with Grace's daughter and her family, Mr. and Mrs. John Foster of Fort Worth. The family attended church on Sunday at the First United Methodist Church and also the Easter Cantata entitled, "Christ is Risen, Halleluia." Grace's daughter, Iva, sang in the cantata and also sang a duet with David McClure.

After they left Fort Worth, they traveled to McAllen, where Grace's other daughter and family live. They are Mr. and Mrs. Trev Sparks. The family spent a day on South Padre Island and the Gulf of Mexico and enjoyed a twenty mile drive on North Padre. This was on the beach toward Port Mansfield,

where they went shelling. They had lunch at the famous Louis Restaurant and enjoyed a shopping trip there.

They went sightseeing in Port Isabel and visited the lighthouse there, built in 1853 during the early stages of the Civil War. The Confederate troops used the lighthouse as an observation post.

They visited the gambling casino ship, which was docked at Port Isabel.

One day the ladies enjoyed a shopping spree at Reynosa, Mexico and saw the sights in the area there.

On their trip, they saw miles and miles of beautiful bluebonnets and many other types of flowers. Maesie said that Texas has 5,000 different species of flowers and they saw many of them.

On their way home from McAllen, they visited in Fiesta, Texas, which is north of San Antonio in the hill country and said the area there was beautiful.

The ladies had a lovely trip and were away from home from April 8 until April 19.

HAD YOU HEARD? Did you know they have changed the little "Ken" doll this year to be more like the man of the 90s? He is now unemployed and lives with Barbie's parents.

Fifth Jeep Jamboree Set May 14-16

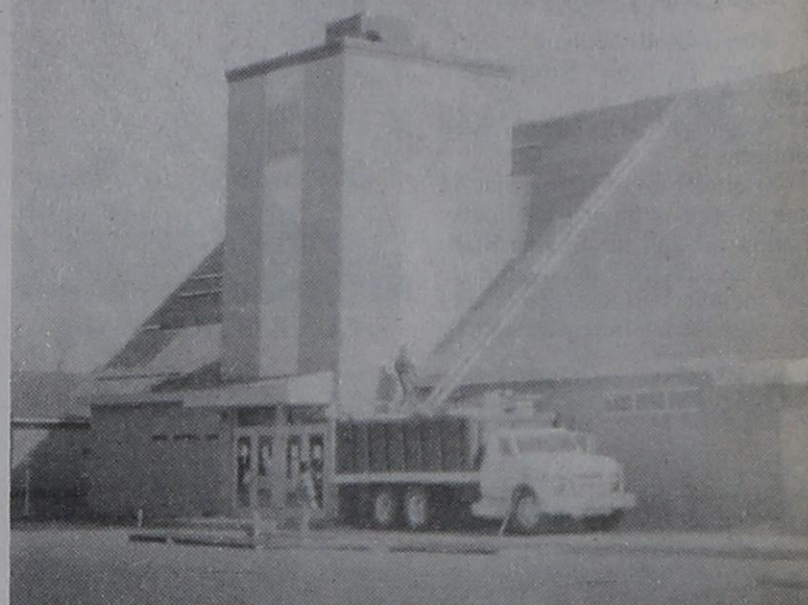
The weekend of May 14-16 marks the fifth year for the Palo Duro Jeep Jamboree.

Jeep Jamborees are wonderful, organized events that allow Jeep owners and their families to safely enjoy the great outdoors.

Jeep Jamborees strongly endorse the U.S. Forest Services' Tread Lightly program and utilize only established roads and trails. Whatever is packed in, is packed out, and existing litter from careless people is picked up and removed.

This year, there are approximately 26 Jamborees that offer a variety of exciting terrains from Maine to California, and the number is growing yearly. And with their popularity at an all-time high, waiting lists for some are not uncommon. Texas has been fortunate enough to be awarded one of these prized events. The Fifth Annual Palo Duro Jeep Jamboree, hosted by Jeep Exclusive, will operate out of Amarillo with a selection of fine Jeep off-roading. The first day of excitement will be at the Canadian River north of the city and the following days in the rugged Palo Duro Canyon area of Tom Christian's Figure 3 Ranch. In addition to excellent fellowship and jeeping, the activities will feature the Cowboy Morning Breakfast, and steak cookouts with a night of camping under the stars in Palo Duro's ranch country.

For additional information contact: Larry McLean at (806) 622-0337, Jerry Baker at PrintCo (806) 358-9676 for the Texas information, or Jeep Jamboree USA, P.O. Box 1601 Georgetown, CA 95634, phone (916) 333-4777.



ROOF REPAIRS--Bovina's Methodist Church recently underwent some repairs to the roof. Damage was caused by the hail storm last Fall and heavy snows this past winter.

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Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,
THE SKY IS NOT FALLING. The education funding crisis has nothing to do with the dilemma created by the judge in Austin. The school finance bill, Constitution Amendment, Proposition #1 (the Robin Hood plan), gives the legislature new authority to raise the CED tax rate from the present \$.82 to \$1.00.

REMEMBER, the voters assumed that the lottery proceeds would be used to fund education, but that is not what happened. The money went into the general revenue fund and not to fund education. There is no assurance that the new tax dollars raised would be spent on students, books or even more teachers. Since 1979, spending per student has increased 127% while school enrollment in Texas has risen only 33%. It does, however, legally create another taxing entity (bureaucracy).

GET READY! Currently, superintendents and board presidents are being sent media kits to "sell the SJR amendment" to communities. Fabricated questions and answers are included in the kits. School closings and consolidation threats are being used to influence the voters for a tax that could raise property taxes another \$2.4 billion or 67%.

THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS to solve the fabricated crisis. The legislature has known about this problem since January 1992.

NEVER vote for anything when you do not know how much it is going to cost, how it is going to impact your schools or provide bureaucrats more money without safeguards. This amendment is somewhat like signing a mortgage contract which says your interest rate can go up to 25% anytime the bank feels like it, but the banker gives you a handshake and a promise that it will only go up to 10%.

Anyone unwilling to sign a blank check for the legislature and anyone who is troubled by this issue and other amendment propositions, call 647-3228 or 647-3487 for more information.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW to protect our constitutional rights. Once it passes, you will never get to vote on whether your taxes go up again.

Worried and concerned,
/s/Deanne Clark
/s/Rita McDaniel

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FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Facts About The

BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

WAITING AT THE WELL

THE WELL WAS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE PEOPLE IN ANCIENT BIBLE LANDS. WELLS WERE OFTEN SCOOPED OUT OF THE SANDY SOIL BY THOSE WHO KNEW OF THE PRESENCE OF WATER. OTHER WELLS WERE DUG OUT OF THE LIMESTONE ROCK IN THE HILLY PALESTINE COUNTRY. NO MATTER WHERE THE WELL HAPPENED TO BE, IT WAS THE CENTER OF ACTIVITY FOR THE PEOPLE, WHO NEEDED ITS WATERS TO LIVE. BECAUSE ALL PEOPLE HAD TO COME TO THE WELLS THEY BECAME A COMMON MEETING PLACE. A PERFECT ILLUSTRATION OF THIS IS THE ACCOUNT OF ELIEZER, ABRAHAM'S STEWARD, WHO WAS SEARCHING OUT A BRIDE FOR ISAAC, ABRAHAM'S SON. (GEN. 24) BEING IN A LAND NOT HIS OWN, ELIEZER KNEW HE COULD ASK DIRECTIONS, OR INQUIRE AFTER THOSE HE WANTED TO MEET AT THE COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE--THE WELL! AS ON A CERTAIN DAY.....

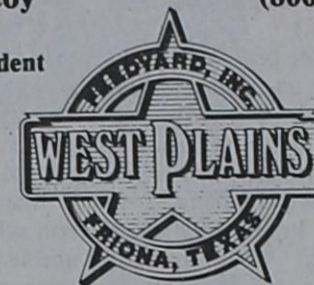


ELIEZER AND HIS PARTY WAIT WITH PATIENCE FOR THE WOMEN TO COME AND DRAW THE EVENING WATER, FOR IT IS STRICT ETIQUETTE OF THESE ANCIENT DAYS THAT A STRANGER NEVER TAKES WATER FROM A WELL THAT DOES NOT BELONG TO HIM, BUT WAITS UNTIL IT IS OFFERED TO HIM AND HIS ANIMALS!

(149)

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Robin Hood: How It Affects Taxpayers

BY KENT GRUSENDORF
(Editor's note: Kent Grusendorf is a member of the Texas House of Representatives from Arlington.)

On May 1st, the people of Texas will finally have an opportunity to affirm or reject the infamous "Robin Hood" constitutional amendment, otherwise known as Proposition #1 on the ballot.

Superficially, Robin Hood takes money from "rich" school districts in one part of the state and gives it to the "not-so-rich" districts in other parts of the state.

However, voters should beware the actual effect of Proposition #1 is more sinister. If passed, taxpayers would be forfeiting basic constitutional rights: the right to authorize a specific taxing entity to im-

pose a tax and the power to restrict or limit the rate of such a tax. If passed, this power would be relinquished to the Texas Legislature. In effect, the end result would be to take from those with little political power (taxpayers) and give it to those with a great deal of political power (legislators, lobbyists, and special interests groups).

Many people think that the current school finance plan was ruled unconstitutional because it failed to achieve equity. WRONG! The current CED (County Education Districts) system is very equitable. In fact, it is one of the most equitable in the country. The Texas Supreme Court ruled that the current system was unconstitutional because the Legislature failed to allow the public to exercise their constitutional right to vote to authorize CED's to impose a tax and to set their tax rates at the local level. These taxpayers' rights are currently provided by Article 7, Section 3 of the Texas Constitution. This section of the Constitution protects the taxpaying public by denying the legality of any tax unless that taxing authority has been approved by voters to impose such a tax. Now with Proposition #1, the Legislature is asking the voting public to give up that constitutional protection in the name of equity and to pass that power on to the Legislature.

Trust Him-His name is Robin Hood.

He is from the Government and he is here to help you.

Most school districts in the state have a taxpayer imposed limit on their maintenance and operation tax rates of \$1.50 per \$100 evaluation (1/2% of value). A few have a slightly lower limit, but none have limits above \$1.50. Many districts are rapidly approaching the \$1.50 tax cap. Currently, no school district can tax over the \$1.50 level without a vote of the taxpayers within a district. When a district reaches its limit, taxpayers can, at their sole discretion, demand more accountability and efficiency from the district. Retaining voter approval of tax increases requires a school administration to be more accountable to the voting public and to operate more efficiently.

A case study currently exists in Arlington ISD. Taxpayers refused to raise that tax cap; consequently, the district dramatically reduced administrative expenses and restructured itself to achieve more efficiencies and to make itself more accountable to the community. In the opinion of many, including the new school superintendent, the district has achieved significant progress and will benefit in the long-term from this belt-tightening experience. If Proposition #1 passes, taxpayers would lose this leverage over their school districts, and tax rates could steadily increase

while school performance declines. Without having the ability to voice dissatisfaction through a local vote, inefficiency, waste, and mediocrity could continue and schools would avoid this difficult, but very worthwhile growth experience.

For example, if your school district is currently taxing at a rate of \$1.38, the school board, due in part to restriction in the Texas Constitution, can only increase your tax rate by 12 cents for a total of \$1.50 before coming to you, the taxpayer, and asking for approval of the higher tax rate. However, if Proposition #1 were to pass, the Legislature, not taxpayers, could authorize your school district to increase property taxes up to an additional \$1.12, for a total of \$2.50, without going back to the taxpayer public for a vote of the people. Twelve cents versus \$1.12—that's a significant difference.

Trust Him-His name is Robin Hood.

He is from Austin and he is here to help you.

Do you as a taxpayer want to retain your constitutional right to approve future taxing limits, or do you want to delegate that authority to the Legislature? That is the real underlying question to Proposition #1.

All it takes to keep the current system in place, and to make it constitutional, is to allow taxpayers their constitutional right to authorize and set their tax rates. Overzealous proponents have suggested that Proposition #1 must pass in order to keep schools open. That is unequivocally untrue. Judge McCown has said himself that a constitutional amendment is not required. All knowledgeable authorities agree that schools will not open or close as a result of action on Proposition #1. Even the most outspoken proponents of this proposed amendment have now admitted that passage or failure of Proposition #1 is irrelevant to the closure of schools.

Furthermore, many other alternatives exist. Some require amending the constitution; others do not.

House Bill 669—Establishes a county unit system and allows taxpayers to set their own tax rates. If a county failed to adopt a tax, all

ISD's within the county would be consolidated. In my opinion, this bill requires no constitutional amendment and taxpayers do not give up any constitutional right or protection.

House Bill 2412—Provides for a total restructuring of our educational system. Money would flow directly to the school campuses, thus allowing each campus to run autonomously, similar to the running of a small business enterprise. This plan would provide for approximately \$500 million dollar savings in administrative costs which could then be redirected to the classroom effort or to a teacher pay raise. It requires no constitutional amendment; however, it could provide a significantly better educational system.

These bills are not the only alternatives available. But they represent some of the solutions which should be considered and which do not take away taxpayers' authority through a constitutional

N. Wilson's Rites Slated On Saturday

Funeral services for Nettie Lea Wilson, 82, are scheduled at the First Baptist Church in Bovina on Saturday at 11 a.m. with Rev. Richard Grisham officiating.

Mrs. Wilson passed away Wednesday at Lubbock Methodist Hospital of natural causes.

She was born in Oklahoma, and married Joe Wilson August 19, 1937. He passed away March 8, 1993.

Mrs. Wilson was a member of the 39ers Club and the Sherley Grain Bowling League, and First Baptist Church.

Survivors include one daughter, Nancy Knight of Bovina; one sister, Johnesse Means of Bonham; one granddaughter, Tana Jo Brown and one great-granddaughter, Shealana Jo Brown of Bonham.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Lucille Walling, in 1988.

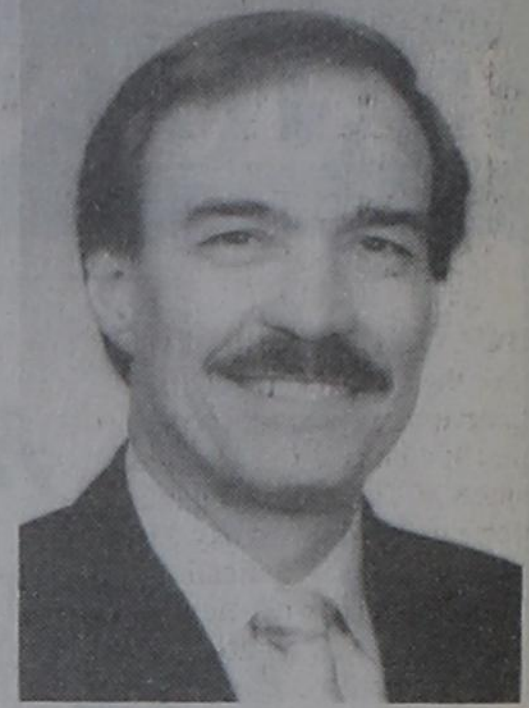
Pallbearers will be Johnny Byler, Michael Johnson, Marty Means, Ted Walling, Tiny Walling and Hayden Walling.

amendment.

In fairness to the proponents of Proposition #1, it should be noted that all taxes entail some degree of Robin Hood (i.e. taxpayers make payments in different proportions than they receive benefits.) Additionally, all school finance plans have some Robin Hood aspects. Poor school districts receive more state money per student than wealthy school districts. Likewise, all alternative solutions to the current dilemma use some Robin Hood scheme. County education districts, for example, allow for the redistribution of wealth within the CED. Proposition #1 differs in that it provides for a type of Robin Hood that is currently prohibited by the Texas Constitution and effectively provides for a statewide property tax which is also prohibited by the Texas Constitution.

Proposition #1 does not fix the problem—it is only a stop-gap measure. It does nothing to limit or stop future litigation. It will not keep us out of the courts. It will not keep us from getting a personal income tax. It has nothing to do with keeping the schools open. It does absolutely nothing to improve or restructure the educational system. It is not the only answer; in fact, from a taxpayer's perspective, it may even be the worst all of the available options.

Other options are available, any



KENT GRUSENDORF

one of which could be passed after Proposition #1 fails. Do not be a victim of false scare tactics. All it takes to keep the current system in place and to make it constitutional is to allow taxpayers their constitutional right to authorize and set their own tax rates. If you really want to save our schools, vote No on Proposition #1. This is no time for band-aids. Demand that the Legislature restructure and improve our educational system instead of just rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic.

In a democracy, ultimate power lies in the hands of the people—as it should. Exercise that power. Do not delegate your constitutional right to the Legislature.

His name was Robin Hood. He was sent back to Austin.

The people helped themselves.

O. Finch Services Saturday

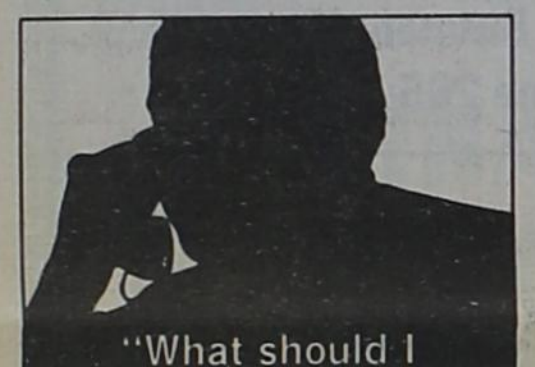
Funeral services for Odester Finch, 85, will be held Saturday, May 1 at the Bovina Church of Christ, with Cecil Bunch of Clovis officiating.

Mrs. Finch passed away April 26 at Clovis Hi-Plains Hospital.

She was born February 14, 1908 in Wheelock, Texas, and moved to Parmer County in 1937. She was a housewife, and was a member of Bovina Church of Christ. She married Ben Finch, September 30, 1929 in Childress.

Survivors include her husband, Ben, of the home; a daughter, Thelma Pottard of Clovis; two sisters, Inez Morris of Farwell and Irene Evans of Fort Worth. One grandchild, three great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren survive.

Pallbearers will be Jackie Dale Morris, Charlie Lee Morris, J.R. Houston, Andre L. Guidry, Nathan Shepard and Aurelius Houston.



"What should I eat to reduce my risks of cancer?"

Whether it's a question about nutrition or cancer's warning signs or the latest treatment — whatever question you have about cancer, call the American Cancer Society. We are a place to turn to when you don't know where to turn.

Call the American Cancer Society
1-800-ACS-2345



Happy Birthday
EXCEL
25 Years In Parmer Co.

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Has Lunch & Evening Specials Every Day!

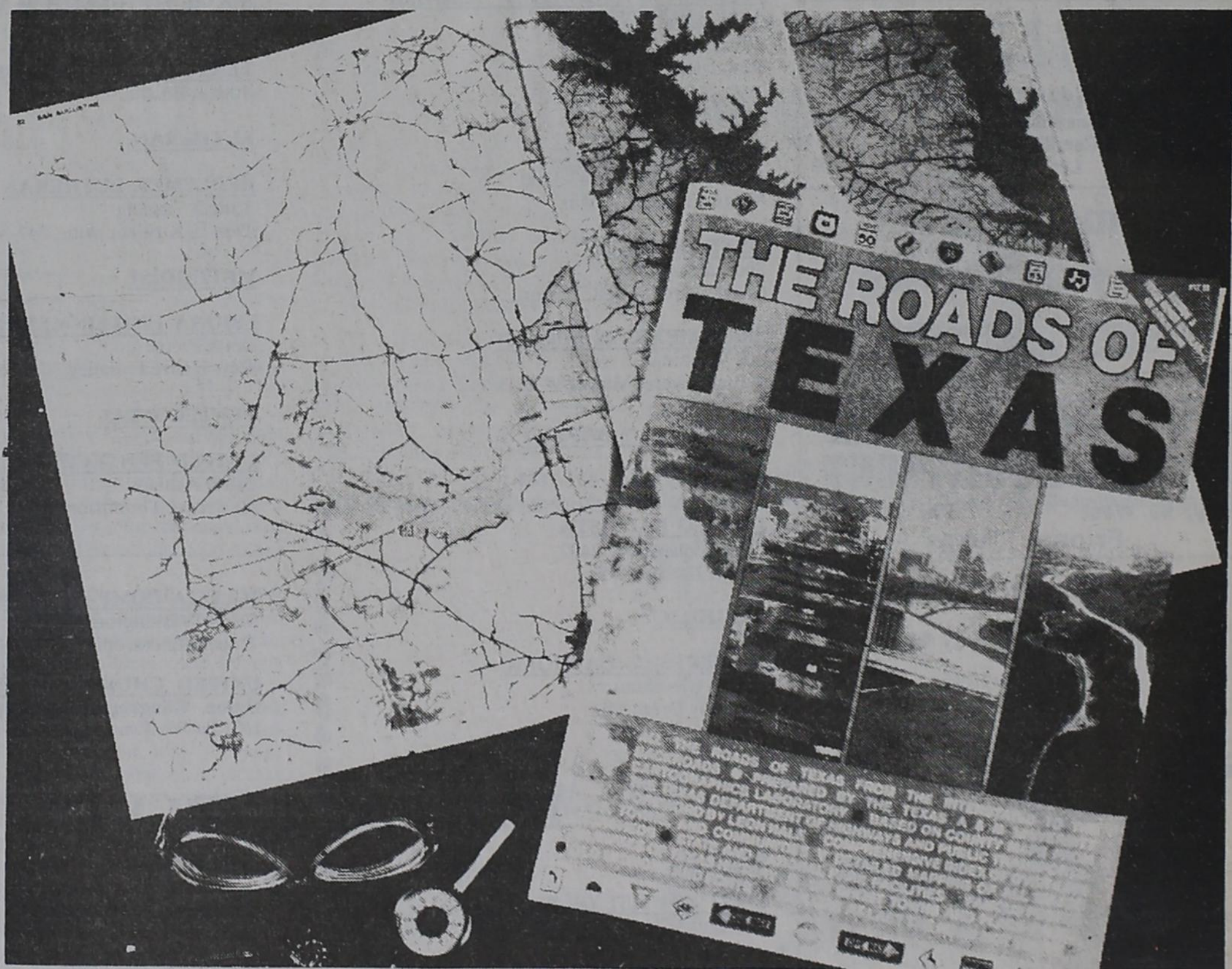
- *Tuesday Night
FAJITAS... \$6.95
- *Wednesday Night
BACON WRAPPED
CHUCK SIRLOIN
\$5.95
- *Thurs. Night
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK
(All You Can Eat) \$5.95
- *Friday Evening
STEAK & SHRIMP \$7.50

Also...
DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS \$4.50

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\$12.95

plus tax

The Bovina Blade
Phone 238-1523

BOUQUETS to on the occasion anniversary. Doe that it's been a fu since the large cro perfect, sun-bathe plant and heard de for the sparkling facility, but... calendar says! There's not the worth that been to our ch Certain people particularly the or checks, collect s products, or a huge benefits. Suffice it to sa wonderful partner plant and the area an outstanding citi by their support schools, organiza their growth over has just multiple dollars which turn Excel has for n allied businesses April 20, 1968 v letter" day for our We'd like to see folks at Pexel cooperation for project. It could n attempted w wholehearted appo they supplied plen Along that l Close, but n getting every this issue. I overwhelming project, we ju out of time to we'd intended to "overlap" it and maybe th still don't ha covered. We missed congratulatory a fishing, and some and our Thursday came quicker than are even some feat the plant that we finished. So, pleas and we'll try to get. If you want to b birthday message

You

ADD



Editor's Notes

BY
BILL ELLIS

BOUQUETS to the Excel Corp. on the occasion of their 25th anniversary. Doesn't seem possible that it's been a full quarter-century since the large crowd gathered on a perfect, sun-bathed day at the MBP plant and heard dedication speeches for the sparkling new slaughter facility, but...that's what the calendar says!

There's not way of measuring the worth that the packing plant has been to our cities and county. Certain people could tell you--particularly the ones who cash the checks, collect school or county taxes, provide the plant services or products, or a hundred and one other benefits.

Suffice it to say that it's been a wonderful partnership between the plant and the area. Excel has been an outstanding citizen, as evidenced by their support of local clubs, schools, organizations, etc. And their growth over the past 25 years has just multiplied the numbers of dollars which turn over in the area.

Excel has proved to be the "loadstone" for numbers of other allied businesses and industries. April 20, 1968 was truly a "red letter" day for our county.

We'd like to personally thank the folks at Excel for their great cooperation for this anniversary project. It could not have been even attempted without their wholehearted approval and help, and they supplied plenty of both.

Along that line--we came close, but not quite, in getting everything done for this issue. Due to the overwhelming size of the project, we just simply ran out of time to do everything we'd intended to, so we plan to "overlap" into next week, and maybe the next if we still don't have everything covered.

We missed some folks on congratulatory ads. Some were fishing, and some were to call back, and our Thursday deadline this week came quicker than April 15. There are even some feature articles about the plant that we didn't quite get finished. So, please bear with us, and we'll try to get you covered.

If you want to be included in the birthday message department and

haven't been contacted, give us a call Monday.

SPEAKING OF TIME... we missed the Friona girls tracksters, Keri Reeb, Mendi Milner and Courtney Carthel, by five minutes Thursday as they left for Odessa. We promise to get these girls photographed for next week.

Plus, the girls' golf team, which won district and is also competing at regional. Note to Donald Herbert: please call and we'll set up a picture time.

Along that line, the photo we took at Bovina of regional track qualifiers Brooke Charles and Carmen Campos turned out to be badly out of focus--so we'll have to try you again "after the fact" as well. We're just not fast enough to keep up with the track kids anymore.

BE SURE TO VOTE on Saturday in the senate, constitutional, school and city races. Lot of important issues, so don't miss out.

Happy Birthday
EXCEL
25 Years In Parmer Co.

Grissoms Have Girl

Alexa Leigh is the name Mr. and Mrs. Tim Grissom of Farwell chose for the baby girl born to them at 12:54 p.m. Thursday, April 22, at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

She was seventeen inches long and weighed three pounds, fifteen ounces.

Mrs. Grissom, the former Shannon Allen, has been dismissed, but Alexa remains in the hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, where she is making remarkable progress.

Her grandparents are Edward and Monty Allen of Friona and Leon and Charlene Grissom of Bovina.

Great-grandparents are J.G. and Frances Baker of Friona; Clio Jolly of Plainview and Annie Hoffman of Levelland.

Alexa has one sister, Lianna, who is four years old.

Still Needing A Good Rain!

Date	Hi-Low
Friday, April 23	87-45
Saturday, April 24	83-49
Sunday, April 25	80-38
Monday, April 26	72-41
Tuesday, April 27	78-44
Wednesday, April 28	73-53
Thursday, April 29	75-48
Precip: .18 inches April 26	

Polling Places Told For Saturday's Vote

Polling places for Saturday's elections are as follows:

Special senatorial and constitutional election: 101--Calvary Baptist Church; 201--Bovina EMS Center; 203--Rhea Community Center; 302--Oklahoma Lane; 303--Bovina Ridgelea School; 401--Lazbuddie School, and 402--Friona Fire Station.

Bovina School election--at the school, 500 Halsell. Bovina city election--EMS Building. Friona School and City elections--Fire Station.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Super Gifts FOR SUPER MOMS

FEATURING-
30% OFF SELECT GROUPS OF

Fashions By:

- Hamilton
- Heirlooms
- Central Falls
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- Sharon Young
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We accept: Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover

No Charge for Alterations
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Regular Store Hours
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Monday-Saturday

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ALLSUP'S BURRITOS
FOR ONLY **89¢**

LAYS® ALL FLAVORS
POTATO CHIPS
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ALL TYPES
COCA-COLA
6 PACK
12 OZ.
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SHURFINE
MEAT FRANKS
12 OZ. PKG. **79¢**

NABISCO PREMIUM
SALTINE CRACKERS
1 LB. BOX **99¢**

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100 3RD ST., BOVINA
BOTH FRIONA
LOCATIONS

VALLEY FARE
BATHROOM TISSUE
4 ROLL PKG. **79¢**

SHURFINE
EGGS
18 CT. **88¢**

FOLGER'S
COFFEE
13 OZ. CAN **\$1.99**

SHURFINE
MEAT BOLOGNA
1 LB. PKG. **99¢**

COMBO OF THE MONTH
2 HOT POCKETS SANDWICH & A TALLSUP
FOR ONLY **\$1.99**

SHURFINE FROZEN		
ORANGE JUICE	12 OZ. CAN	69¢
HORMEL LITTLE SIZZLERS	12 OZ. PKG.	99¢
ALPO DOG FOOD	14 OZ. CAN	59¢

HOT FOODS MENU	
BARBECUE BEEF SANDWICH	99¢
BARBECUE PORK RIBS (LB.)	\$3.99
BARBECUE WHOLE CHICKEN	\$3.99
ALLSUP'S BURRITO	79¢
BREAKFAST BURRITO	99¢
BURRITO BEEF & SALSA	\$1.19
DELICIOUS CHEESEBURGER	89¢
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK	\$1.59
3 COUNT CHICKEN STRIPS	\$1.49
W/POTATO WEDGES/ CHICKEN (2 PC.) BISCUIT	\$1.99
8 PIECE BOX CHICKEN	\$5.99
BEEF & CHEESE CHIMICHANGA (MEAT)	\$1.19
CORN DOG	69¢
DELICIOUS HAMBURGER	69¢
WILSON HOT LINKS	99¢
SAUSAGE ON A STICK	\$1.39
SAUSAGE & BISCUIT	79¢
SAUSAGE EGG & BISCUIT	\$1.09
SAUTEY SAUSAGE	99¢
4 COUNT STEAK FINGERS	\$1.00

You are cordially invited to attend an OPEN HOUSE

in celebration of the opening of



MULESHOE AREA HOME HEALTH Agency

DATE: Sunday, May 2, 1993

TIME: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESS: Muleshoe Area Medical Center
708 South First Street
Muleshoe, Texas



For more information about our services, please call
(806) 272-3346

Affiliated with
LUBBOCK METHODIST HOSPITAL SYSTEM

Letter To The Editor



Dear Editor:

April is National Volunteer Month, and we want to publicly thank the dedicated volunteers of the Crown Of Texas Hospice.

Hospice provides a very special kind of care for terminally ill persons and their families. If it were not for volunteers, our hospice could not function nearly as well.

Hospice uses a team approach to care for dying persons and their families. A team typically includes physicians, nurses, counselors, social workers, home health aides and volunteers. While our hospice employs paid professionals, we also rely on volunteers to provide assistance at all levels of skill. Volunteers assist patients and families, help out in our office, and contribute with other special talents.

Hospice standards include volunteers as a very important part of patient and family care. This makes hospice unique. Nationally, almost 70,000 of the total of about 90,000 hospice workers are volunteers; and last year, they gave well over 5 million hours of their precious spare time to serve the dying and their families!

In this local area, many volunteers have donated their service to our hospice program.

In a number of ways, volunteering for hospice differs from other community work. For one thing, patient-care volunteers are required to undergo at least 30 hours of standardized training.

No task is too big or too small for our volunteers, but often the most important thing they can do is just "be there" for patients and families; to reassure them they are not alone, to hold a hand, to offer a smile, or to share a "good cry". It is not easy work, but the personal rewards are enormous. The strength and courage of patients and families provide a constant source of inspiration, and volunteers usually feel they gain more than they have been able to give.

Our hospice is growing as more and more persons seek our help. For this reason, we have a constant need for new volunteers. If you would like to learn more about hospice volunteering, please call us at 356-2725, or visit us at 1901 Medipark, Suite 1068, Amarillo, Texas, 79106.

In the meantime, we should all be grateful to the volunteers of Crown of Texas Hospice for the wealth of time and compassion they give for the betterment of our area.

Sincerely,
Diana Witherspoon

LEGAL NOTICE

The Bovina Independent School District has been scheduled for an on-site review by the Division of Accreditation of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) during the week of May 10-14, 1993.

The review will focus primarily on student performance, the district/campus planning process, and the district/campus implementation of the decision-making process. These three areas should address the educational and instructional needs of all students in the district.

Members of the Agency review team will conduct a public meeting in order to hear from parents and community members of the school district on May 10, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bovina High School auditorium.

Parents and patrons may present written or oral comments to the visiting team during this time. Issues to address are student performance, the planning process, and the decision-making process.

Patrons or parents may contact the school district at (806) 238-1336 for further information or to make any special arrangements because of a handicapping condition.

El Distrito Escolar de Bovina recibira una visita de acreditacion conducida por la Agencia Educativa

del Estado de Tejas durante la semana de May 10-14, 1993.

La visita sera enfocada primeramente en las areas academicas que se refieren a los estudiantes, el proceso de planear temas educativos para la escuela y el distrito en general, asi como la capacidad para tomar decisiones dentro del mismo. Estas tres areas deben de dirigirse a las necesidades educativas e instruccionales de los estudiantes dentro del distrito.

Los miembros de la Agencia Educativa conduciran una junta donde ustedes los padres y miembros de la comunidad tendran la oportunidad de presentar sus comentarios tocante las areas mencionadas el 10 de mayo a las 7:30 de la noche en la escuela de Bovina.

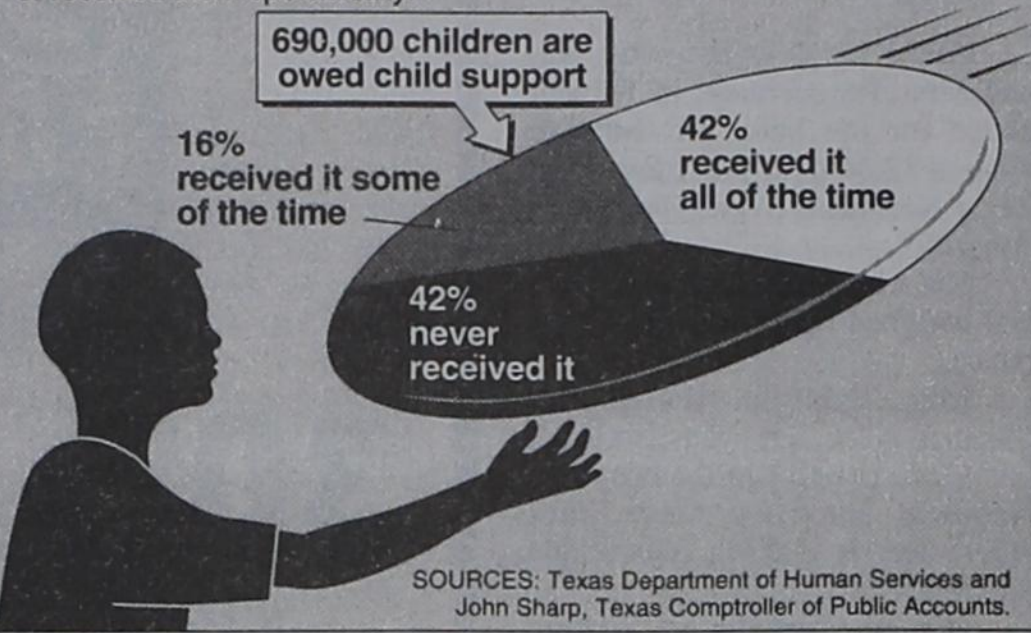
Ustedes los padres y miembros de la comunidad podran presentar sus comentarios oralmente o por escrito durante este tiempo.

El comportamiento estudiantil, el proceso de planeacion y tomar decisiones son las temas a discutir.

Para mas informacion tocante a esta junta, o para hacer arreglos por algun impedimento de deshabilitacion, favor de ponerse en contacto con el distrito, al telefono y al numero (806) 238-1336.

Texas children need support

Approximately 690,000 Texas children were owed child support payments in 1992 from absent parents who legally are required to provide for their financial needs. More than half, 58 percent, never received the payments or received them sporadically.



Single Family Housing Loans Are Available

Rural housing loans for very-low and low income applicants are available through County Offices of the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), Thomas S. Taylor, FmHA county supervisor, said this week.

Home ownership loans may be used to buy, build, improve, repair rural homes and to provide adequate water and waste disposal systems. Homes may be built on individual tracts or in subdivisions. Funds may also be used to modernize homes—and improvements such as bathrooms, central heating, modern kitchens and other improvements. Borrowers may buy an existing house and lot or buy a site on which to build a home. Loans may be made for up to 100 per cent of the appraised value of the site and the new home. Interest rates for this type of loan are presently 7.75 per cent with 33 year terms. Monthly payments are subsidized with the amount of the payment dependent on the borrower's annual income. Homes will be modest in size, design and cost, but adequate to meet the family's needs. New homes average about 1050 square feet of living area.

In addition, Farmers Home Administration guarantees home

ownership loans made to applicants of low or moderate income. Guarantees offer opportunities to families who are unable to afford a commercial loan without a guarantee. These loans may be made for up to 100 per cent of the value of the property and are made for terms of 30 years. The interest rate is based on the Federal National Mortgage Association rate with a maximum loan amount in most counties of \$67,500.00.

The Farmers Home Administration assists rural America by guaranteeing private sector loans and by providing temporary, supervised direct loans to farm and housing borrowers who have a reasonable chance for success, and whose current needs cannot be met at reasonable rates and terms by commercial sources. The agency is committed to excellence in providing its services.

Applications for assistance may be obtained at the Farmers Home Administration office located at 109 Third Street, Farwell, Texas. The FmHA office in Farwell is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed from 12 noon-1 p.m. for lunch, Monday-Friday. Monday is office day and no appointment is needed.

CLASSIFIED ADS

MUST SELL! '92 Ford Taurus GL 4-door, power windows, power door locks, tilt steering wheel, cruise control, air conditioning, automatic transmission, AM/FM stereo cassette, power seat. No old contract to assume, no back payments to make, just need responsible party to make reasonable monthly payments, call John Baxter in the Credit Dept., Friona Motors, 806/247-2701. 42-1tc

MUST SELL! '92 Chevrolet Lumina, 4-door sedan, automatic transmission, air conditioning, power windows, power door locks, tilt steering wheel, cruise control, AM/FM stereo cassette, anti-lock brake system. No old contract to assume, no back payments to make, just need responsible party to make reasonable monthly payments. Call Randy Asebedo in the Credit Dept., Friona Motors, 806/247-2701. Se habla espanol. 42-1tc

SUMMER HELP: Field Scouts and Demonstration Aide for June, July and August and part time in the first week of September. Applicants must have vehicle to use on the job. Applications available in County Extension office in Farwell and Muleshoe. Individuals need to apply by May 18, 1993. 42-2tc

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Parmer County Commissioners Court will accept bids until 10:00 A.M., May 10, 1993, at which time bids will be opened, to purchase windows for the First Floor of the Parmer County Court-house. Specifications for these windows may be obtained from the County Judge's office.

Bids must reflect total cost and be mailed or brought to Bonnie J. Clayton, County Judge, at 401 Third Street, Room 104, P.O. Box 506, Farwell, Texas, 79325, to be received no later than 10:00 A.M., May 10, 1993, at which time bids will be opened.

The Parmer County Commissioners Court reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

By order of the Parmer County Commissioners Court, Bonnie J. Clayton, County Judge. 41-2tc

Postal Service.....

(Continued from Page 1)

"We will continue to make changes to ensure our customers receive the highest level of quality service at every encounter with the Postal Service.

"Many of our employees work behind the scenes and at night to provide quality service," Bartlett explains. "Our clerks and mail handlers perform the tasks of sorting and distribution to ensure your letter carrier has your mail to deliver."

"Our Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer Marvin Runyon has guided our organization through a major restructuring," continues Bartlett. "We have cut layers of management and eliminated bureaucracy, which allows us to make decisions more quickly."

"We understand what mail means to our customers and we believe it is important that we restore our accountability, credibility and our competitiveness and make it a normal part of our business culture.

"We will continue to put our customers first as we reach out to them, listen to their concerns and better respond to their needs," states Bartlett.

"As we continue down the path toward competitiveness and higher

levels of customer satisfaction," says Bartlett, "we will strive to deliver a service which satisfies every customer, each time—every time."

"When you have a mailing problem, tell me," says Bovina Postmaster Laura Bartlett. "Tell your friends, if you must, tell your neighbors, tell your spouse, but please tell me, too—so I can help you solve it."

Bartlett invites postal customers to call her or use a Consumer Service Card to complain about service, to compliment a postal employee or offer a suggestion.

The postmaster says that every post office lobby has a supply of easy-to-use, postage-free Consumer Service Cards, which are also available upon request from any letter carrier. If the response to your card does not satisfy your concern, the post office will provide the name and address of your district's Consumer Affairs Manager. Or, you can write to the Vice President and Consumer Advocate of the Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, Washington, D.C., 20260-2200.

Postmaster Bartlett says, "If you have a mailing concern, all of us are ready to listen and respond."

NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST AND STATEMENT OF INTENT

Notice is hereby given that DEAF SMITH ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (the "Utility") intends to decrease rates for electric utility service effective July 6, 1993, or as soon thereafter as may be permitted by law. Based upon a test year ending December 31, 1992, the decrease requested is \$740,000 or 4.465% of actual test year revenues. The changes are applicable to all areas, all customer classes, and all customers served by the Utility.

The Utility proposes to change all rates for Farm and Home, Residential Space Heating, Irrigation, Commercial, Large Power, Industrial, Cotton Gin, and Lighting, including demand, energy, minimum and other charges. The proposed changes are expected to affect the classes as follows: for the 4,416 customers in the farm and home class, the proposed decrease will be \$109,357 or a negative 4.53% change in revenues; for the 147 customers in the residential space heating class, the proposed decrease will be \$7,793 or a negative 3.39% change in revenues; for the 4,060 customers in the irrigation class, the proposed decrease will be \$376,215 or a negative 4.15% change in revenues; for the 774 customers in the commercial class, the proposed decrease will be \$54,019 or a negative 6.17% change in revenues; for the 111 customers in the large power class the proposed decrease will be \$81,413 or a negative 8.11% change in revenues; for the 26 customers in the industrial class, the proposed decrease will be \$95,907 or a negative 3.74% change in revenues; for the 6 customers in the cotton gin class, there will be no change in revenues; and for the 2,888 customers in the lighting class, the proposed decrease will be \$15,296 or a negative 6.11% change in revenues.

The Utility also intends to change its service rules and regulations, including rules relating to obtaining service, line extension and line extension charges, the provision of electric service, service fees, and discontinuance of service.

Information concerning the proposed rate changes, including the proposed revisions of tariff and schedules is available at the General Office of the Utility, located at Highway 60 at Whittier Street, Hereford, Texas 79045-0753. Inquiries should be directed to Mike Veazey.

The Utility is required to give notice of the percentage change in base revenues which is negative 12.087%. The percentage decrease in base revenues is not an indication of how much your bill will change. Rather, it is a measure of the decrease in revenues that will be experienced by the Utility for its own operations, excluding payment of the cost of power purchased by the Utility from its wholesale power suppliers.

On or about May 7, 1993, the Utility will file with the Public Utility Commission of Texas, a Statement of Intent to Change Rates, specifying in detail each proposed change. Requests to intervene must be filed no later than 45 days after the application filing date; Thus, the Utility anticipates the deadline for intervening and objecting to the rate changes will be June 21, 1993. Persons who wish to intervene or otherwise participate in these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible. A request to intervene, participate, or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, 7800 Shoal Creek Boulevard, Suite 400N, Austin, Texas 78757. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission Consumer Affairs Division at (512) 458-0223 or (512) 458-0227, or (512) 458-0221 teletypewriter for the deaf. 3tc

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP. YOUR YIELDS RUN HIGH.

For more than twelve years, tests by major universities in the Corn Belt have proven that COUNTER[®] systemic insecticide-nematicide controls corn rootworms better than any other product on the market. With the protection of COUNTER, you get better standability and better plant vigor from a stronger, healthier root mass. And where roots run deep, yields run high.



Come in and ask us for the best possible protection against yield-threatening corn pests. COUNTER. Available in the convenient LOCK 'n LOAD[®] closed handling system.



Restricted Use Pesticide. Always read and follow label directions carefully. © 1991 American Cyanamid Company.

Agri-Sprayers, Terra-Wilbur Ellis

AUCTION

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FABRICATION AREA....Workers in the fabrication department at Excel are shown doing their work. The "fab" department was added by Excel during the summer of 1978, and this added considerably to the jobs and scope of the plant.

Excel Plant Expands Steadily Over Years

By **JIM STEIERT**
(Special to The Friona Star/
Bovina Blade)

During a quarter century of operation in Parmer County, Excel Corporation and its forerunners have more than doubled the size of the beef slaughtering plant at Friona. This state-of-the-art processing facility represents steady investment in facilities to keep the plant modern and efficient and capture the full value of products as the beef industry has changed.

Missouri Beef Packers first placed the facility in operation at Friona in April of 1968 with a test kill. By May, the plant was in production. At that time, the Friona plant was hailed as an ultra-modern slaughter facility that featured the largest single-chain operation in the world.

Through the years, the Parmer County beef plant has remained a sophistication, automation and modern design that is capable of turning out the quality beef products demanded by the modern-day consumer.

MBP first announced the construction of the plant at a news conference in Friona on April 28, 1967.

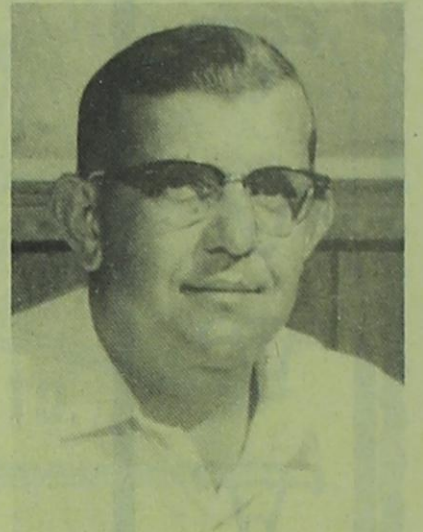
Less than a year after that announcement, a \$3.5 million plant was being dedicated. Its production floor was set up to allow workers to turn out the greatest amount of beef on a single shift of any known plant. A production force of 220 was anticipated as that facility reached its capacity, and projections were for employment of up to 400 workers as meat industry demands changed.



EUGENE FRYE
First President, MBP



BILL GILBERT
First Plant Manager



DAVE LaFLEUR
Past President, MBP

Today, the Excel plant employs 1600 workers, quadruple even the most optimistic "pipe dream" projections at the time of the MBP opening ceremonies. This massive work force makes the Friona Excel plant one of the largest employers in the region.

The plant encompasses a whopping 350,000 square feet overall, due to expansion projects over the years that have not only added to the physical presence of the Excel plant, but to the tax base of Parmer County, as well.

One of these important expansions came in 1978, when fabrication facilities were added to the north side of the original plant.

Prior to that time, MBP, and later, MBPXL, had shipped "swinging beef" carcasses from the Friona plant, but important changes

were coming in the beef industry. The winds of change dictated that meat needed to be cut into portions easier for markets and institutional users to handle.

Space and equipment were added at the Friona plant to provide for preparing boxed beef and primal cuts, and that process has continued at Friona through the acquisition of MBPXL by Cargill in 1979, a name change to Excel in 1982, and into current times.

In August of 1987, a new office complex was completed at the Excel facility, to accommodate the expanding needs of the growing facility.

Friona's Excel plant added another 65,000 square feet of space on the south side of the original plant facility in 1991, at a cost more than triple the expense of building the initial plant outright.

That expansion, with a price tag of \$11 million, doubled the cooler capacity at the plant from 4,000 to 8,000 head per day. The extra cooling capacity required another 3,000 tons of refrigeration at the plant, and another 4,500 electrical horsepower were necessary to operate new equipment.

A new railroad spur was also necessary with the expansion project.

This additional cooler space was opened in 1992. According to Carol Aistrup, plant controller at Friona, it allowed room to cool beef carcasses for 48 hours, instead of the 24 allowed with old facilities.

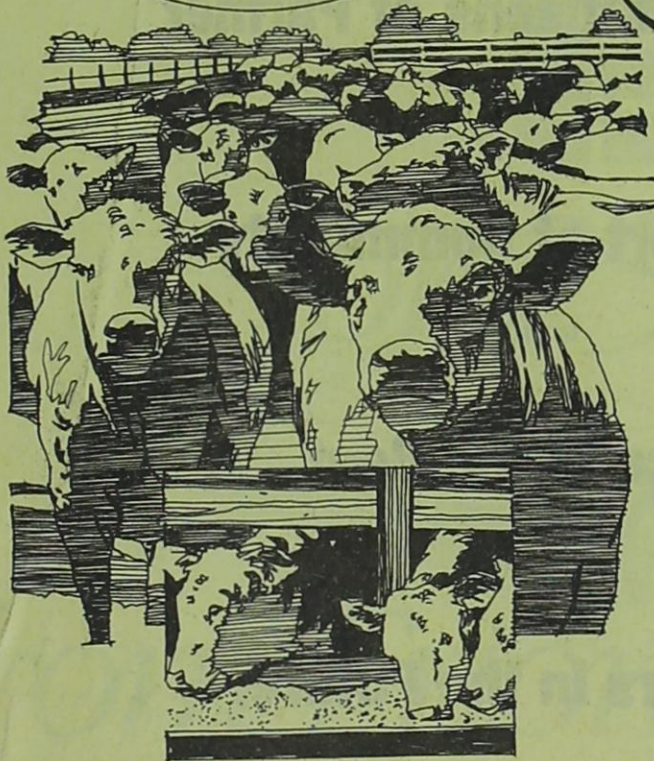
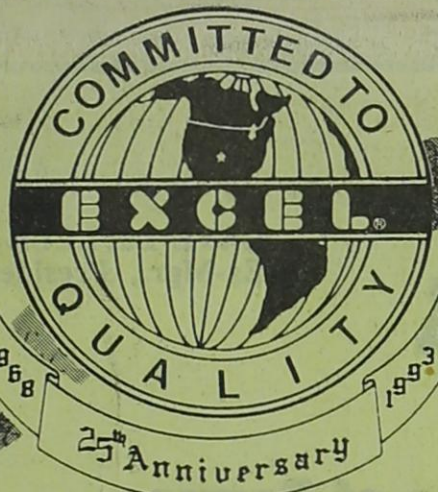
The extra cooling time for the carcasses meant more value realized from the beef processed, since more of the carcasses reached the prime grade, which maximized their value.



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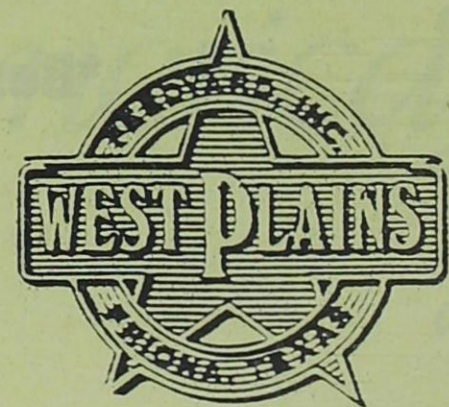
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HARRY H

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***Thank You for 25 Years of Active Support of Community Organizations and Civic Projects.**

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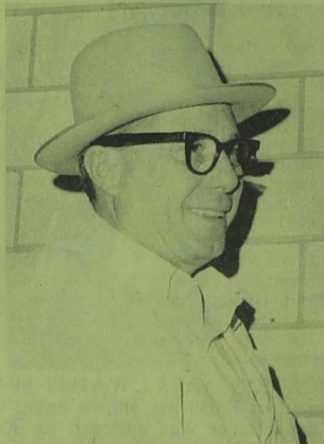
The FRIONA ★ STAR

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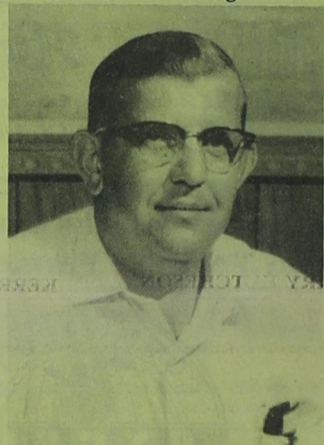
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EUGENE FRYE
First President, MBP



BILL GILBERT
First Friona Mgr.



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Ex-Mgr., President



RECORD CITED

Excel's Leaders Playing Active Community Roles

The top leadership at Friona's Excel plant have played active roles in the community down through the years, and the plant, since "Day One," has been a leading supporter of local organizations such as the Chambers of Commerce, schools, clubs and what-have-you.

One of the plant managers, Dave LaFleur, went on to become president of the Excel Corporation. LaFleur was one of the early Friona managers, 1969-71.

The two Friona plant managers with the longest tenures have been Vaughn Blum and Terry Wilkerson. Blum was the Excel chief from the late 1970s until October of 1987, when Wilkerson was named to the position.

Wilkerson served as plant manager for almost five years, until June of 1992, when he was transferred to head Cargill's P.P.D. Poultry plant at Buena Vista, Georgia. Wilkerson was replaced as Friona manager in August of 1992 by Bill Rupp, who had began working his way up the ladder at Friona during the 1980s.

Wilkerson was one of the more active Friona Excel managers in civic affairs, serving on the Chamber of Commerce's board of directors, and also serving two terms on the Friona School board. His wife Peggy and children Carrie and Andy were also very active in school, church and civic affairs.



TERRY WILKERSON



VAUGHN BLUM

For the record, Bill Gilbert was the first plant manager, when it was known as Missouri Beef Packers, followed by LaFleur. Other Friona managers in the 1970s were Jim Kofford, starting in 1974, and Dick Lann, and Jim McConnell, who was followed by Blum.

Excel's plant controllers have, especially in recent years, also played active roles in community events outside of their duties at the packing plant.

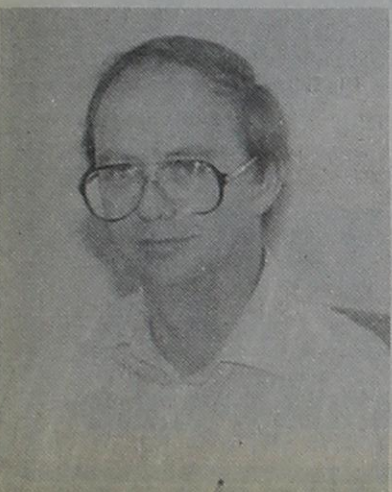
Harry Hutcheson, who served in the position for about five years in the mid-1980s, served a couple of terms on the Friona Chamber of Commerce board. Hutcheson actually served two "tours of duty" at Excel. He was finishing his

second stint at the plant when the modern new office complex was completed in April of 1987.

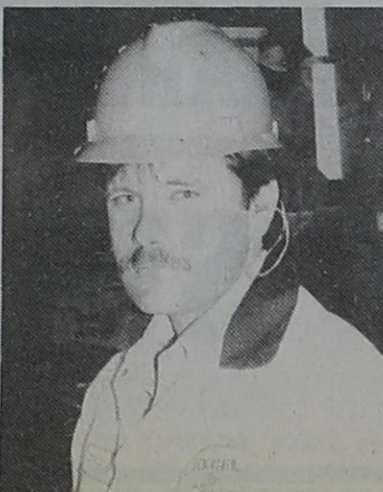
Hutcheson was replaced as plant controller in August of 1987 by Kerry Bahns. Leonal Kilgore followed Bahns, and then Bob Buchwald held the position for about a year. Buchwald has worked at the Friona Excel plant for a number of years, and has held various supervisory positions.

Carol Aistrup became plant controller in December 1991.

She is following the footsteps of some of her predecessors, having been elected in late 1992 to the Friona Chamber board, and currently serves on the Chamber's economic development committee.



HARRY HUTCHESON



KERRY BAHNS



CAROL AISTRUP



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THANK YOU!

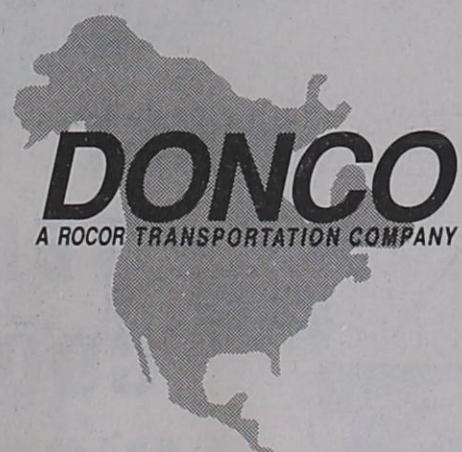
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**Perry Makes
Vo-Ed. Pitch**

While commending Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts John Sharp on his efforts to cut state spending, Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry stressed the need for continued funding for vocational education programs.

In a recent letter to Comptroller Sharp, Perry said that vocational education, now called agricultural science and technology, plays a key role in today's educational mix.

"Agricultural science has evolved into much more than raising pigs," Perry said. "Students incorporate math, science and English into traditional agricultural courses, while learning leadership and teamwork skills through the successful completion of agricultural projects."

"Strong agricultural science programs are particularly important in rural communities. Many rural students enrolled in these agricultural science courses enter the work force immediately following high school. Well-educated young leaders are helping to re-vitalize struggling rural communities."

Perry praised Sharp for befriending the agriculture community, but reminded him of the fact that vocational education programs are anything but "budget fat".

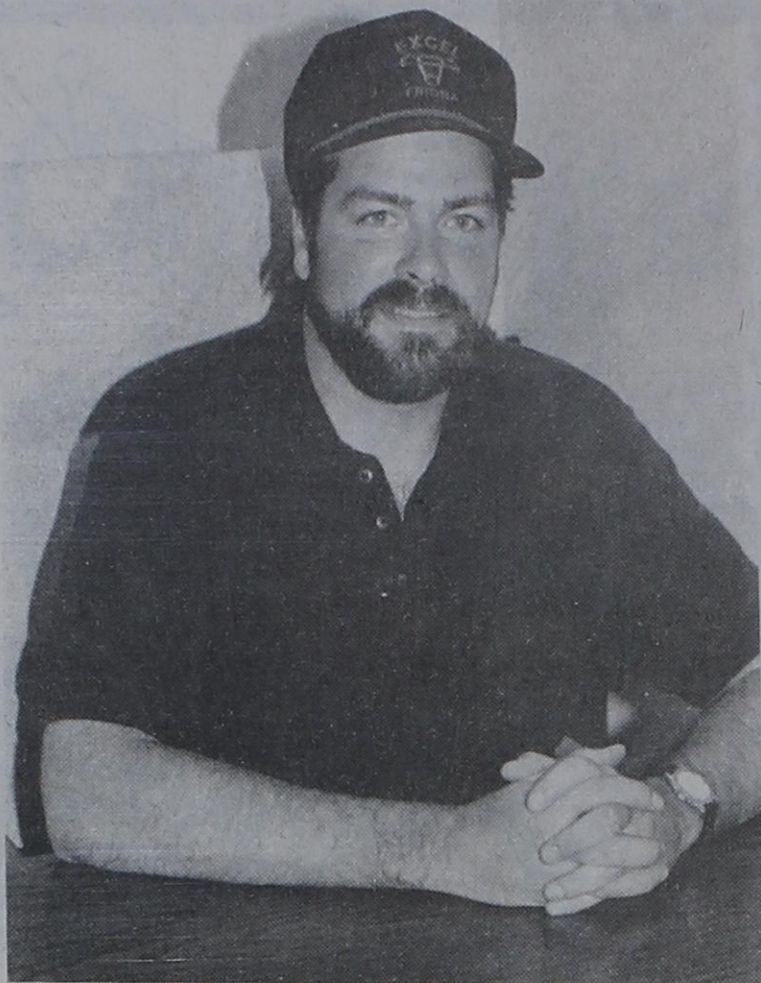
"Any program that keeps kids in school and produces literate, functional adults is a smart investment," Perry said.

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**BILL RUPP
Bill Rupp Serving As
Friona Plant Manager**

Bill Rupp, 31, has been serving as manager of Friona's Excel plant since August of 1992, replacing Terry Wilkerson. Rupp has been with the Excel organization for ten years. He got his start at the Friona plant in 1983, spending five and one-half years here in various positions, from supervisor to superintendent.

He left the Friona plant, being transferred to Cargill's High River, Alberta, Canada, plant, as manager of the plant's fabrication department.

He returned to Friona last August as plant manager. Rupp is married, and he and his wife Darinda are parents of two children: Meghann, five and Jake two. The Rupps attend St. Teresa's Catholic Church.

*... last day without a
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January 5, 1977

Texas Coalition for Safety Belts

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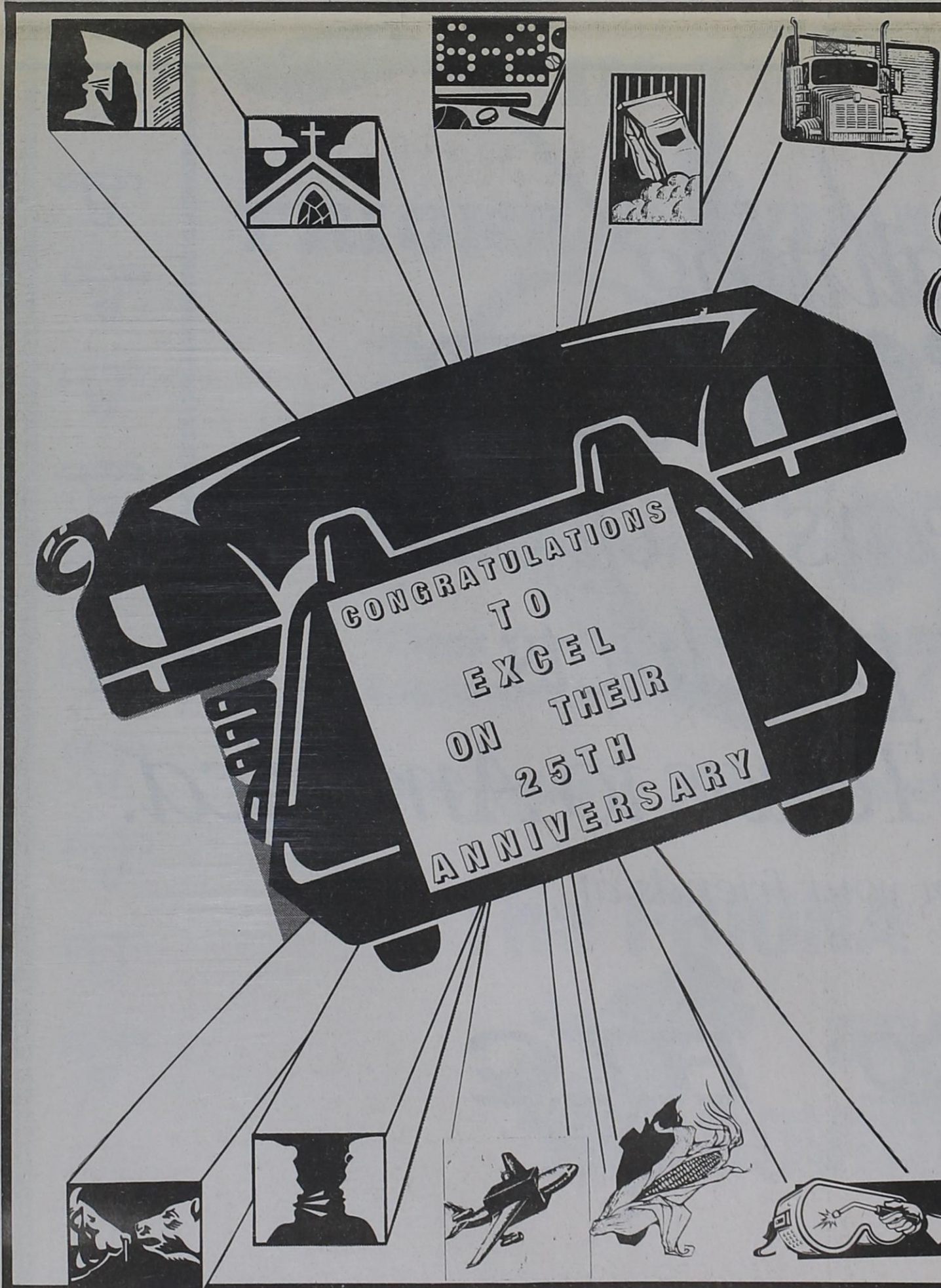
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**WEST TEXAS RURAL
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Excel Positioned Amidst Excellent Cattle Source

BY JIM STEIERT

When Missouri Beef Packers, Inc. opened its plant just outside of Friona in April of 1968, the firm positioned itself to take advantage of a rich source of an essential raw material--an abundant supply of fed cattle.

By locating in Parmer County, MBP, which later became MBPXL, and eventually, Excel, placed its plant smack in the middle of one of the largest concentrations of cattle feeding in the entire Southwest.

There were real savings to be had by locating a slaughter plant literally in the midst of Texas Panhandle cattle country.

Carol Aistrup, plant controller at Excel's Friona plant, says that crushing transportation costs could be reduced considerably with cattle close at hand, and the plant could enjoy other advantages as well.

"Because cattle don't have to be hauled far, freight costs are minimal. We have lots of cattle to choose from, and we can stay current on cattle, without having to carry a huge backlog. We enjoy a good relationship with area cattle feeders. Because a great many of our cattle are bought within a 100-mile radius, we can provide feedback to feedyard operators if there's a problem or a need, and they can respond. We can let the yards know just what we want," she says.

Today, 25 years after the facility first opened, the Excel plant at Friona continues to exploit the close availability of finished cattle in the High Plains. In fact, even more cattle are being fed in the region than when the plant was first opened.

Southwestern Public Service Company's annual Fed Cattle Survey for 1992, which includes feedlots in its 52,000 square mile service area, which includes portions of the Texas High and South Plains, the Oklahoma Panhandle, southeastern and eastern New Mexico and southwestern Kansas, indicates that cattle feeding increased six percent from 1991 to 1992.

That increase is three times higher than the previous year's percentage, according to Dave Krupnick, SPS manager of agricultural and wholesale marketing. Krupnick says that 1992 went down as another record-breaking year in the area's cattle industry.

SPS figures also reveal that the region's cattle feeding industry has logged four consecutive years of growth.

The utility serves 124 feedyards in its area, and 93 of them are in Texas.

The Texas yards accounted for 5,174,143 head of the total number of cattle fed in the SPS area in 1992. Survey figures also indicated that the number of feedyards in the area continues to grow--expanding to 124 in 1992, compared to 122 in 1991.

The three top cattle feeding counties in Texas--Deaf Smith, Castro and Parmer, accounted for 38 percent of the total fed cattle in the state in 1992. All are only a short truck haul from Excel's slaughter plant at Friona, practically backyard sources of cattle.

Excel buyers are no strangers to the feedyards of these three counties. They can frequently be seen perusing the pens of such close-at-hand yards for prime livestock.

Deaf Smith County was the leading producer of fed cattle in the SPS service area in 1992, with a feeding capacity of 843,276 head and boasting 13 feedyards with a one-time capacity of 387,000 head. Each of these 13 yards has a one-time capacity in excess of 5,000 head.

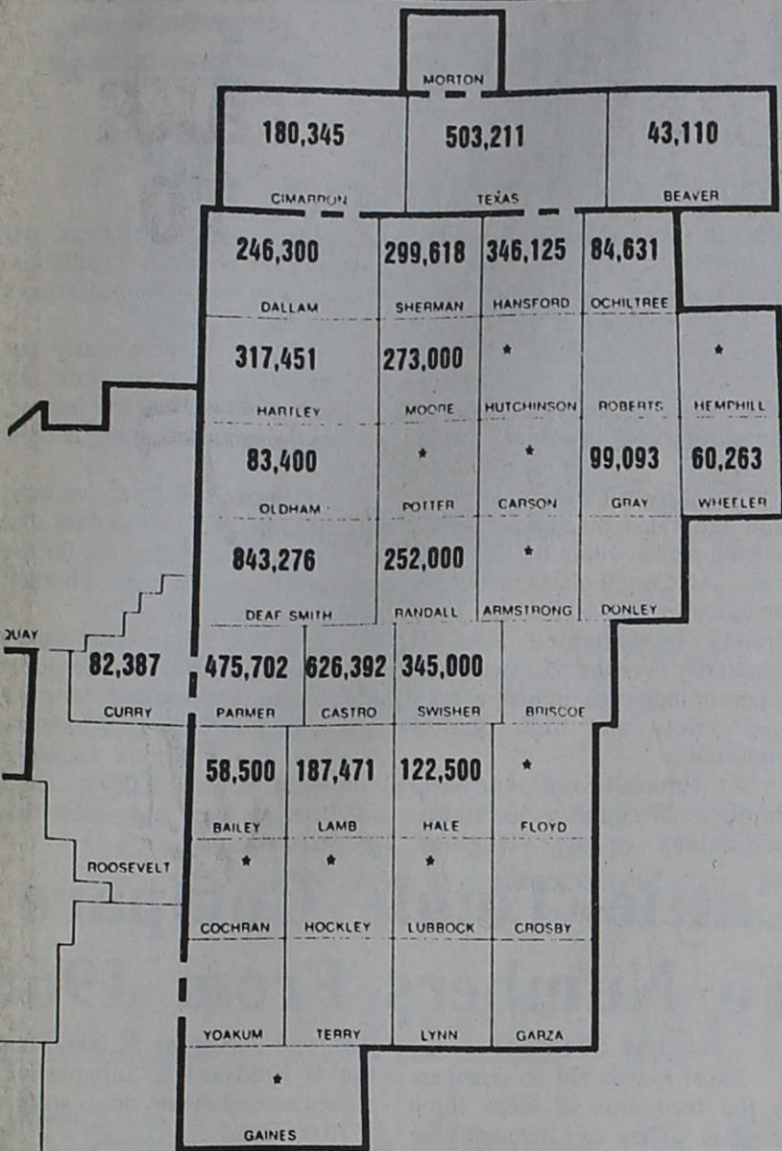
Ranking second was Castro

County, with 626,392 head capacity, and a total of 13 feedyards with a one-time capacity of 5,000 head or more.

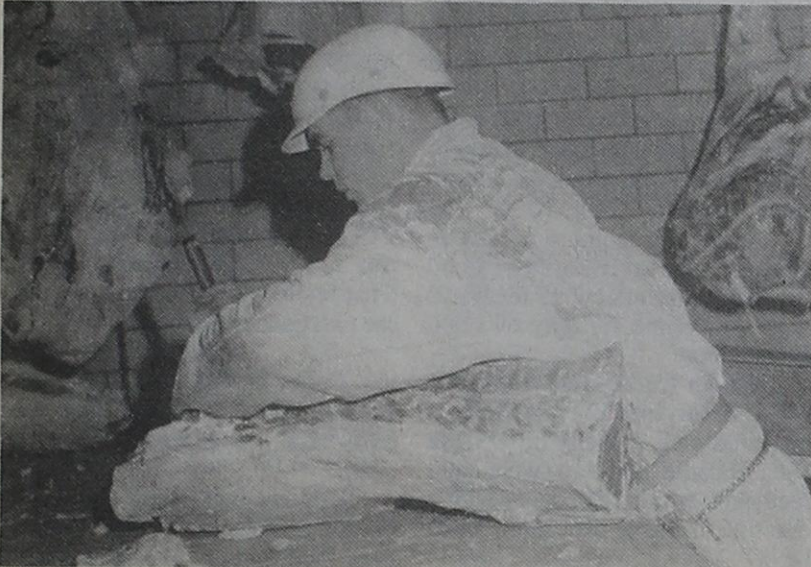
Parmer County ranked third in the SPS survey. Its yards have a one-time total capacity of 475,702 head of cattle, and there were eight feedyards within the county with a one-time capacity exceeding 5,000 head.

West Plains Feed Yard, Inc., located in Parmer County, was the feedyard with the largest one-time capacity in the SPS service area in the 1992 survey at 72,000 head. Bar G Feedyard at Summerfield ranked second in one-time capacity of 70,000 head.

All told, the three top cattle feeding counties in the SPS survey, all situated in the Excel plant's backyard, accounted for 1,945,370 head of fed cattle in 1992.



SPS Fed Cattle Survey
The annual Fed Cattle Survey, conducted by Southwestern Public Service, includes this map showing the number of fed cattle in each county of the Texas Panhandle, as well as parts of Oklahoma and New Mexico.



MAKING CUTS....The second step in the breaking phase at Excel is the separating of the loin from the brisket. Here, an employee in the breaking department is shown at work at his station.

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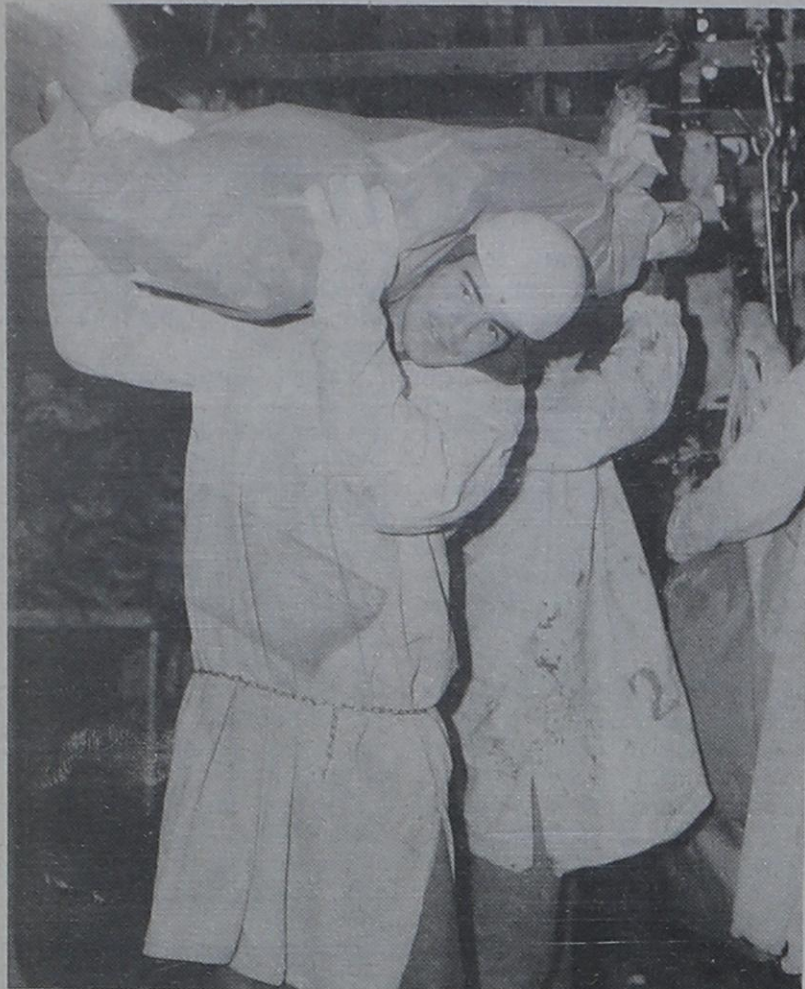
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BIG CHUNK OF MEAT--The "chunks" are the largest single cut to be handled by EXCEL's breaking department, weighing an average of 100 pounds.

Beef Quality, Safety Taken Seriously At Friona Excel



By **JIM STEIERT**
Assuring that clean, wholesome, safe beef products are delivered to customers and consumers is a vital consideration at Friona's Excel plant--and one that's taken very seriously.

Kenny Sherbon, quality assurance manager for Excel at Friona, came to the local plant to work in quality control when it still operated under the MPBXL label in 1978. He has labored to make sure of quality beef production at the plant ever since.

He's seen quality assurance evolve from the days of inspectors laboring at the end of cutting tables to computer-armed technicians monitoring work and subjecting everything to close-quarters inspection at a laboratory on premises.

When fabrication first began at the Friona plant in 1978, quality control workers primarily concentrated on checking the product for correct trim and cut, and checking floors for clean and sanitary conditions.

In the mid-1980's, the Friona Excel plant became a Total Quality Control facility.

"Through voluntary participation with the USDA, quality assurance technicians took on more responsibility. They began monitoring such areas as pest control programs, overall sanitation and correct box tear," said Sherbon.

USDA personnel continued to monitor quality assurance technicians under the program.

A Partial Quality Control Program was also initiated by Excel on its kill floor at Friona.

"Our job under Partial Quality Control is to check for defects, and the government also does numerous checks. It's a little different than other programs we had initiated up to that time," Sherbon said.

Quality Control programs have become much more technical in the past couple of years, according to Sherbon.

"It has become impossible to check 100 per cent of the product from positions at the end of the tables. We now take random

samples and audit what the product does over time. Audits are done with hand-held Data Myte computers, and information gathered in them is fed into big computers in the office where it becomes reports for thorough review," he said.

Just over three years ago, a quality assurance laboratory was built at the Friona Excel plant. Sherbon and a quality assurance manager are in charge of this laboratory and its crew of technicians who perform analysis on meat, rendered products, bone meal and blood. They also perform moisture, fat and protein tests on beef products.

Another important function of this laboratory is in the area of microbial testing for bacteria on all products coming from the plant. Beef products get critical scrutiny to ensure that they are within USDA guidelines and pose no health hazards.

Scrutiny for bacteria can also focus on the Friona plant itself, to ensure that housekeeping isn't lacking, and the lab even critically peruses water and air samples.

Sherbon says that the laboratory at the Friona plant is the first in the country to be certified by the USDA for microbial and chemistry testing. This certification came in 1972.

According to Sherbon, a primary focus of the laboratory facilities is feed safety. The lab also analyzes many beef products as to yields, since end customers expect those products to analyze to a certain yield percentage in order to meet their standards.

Within the past year, a new safety assurance program has also come on line at Friona. This program is known as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP).

HACCP is intended to prevent products from being contaminated at areas in the Friona plant where chemical, microbial or foreign object contamination can be prevented.

While maintaining productivity is important to the efficient

operation of a packing plant, productivity takes a back seat to safety assurance.

"All employees at the HACCP areas have the authority to take action--including stopping production, in order to avoid a contamination problem," said Sherbon.

The government may make such programs mandatory in all packing plants within the next few years. All Cargill plants, including the Excel plant at Friona, have already implemented HACCP voluntarily over the past two years as part of their commitment to both food safety and high quality production.

At Friona, Excel currently employs 27 quality assurance technicians in its slaughter,

fabrication and loadout areas, and three in the laboratory. In addition, three quality assurance supervisors work under Sherbon.

"We take very seriously our responsibility to make sure our products are clean and wholesome, and that our housekeeping is done right.

"When we sell meat, we want our customers to feel certain that we are responsible to them for the quality of our product," Sherbon said.

A quality control and safety assurance program at the local Excel plant that continues to grow and expand with the beef industry testifies to the Friona facility's commitment to making their products the best and safest that they can be.

Cattle Totals Compare To Numbers From 1968

By **JIM STEIERT**

Excel buyers are no strangers to the feedyards of these three counties. They can frequently be seen perusing the pens of such close-at-hand yards for prime livestock.

Deaf Smith County was the leading producer of fed cattle in the SPS service area in 1992, with a feeding capacity of 843,276 head and boasting 13 feedyards with a one-time capacity of 387,000 head. Each of these 13 yards has a one-time capacity in excess of 5,000 head.

Ranking second was Castro County, with 626,392 head capacity, and a total of 13 feedyards with a one-time capacity of 5,000 head or more.

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the 1992 survey at 72,000 head. Bar G Feedyard at Summerfield ranked second in one-time capacity at 70,000 head.

All told, the three top cattle feeding counties in the SPS survey, all situated in the Excel plant's back yard, accounted for 1,945,370 head of fed cattle in 1992.

SPS Fed Cattle Survey figures for 1968, the year when the MBP plant first opened in Friona, make for an interesting comparison with today.

Deaf Smith County had a one-time cattle feeding capacity of 215,000 head in 1968 and turned out 250,500 fed cattle that year. That figure has about quadrupled in the past quarter-century.

Castro County yards had a one-time capacity of 70,390 head in 1968 and fed 133,900 head that year.

Parmer County feedyards had a one-time capacity of 150,000 head back then, and fed 197,800 head in 1968.

Total cattle fed for the three counties in 1968 was 582,200 head, less than half the current-day total.

Excel plant has eye on quality

Excel Beefpackers' motto is: "Committed to Quality."
It's statement of purpose reads:
"We will safely produce goods and services that meet established requirements for our internal and external customers. We will accept no less from our suppliers."

Immunization Clinics Are Set

Immunization clinics offering vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases are scheduled for May.

Protection is against polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, and HIB (Haemophilus Influenzae Type B).

The Texas Department of Health is charging money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount of money charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay.

Bovina will hold a clinic May 10 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Medical Center, 509 Avenue I.

Clinics will be held in Hereford at the Texas Department of Health Office, 205 West Fourth Street, Suite B, on May 5 from 5-7 p.m.; and May 6, May 13, May 20 and May 27, from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

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KEY MEN...A.L. Black, left, and Dr. Loyd Shackelford, right, were two members of Friona's Industrial Committee who were instrumental in securing the plant for Friona. Black and Shackelford were among the first to make contact with the MBP officials. They trace the story of the Friona industry in accompanying stories. (Star Photo Files)

A.L. Black Believes In Going After "The Best"

"When you go after something, you might as well go after the best," says A.L. Black, successful farmer-stockman and member of the Friona industrial committee which helped land Missouri Beef Packers for the city.

And Black's record seems to bear out this motto.

He currently is serving as president of the Texas Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and is a director of the National Association. He is a member of more boards than you can shake a stick at, and associated with several top-flight businesses, such as Friona Feed Yards, Hi-Pro Feeds and Paco Feeds, Inc.

Black has the reputation of getting a job done when he's appointed to one, and this is probably one reason the Friona Chamber of Commerce appointed

him to its industrial committee during his tenure as director. Black didn't disappoint the chamber.

"It was about a year ago last summer that I first met representatives of Missouri Beef Packers. We met with four of their officials out at Friona Feed Yards, and showed them around," Black recalls.

Thus, Black had had this earlier encounter with the MBP officials when Dr. Loyd Shackelford arranged a meeting with the MBP board in Rock Port in December of 1966.

However, it was a trip he made to Austin in early April of 1967 which helped turn the tide. The local people had been meeting with MBP officials often and late, concerning proposed stock merger plans.

"We had been offered about five different trades, and had accepted

every offer. But there was always a hitch," Black recalls. "Finally, after the meeting with the Securities Exchange Commission, we reached the decision that we'd either have to form our own corporation, or Missouri Beef would have to."

"We then proposed the land deal, and we were in business," Black says.

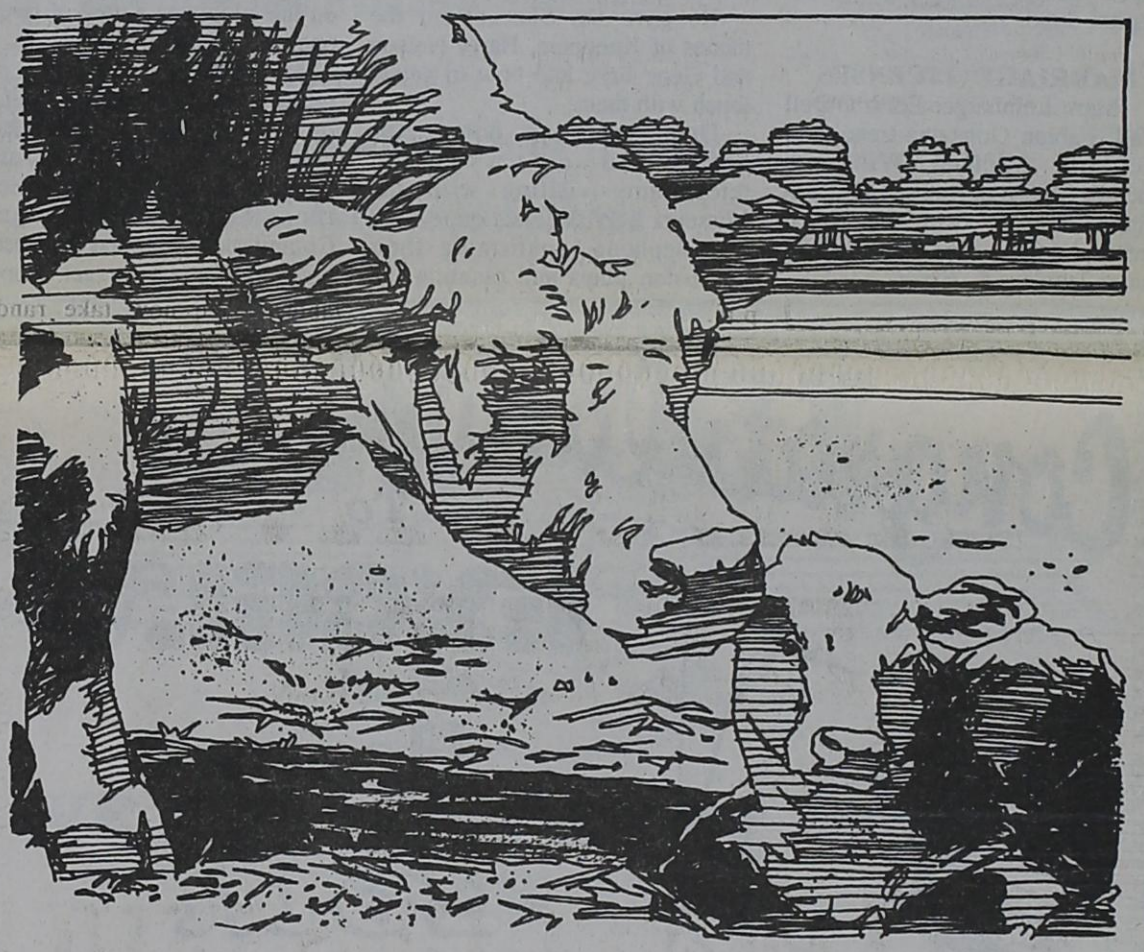
Black says the dealings with Missouri Beef Packers provided an opportunity of dealing with some shrewd, honest businessmen, "and that's always a privilege and an education."

He says he thinks the \$100,000 investment by Frionans for the land for the MBP plant was a good investment.

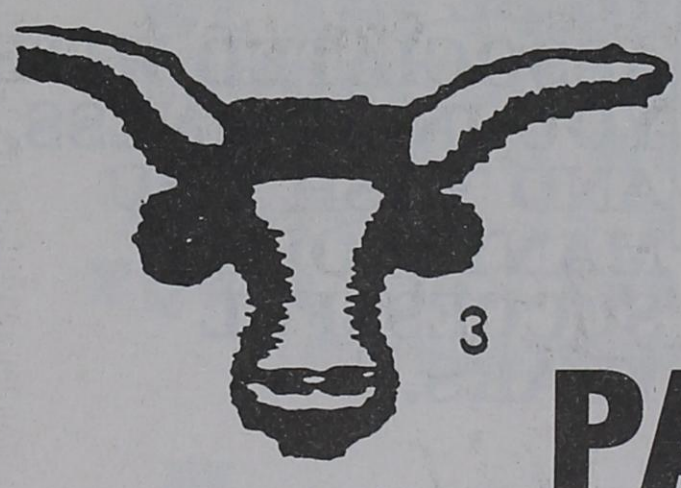
(Re-printed from the Friona Star, April 18, 1968)

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EXCEL 25 YEARS

IN 1968

Shackelford Traces Events In Securing Beef Plant



SHACKELFORD HONORED....Dr. Loyd Shackelford, left, received an honor during the dedication ceremonies at MBP (later to be Excel). Shackelford was a guiding force in getting the original plant located and built at Friona.

(Editor's note: The following article is reprinted from the April 18, 1968 issue of the Friona Star, dealing with how the current Excel plant came to be located in Friona.)

How did Missouri Beef Packers come to locate in Friona?

This is a question thrown out quite often and it's a question which can't be answered "in 25 words or less," but one which can be traced definitely by certain Friona personalities.

For, while a packing plant for Friona was just a fond dream for a major portion of the population, there were some who were doing more than dreaming—in order to make the rest of the people's dream come true.

Back in August of 1966, a

Courthouse Notes

Instrument Report Ending April 23, 1993, County Clerk's Office, Parmer County, Texas, Bonnie Warren, County Clerk

WD, Neff Preston, Norvin Neff Preston, Jr., 1/2 of the W/110 acres of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 34, T2N;R4E, Capitol Synd.

WD, Neff Preston, Judith Kay and Larry Hodnett, 2/3 of Lot 9, Blk. 4, of Ridgelea Sub., Bovina

WD, Resolution Trust Corporation, Secretary of Veteran Affairs, N 51.5 ft. out of 140' by 103.25 tract out of NE/part of SW/4 of Sec. 31, T1N;R4E, Capitol Synd.

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personal friend of Dr. Loyd Shackelford, Dr. J. Howard Morrison of Tyler, visited in Friona with Dr. Shackelford.

Dr. Morrison had grown up on ranches, so Dr. Shackelford was anxious to show him the modern trend in cattle feeding, and gave him a tour at Friona Feed Yard. The Tyler doctor was impressed-in fact, shocked, at the huge number of cattle which were fed in one concentration.

Sometime later, Dr. Morrison was lecturing at a dental meeting in St. Louis, and he became acquainted with a Dr. Suggert, who had just invested some money in a young, vigorous beef packing company--Missouri Beef Packers of Rock Port, Mo.

During the course of their conversations, Dr. Morrison told Dr. Suggert about his acquaintance in Friona, and about the area's feedlots, where as many as 27,000 head of cattle were fed in one installation.

Hearing this figure, Dr. Suggert told his friend that he was surely mistaken--this sounded too high. "Well, I might have misunderstood, but sometime when it's convenient, I'll arrange for you to meet Loyd and he can tell you for sure how it is," Dr. Morrison said.

Later, at a Dallas dental meeting, Dr. Morrison arranged an "accidental" meeting between Dr. Suggert and Dr. Shackelford. Dr. Suggert was a close friend of George Knepper, a major stockholder of Missouri Beef Packers, and knew of the young company's plans to expand, and mentioned it to Loyd.

He gave Dr. Shackelford the names of Kneppers, Harry Nelson and Gene Frye and how to get in touch with them.

Upon returning home, Dr. Shackelford did a lot of telephoning--visiting with the Missouri Beef officials quite a lot by telephone, confirming their expansion plans and planting the

seed for an interest in Friona.

In early December 1966, Loyd arranged a meeting in Rock Port involving local business leaders. Dr. Shackelford, A.L. Black, Frank Spring and Jack Carrothers went to Missouri and met with most of the members of the board of directors of MBP.

"The Missouri Beef people showed an interest in coming to Friona, practically from that first meeting. It seemed to be just a question of working out a program which would best suit both parties," says Dr. Shackelford, who was the eternal optimist throughout the quest for the new industry.

Just before Christmas, 1966, three of the Missouri Beef officials were guests of the Frionans, and during the trip were able to meet various civic leaders in a meeting at Friona State Bank, the first "public" exposure to local people of the possibility of a packing plant for Friona.

After that the meeting and telephone conversations were oftener and more serious between the Friona and Rock Port residents.

"Harry Nelson told me early in our dealings that one of the biggest deterrents to swinging such a deal was a 'breakdown' in communication. We decided to talk with each other every working day, to guard against this happening," Shackelford relates.

"Sometimes we'd just talk about going fishing, or the weather, but we hardly ever missed a day talking with each other. Missouri Beef had a Watts line, so this helped some on the telephone bill. "One day my office secretary timed me, and I was on the telephone a total of five and one-half hours," he added.

In March of 1967, the negotiations were bearing fruit, and in early April, A.L. Black and MBP officials went to Austin, where a big hurdle was passed as the Securities Exchange Commission approved the Missouri company's stock merger proposal,

should it expand to Texas.

"A.L. was the key man in this drive. We'd never have sacked up the deal without his cool business head," Dr. Shackelford said.

Things were really at the "sweating stage" by now, especially with other cities finding out about MBP's expansion plans, including Hereford and Plainview.

Finally, the Missouri officials made the statement that if Friona would provide the location, the company would locate here. That was all it took.

"This had been mentioned casually before, but now we had an offer. Within ten days of this agreement, we had the deal in the bag," Shackelford recalls.

The land fund drive itself was the high point of the entire project, as far as Dr. Shackelford is concerned. "It was really something. We had the \$100,000 practically raised in three days time. This is something else which my friends in the dental profession find hard to believe," he says.

Dr. Shackelford says the Missouri Beef project was a real delight--a lesson, indeed an education to industrial expansion. "It was the cooperation of the people which made it work, and nothing any individual or small group of individuals did which made it come to pass," he states.

The Friona dentist heaps praise upon the other industrial committee members. "They would drop everything at any time, regardless, to do what was needed at the time," he points out.

How did he keep optimistic about Friona's chances for the plant, when things appeared to be flickering and dying to others locally?

"Well, I had visited more with Harry Nelson than anyone else. I knew more of their desire to have another plant. And, knowing that we had the ideal product for them, I just felt we couldn't miss," Shackelford says.

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"Texas" Play Kicks Off 28th Season On June 9

Everybody loves a party, especially the old-fashioned, hospitality-filled kind found in the Panhandle of Texas.

Music fills the air and echoes up and down the colorful canyon as pretty girls in bright party dresses sashay with lean cowboys dressed in "Sunday-best." Hands are clapping, toes are tapping, time and smiles are abundant.

Suddenly shots ring out and laughter turns to screams as fingers point to the shadowy silhouette of an Indian. Tension is transmitted with the speed of light, and an audible anticipatory gasp rises from the spectators who fill Pioneer Amphitheatre in Palo Duro Canyon State Park.

"TEXAS," the internationally acclaimed outdoor drama written by Pulitzer prize-winning author Paul Green, has once more captivated its audience.

This stirring saga of the Lone Star State opens its 28th season on June 9, 1993 and plays at 8:30 p.m. nightly except Sundays through August 21, 1993. This year, an extra performance has been scheduled for Sunday, July 4.

Cowboys, Indians, farmers, ranchers and the "Grand Canyon of Texas" all figure prominently in what has been acknowledged by the National Institute of Outdoor Drama as "the best attended outdoor drama in the nation." Over the past seven seasons, the amphitheatre has been filled to an average 94 per cent of its 1,724-seat capacity.

The show's popularity undoubtedly stems from the true-to-life dramatization of the hardships and conflicts faced by the determined men and women who made Texas their home in the late 1800s. Farmers fought cattlemen as the wide-open space dominated by cattle slowly gave ground to fences and crops. Indians battled the realization that they could not step the encroachment of the settlers. And all of them, men and women alike, pitted their indomitable spirits against the hostile land and unrelenting elements.

A cast of 80 professionals leads the audience on this journey through a rough and tumble time in the nation's history. Traditional western songs, creative costumes, outstanding choreography and

spectacular special effects add to the drama of this timeless tale of love and death, tragedy and triumph.

The craggy and colorful walls of the "canyon of hard wood" provide a perfect setting for "TEXAS." A soaring 600-foot cliff painted by the master artist Himself serves as the show's backdrop. A perfect union between the canyon's natural acoustics and the technology of modern sound and light equipment creates unusual and startling special effects.

Cowboys ride the range, Indians leap from rocks, a wild prairie fire dances across the land, lightning streaks down the canyon wall, and progress eventually rumbles into a new town aboard an authentic steam engine. New friendships and alliances are formed as the path to a shining future is carved from the rough and rugged terrain known as "TEXAS."

During its 27-year history, 2.4 million people from around the world have been awed and entertained by "TEXAS." More than 100,000 spectators have seen the show in each of the last four years, including visitors from every state and more than 100 foreign countries.

Attendance figures indicate a steady upward climb in the number of foreign visitors and American spectators from outside the Lone Star State. A chow-call triangle is traditionally awarded each night to the person who travels the greatest distance to see the show. With the exception of the show's first season, the triangle has always been awarded to someone from outside the United States.

"TEXAS" plays Monday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12, \$9 and \$6 for adults and \$12, \$4.50 and \$3 for children under 12. An optional barbecue dinner, served prior to every performance, is available from 6-8 p.m. for an additional \$6.

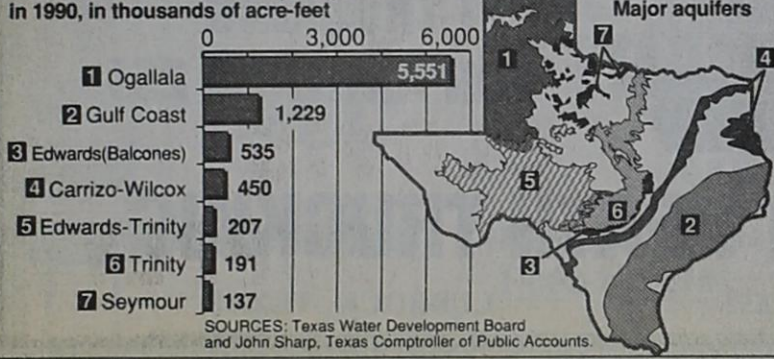
For additional information, or to make reservations for "TEXAS," write P.O. Box 268, Canyon, Texas, 79015, or call (806) 655-2181.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Groundwater: A geyser of public interest

More than half the water used in Texas comes from underground aquifers. Groundwater, used by cities, farmers, mining and manufacturing interests, belongs to the person who owns the land above and has the right of capture. It is not like surface water, which is owned and managed by the state for the public good. Texans withdrew about 8.9 million acre-feet of groundwater in 1990, about 3.5 million acre-feet more than the estimated amount replenished yearly by rainfall and runoff.

Groundwater taken from major aquifers in 1990, in thousands of acre-feet



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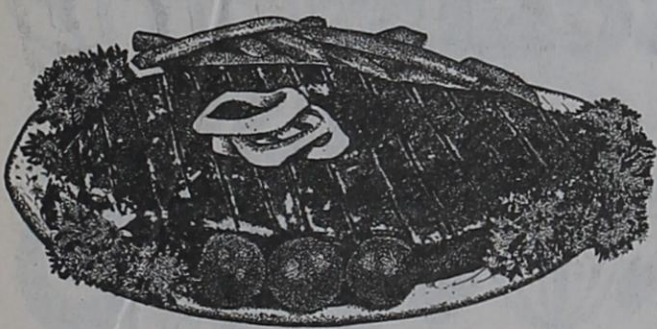
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TCFA--A Quarter Century Old And Still Growing

(A biographical sketch of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association)

Put in the perspective of the long and colorful history of the cattle industry in the Lone Star State, it's a newcomer. But this newcomer is no greenhorn, for it has made an impact on Texas in a

few short years that others take a lifetime to achieve.

This newcomer is cattle feeding. Texas and cattle have always been synonymous. The hoofprints of the cattle industry are indelibly marked on the Lone Star and, to a large extent, make up both the myth and the reality of what it

means to be a Texan. However, while historians have identified the appearance of the first cattle feedyards around 100 years ago in the Brazos River bottom and around Brownwood, the modern, large-scale industry present today didn't gain a foothold in Texas soil until the late '50s and early '60s.

After World War II, what little cattle feeding present was done in Arizona and Southern California. But then, in the '50s, Texas farmers doubled grain production, thanks to new technology. With the surge in grain production, Texas cattlemen began asking themselves why they were shipping their cattle, and their grain, to California when they could just as easily keep them here and make their own industry.

And in true Texas fashion, a business was born. By the mid '60s, these entrepreneur-cattlemen saw the need for an association to help solidify their voice and to work on their behalf.

So, in 1967, ten cattle feeders met in Amarillo and formed the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA). In the years since, the upstart group grew, along with the industry it represents, to one of the most influential forces in agriculture.

TCFA took a leadership role in industry issues from the very beginning. Almost immediately, cattle feeders became active in the political arena, and continue to be very active today. In addition, TCFA was an early leader in beef promotion, raising more than \$500,000 in three weeks to tell cattlemen's stories in the wake of a consumer beef boycott in 1973.

As cattle feeding grew, it became evident that more capital was needed to fund the burgeoning industry. TCFA visited major banks on the East and West coasts and hosted bankers on tours of the state's new industry. Lenders saw merit in cattle feeding and pumped millions into Texas' economy.

And that was just the beginning. TCFA continued to hone its political edge and instituted one of the most sophisticated and accurate

market information services in the industry. These and other activities helped Texas become the nation's leader in cattle feeding.

Texas cattle feeders continue the pace today. In 1992, feedyards in the TCFA area marketed 5.8 million fed cattle, 25% of the nation's beef.

The economic impact of the industry is significant. The cattle feeding industry in the TCFA area provides jobs for about 3,000 people directly and provides the economic stimulus to create another 23,000 jobs.

At average market prices, those 5.8 million fed cattle are worth about \$4.6 billion. By the time the money circulates through local and state economies, the total economic impact on the area is around \$13.6 billion.

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Area Farmers Work To Protect Soil, Profits

Area wheat farmers are looking for ways to keep the soil on the ground and more money in the bank.

"Farmers are looking for ways to reduce tillage either for economic reasons or to meet conservation compliance," explains Wayne Schumacher, DuPont cereals manager.

"Farmers who have highly erodible land, for example, are in need of tools to keep their stubble

cleaner so they can keep the crop residue intact to meet compliance. If they don't, they stand to lose all farm program benefits."

The Environmental Protection Agency has approved an expanded label for DuPont Finesse herbicide that gives farmers more flexibility in their weed control programs to reduce tillage and maximize yield potential.

Under the new label, Finesse can be used for fallow weed control under either a wheat-fallow-wheat or ecofallow program. This will aid farmers who are reducing their tillage practices to save costs and erosion, and especially those who must meet federally-mandated conservation compliance requirements by the end of next year, Schumacher says.

Finesse can also be applied with low rates of Lexone in a spring weed-and-feed program for grasses and broadleaves.

"What's important is that farmers now have more flexibility in matching their weed control programs to their specific needs," Schumacher says.

In fallow, farmers can use a tank mix program using Roundup, Bladex, atrazine or paraquat to control both broadleaves and grasses in one trip. That saves the cost of multiple chem fallow applications or tillage trips.

In ecofallow, farmers should use a short or non-residual sulfonyleurea herbicide in the wheat crop to prevent carryover problems, and then Finesse in the corn or sorghum stubble.

Ex-Resident Is Buried In Oklahoma

Funeral services were held for former Farwell resident, Jerry Atchley, 59, on April 14 at the Hobart Rose Cemetery in Hobart, Oklahoma. He died in Amarillo on April 11.

He was born on January 6, 1934 in Hobart to Jack and Violet Messer Atchley. He married Gloria Slagel on September 20, 1972. Atchley lived in Farwell many years and he worked for the Sheriff's Department for 22 years. He served as Deputy Sheriff.

Surviving are his wife, Gloria, of Amarillo; two step-daughters, Kathy Kaufman of San Antonio and Ruth Webb of Amarillo; one brother, Jack, of Duncan, Oklahoma; two sisters, Veda Miller and Oleta Iverson, both of Amarillo, and two step-grandchildren.

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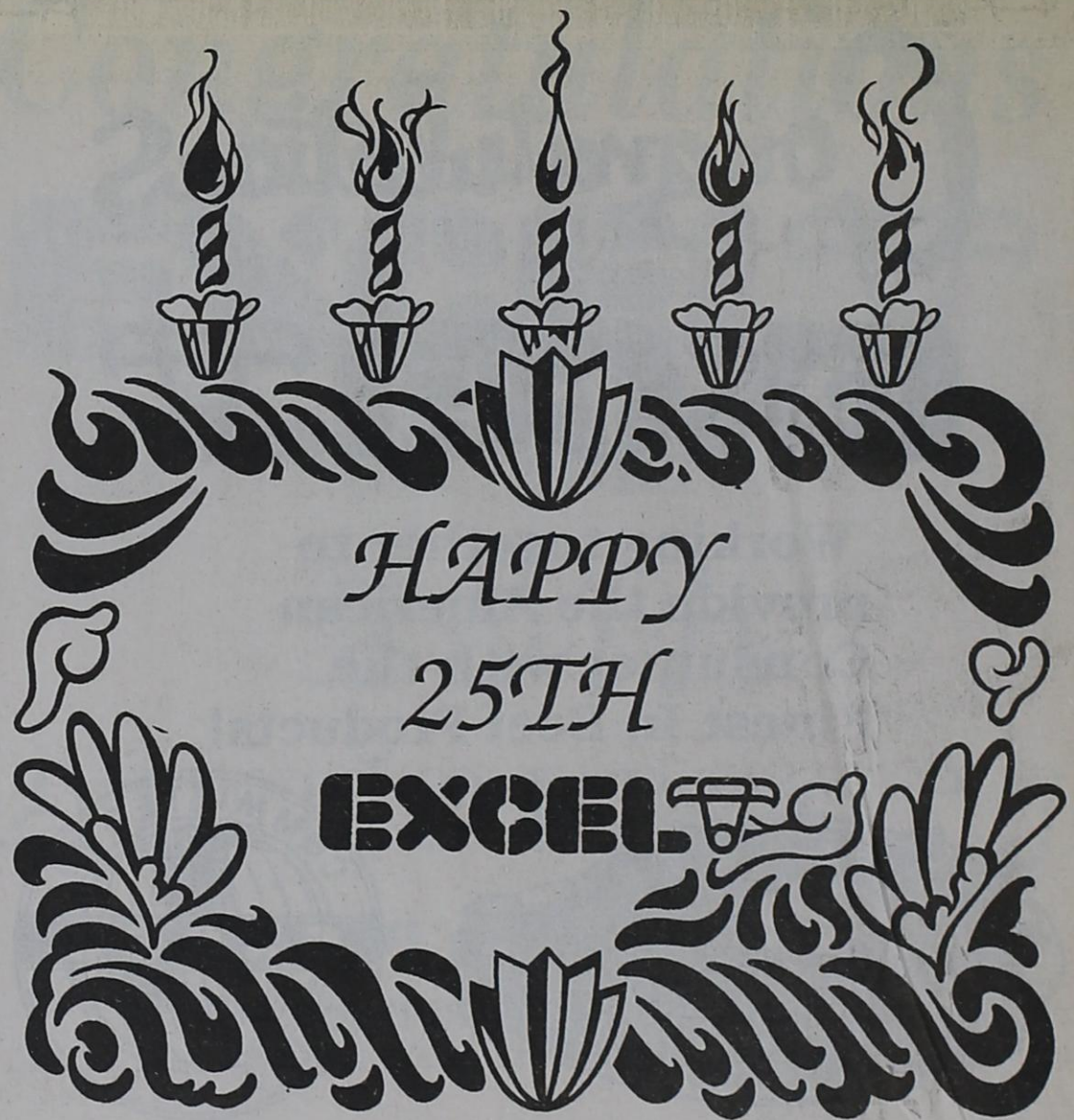


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HONORED... This group of EXCEL employees were honored for 20 years of service to the plant back in 1988. Back row (left-right) are: Bill Stalls and Coleman Moseley, both of whom are now retired, and Bobby Northcutt. Pictured on the front row are: Refugio Guevara, Shawn Aguirre, Hector Villarreal and Curtis Barber.
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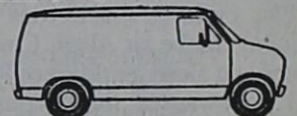
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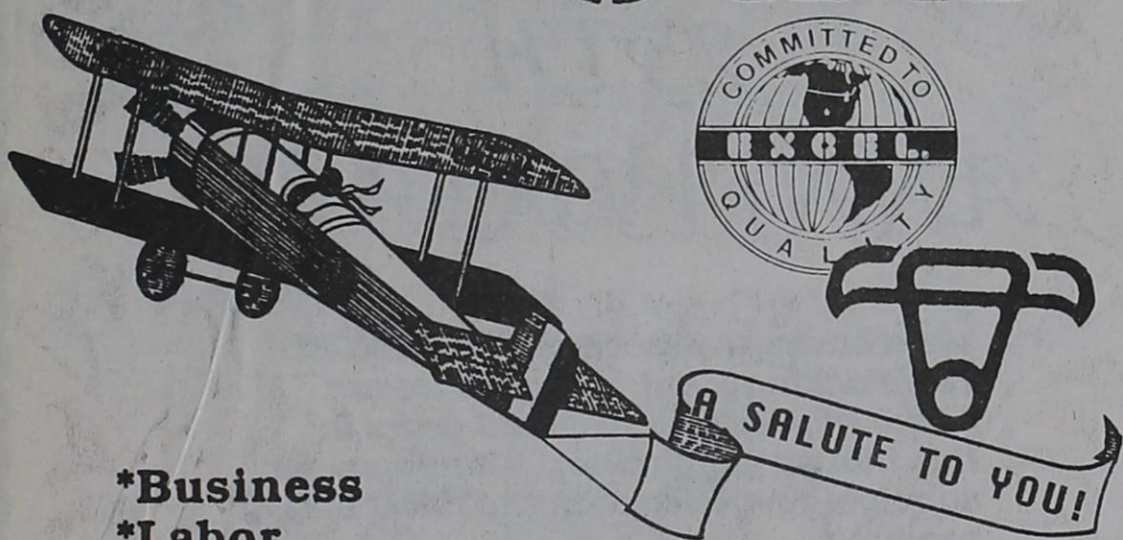
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TCFA Releases Figures On Impact Of Cattle Industry

You could almost call it a "hidden" industry. Not many realize how large it is, how many people it employs, or how significant it is to the economy.

In fact, not many realize that this industry, with its headquarters in Amarillo, produces over 1/4 of the nation's fed beef.

"Cattle feeding in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico," said Joe Hathoot of Canadian, 1992 president of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, "generates \$14 billion every year for our local and regional economy."

To arrive at those figures, Hathoot calculated the total value of the cattle fed in the TCFA area in 1991 and then applied an economic multiplier to determine total economic impact. "Based on TCFA data, the average price for fed cattle

in the TCFA area in 1991 was \$74.56 per cwt. and the average live weight was 1,128 lbs," he said. "That means the 6 million fed cattle produced in the TCFA area in 1991 had a value of \$5.05 billion." Using a 2.82 multiplier supplied by Dr. Steve Amosson, ag economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Amarillo, Hathoot calculated the total value of cattle fed in the TCFA area to be \$14.2 billion.

But it hasn't always been that way. Speaking in Amarillo to the annual convention of the Panhandle Press Association, Hathoot looked back on the past 25 years of growth the industry has enjoyed.

"Back in 1967, when TCFA was formed, Texas wasn't even considered a major cattle feeding

state. We marketed only 1.6 million fed cattle," he said. "However, the industry grew rapidly and, in 1984, Texas became the first state to ever market over 5 million fed cattle. Today, when you add the fed cattle production in Oklahoma and New Mexico, the total comes to more than 6 million—about 27% of the fed beef produced in the U.S."

The industry is particularly important to the Texas Panhandle and neighboring western Oklahoma and eastern New Mexico, according to Hathoot. "About 80% of the region's fed cattle production—5 million head—can be found in the Panhandle of Texas, western Oklahoma and eastern New Mexico," he said.

When discussing economic impact, Hathoot said he often finds it easier to look at the impact of just one feedyard.

"A typical feedyard in the TCFA area has about 20,000 head capacity. Feedyards employ about 1.1 people per 1,000 head on feed. That means a typical feedyard will employ 22 people directly," Hathoot said.

But the impact doesn't stop there. According to the Revenue Estimating Division of the State Comptroller's Office, for every job generated directly by the cattle feeding industry, another 7.73 jobs are created elsewhere. "That means a single, average-sized feedyard in the TCFA area will generate enough economic activity to provide jobs for another 170 people," Hathoot said. "And since our region has about 2.5 million head on feed at any given time during the year, the cattle feeding industry in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico has a direct employment of 2,750 people, provided economic stimulus to create another 21,250 jobs, for a total of 24,000 jobs."

According to Hathoot, that can be a significant economic base to the many small and medium-sized communities throughout TCFA Cattle Feeding Country that are

home to feedyards. Included in the many jobs that a feedyard generates are truck drivers, packing plant employees, computer sales and support, industrial machinery parts and financing, to name a few.

"Take truck drivers, for instance," Hathoot said. "A single 20,000 head feedyard will require more than 3,600 truckloads of feedstuffs and cattle a year. That means 10 semi-trucks a day roll in and out of a single feedyard."

Hathoot, however, takes particular pride in the significant role that cattle feeders play in feeding a hungry world. "More importantly, a single 20,000 head feedyard will produce enough beef to feed 234,000 people for a whole year. That's a city about one and a half times the size of Amarillo.



BOXED BEEF...Jim Kofford, who served as manager of Friona's Excel plant in the mid-1970s, is shown holding a portion of meat which had been wrapped in cellophane and was about to be packed in a cardboard box. "Boxed beef" has been a part of the Excel operation practically from the first.

Discovery Center Sets "Astronomy Day"

The Don Harrington Discovery Center and the Amarillo Astronomy Club will be sponsoring "Astronomy Day" on Saturday, May 1, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and from 8:30-10 p.m. at the Don Harrington Discovery Center. This event is free to the public, and children and adults of all ages are encouraged to attend. Numerous activities will be available for children and adults to participate in and learn more about astronomy.

"Astronomy Day will be great fun for everyone! There will be activities, information and shows for all ages. After all, astronomy is a universal subject," stated Christine Brunello, planetarium coordinator at the Discovery Center.

The children's activities will include: Make an Alien, Create a Crater and Design a Planet. Prizes will be awarded throughout the course of the day. Various informational hand-outs will be available for adults, as well as contests, telescope displays and an astronomy viewing session. Members of the Amarillo

In conjunction with Astronomy Day, the Don Harrington Discovery Center will be presenting exciting planetarium shows throughout the day. These shows will include *The Universe Game*, *The Sky Tonight*, and *The Light-Hearted Astronomer*. Admission is \$2 per person, and all Discovery Center members are admitted free. However, free passes will be awarded throughout the course of the day.

Weather permitting, various outdoor activities have also been planned. Participants will be able to take a look at the sun, or walk along on a guided tour of the solar system. An observing session will also be held from 8:30-10 p.m. in the Discovery Center's parking lot. This observing session will be rescheduled for May 8, if the weather does not cooperate.

Make plans to attend "Astronomy Day" at the Don Harrington Discovery Center. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. For further information, please contact Christine Brunello at 355-9548, ext. 13.

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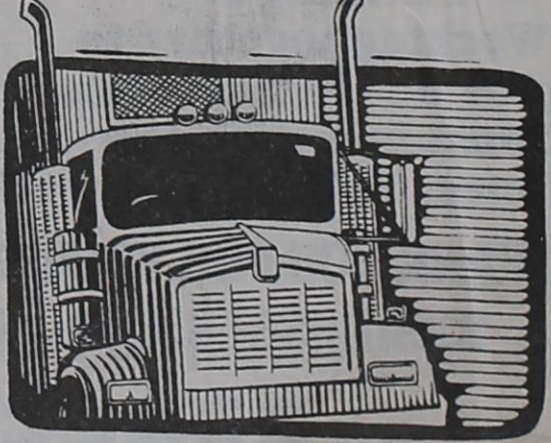
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Excel Closely Allied With Old 'Bull Town'

By JIM STEIERT
Special For Friona Star/
Bovina Blade

When the cowboys of the historic XIT drove herds to a 640-acre railroad shipping pasture east of a place called "Bull Town," they likely never dreamed that the dusty little cow village would one day be home to major cattle feeding and next door to the packing industry.

Certainly they couldn't have known that cattle, the same raw product that they were shipping to some unseen distant market, would one day be fed and slaughtered virtually within the shadow of old Bull Town.

Things might have been a lot easier in those days, had the cowboys been able to drive their cattle only about eight miles east to a packing facility like the current-day Excel Corporation packing plant.

Back then, modern-day Bovina was simply the Hay Hook Line Camp of the XIT Ranch. The railroad shipping pasture was a place to gather beeves for loading on rail cars. It allowed the animals room to calm down from drives, so that they would be a little less cantankerous come loading time.

The cattle were crowded into rail cars, and ironically, were hauled far from cattle country for final processing.

In the early 1900s, train crews called this shipping point "Bull Town," since bulls seemed to make a habit of lying on the Santa Fe tracks that were responsible for the building of this oldest town in Parmer County.

According to the Parmer County history, "Prairie Progress," the railroad made it possible to ship in cotton seed, which was used in feeding cattle. Some of this seed was spilled around the railroad tracks during unloading. The spilled seed made the tracks attractive to cattle, which pretty well had the run of the place. There were occasions when trains had to stop because of cattle lying on the tracks, or when train crews had to pull dead bulls off of the railroad.

Bull Town drew droves of cattle that were driven to the holding yard for shipment to market. Pens at the shipping yards bulged with the herds from many different ranches, and the bustling stockyards, at one time, attained the distinction of being called the largest inland cattle shipping point

in the world. Historical accounts indicate that as many as 10,000 head of cattle were shipped at one time.

The village eventually gave itself the name "Bovina," when a post office was established in 1899. It's said that the name comes from the Latin "bos" meaning ox, or cow. Closely associating itself with things bovine seems natural for Bovina, since cattle feeding and processing are still very much in the picture for this Parmer County community.

Feedyards of multi-thousand head capacity are located within only a few miles, and the Excel packing plant is also only about eight miles east. Many of the employees at the Excel plant live in Bovina.

In a manner of speaking, it might be said that Bovina is still a major beef shipping point--although the beef is in boxes these days, instead of on the hoof.

The Excel plant just down the road can slaughter up to 3,800 head of cattle a day, according to Carol Aistrup, plant controller. Many of the cattle that the plant purchases for slaughter are bought at local feedyards and shipped less than 100 miles to the plant.

A good many of these cattle come from feedyards in the Bovina area. The short shipping distance is quite an improvement over the grueling cross-country journeys by rail to the packing plants of yesteryear.

Once cattle are slaughtered, and after a 48-hour chilling period, beef is fabricated at the plant. Much of it goes into boxed and primal cuts. The Friona Excel plant can ship 10 million pounds of fabricated beef and hamburger a week.

Processed beef from the Parmer County plant is shipped to supermarkets and major restaurants all over the country, particularly in the Southeast.

Fittingly, the Excel Corporation plant has helped to write a new chapter of Parmer County history that, in some respects, isn't all that far removed from old Bull Town.

Experts Warn That Some Fat Is Necessary In Diet

Today, people across the country are cutting the fat out of their diets. Many don't realize, however, that a certain amount of dietary fat is needed for energy. The energy produced from fat is used for muscle movement and stored fat is the primary source for aerobic exercise.

According to Sandra Feldman, R.D., dietician at Methodist Hospital, fat has many other uses. "Fat is used for the transmission of brain and nerve signals, to keep our skin smooth, to cushion body organs and to maintain optimum body temperature," she said.

But although fat is a necessary part of the diet, an excessive amount of dietary fat can cause

weight gain. Feldman suggests the following for maintaining a healthy fat/body percentage: *Drink eight glasses of water each day; *Consume 20-30% of total caloric intake from fat; *Avoid eating saturated fat, instead substitute monounsaturated and polyunsaturated varieties; *Exercise regularly.

"What's important for people to realize is that they need to strike a balance between too much and not enough fat in their diets," said Feldman. "If 20-30% of your total caloric intake is coming from fat then that's a good balance."

Feldman suggests the following formula for tabulating 20% fat consumption: (calories per day x .2)/9=number of fat grams.

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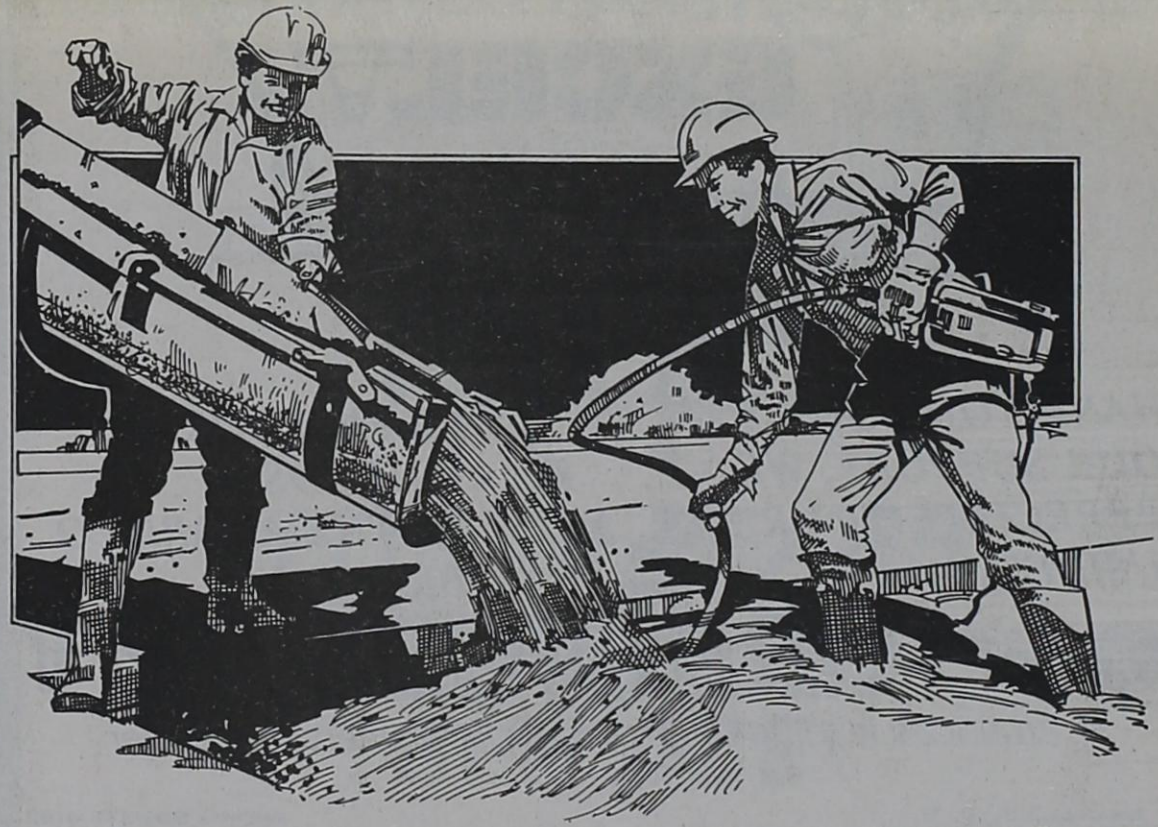
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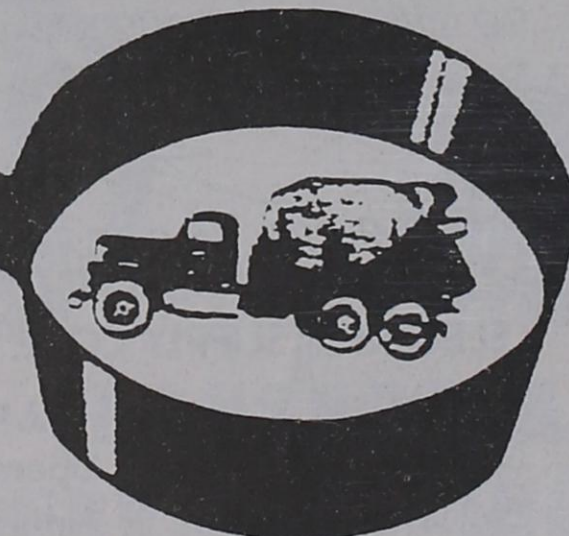
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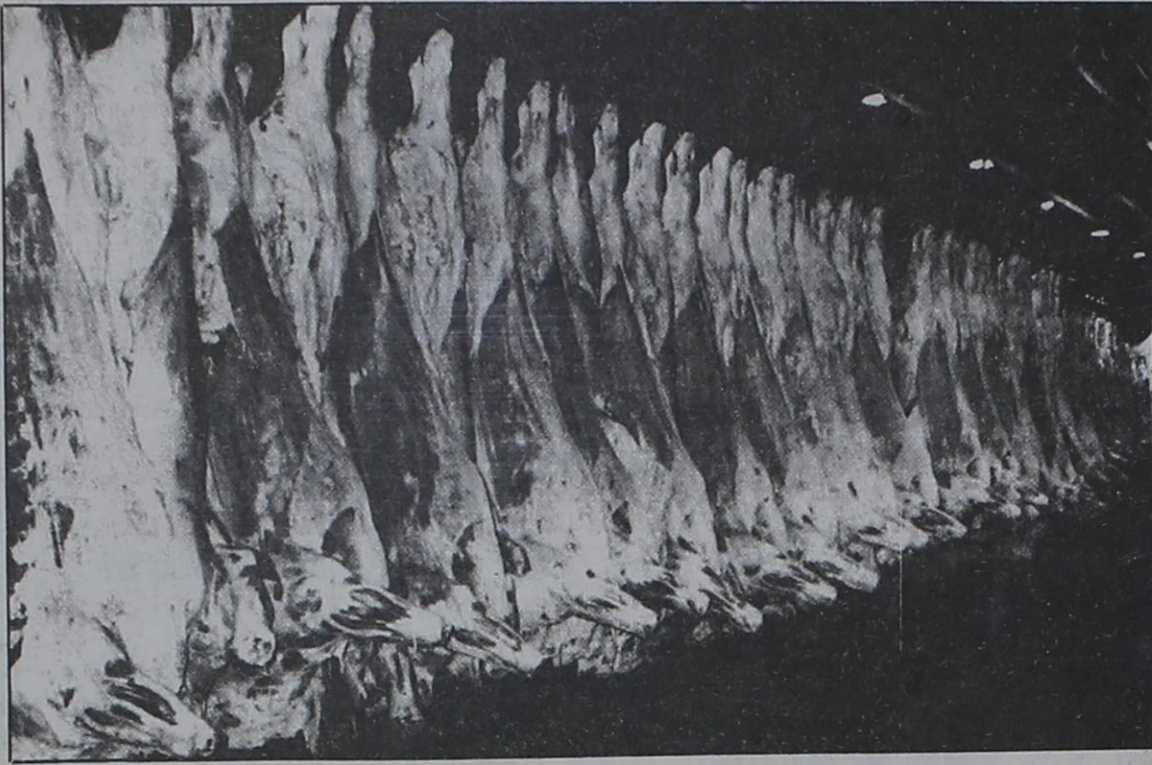
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FRIONA

PH. 247-2833





READY FOR REFRIGERATION... Beef carcasses are ready for refrigeration overnight after work has been completed in the slaughter division of the Excel plant. They will be processed by the fabrication department the following day.

Extensive Research Helps Protect Area Environment

In an effort to help feedyards in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico continue to operate in an environmentally sound manner, the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA) is sponsoring several research projects that will yield valuable information on groundwater preservation and dust and odor control.

The most recent project, according to TCFA Environmental Manager Tom McDonald, is fly ash research funded primarily by Southwestern Public Service Co. with help from USDA and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The project is designed to see if fly ash can help stabilize feedyard pens and reduce dust emissions. Fly ash is a byproduct of coal-fired power plants.

In addition, TCFA and the Extension Service are looking at alternative ways that farmers can

incorporate feedyard manure into their fertilizer programs. Results from several studies are very positive.

In studies at the Etter Research Station, feedyard manure was applied to irrigated crop land at 20 tons per acre to determine its effect on forage production and groundwater. "Farmers have long used manure as an environmentally safe organic fertilizer. We wanted to see if it was more economical to apply a higher load of manure every two to three years instead of a lighter application every year," McDonald said. "And, of course, we wanted to verify our knowledge that feedyard manure is environmentally sound."

According to the results, farmers can use feedyard manure at 20 tons per acre on irrigated cropland in a two-crop rotation. Yields were very similar to crops grown with

commercial fertilizer and there was an economic advantage of \$4 per acre with the manure treatments.

Runoff water from test fields that underwent a 20-ton manure application per acre contained less than 0.5 to 2.5 milligrams per liter of nitrogen. EPA standards for human drinking water are 10 milligrams per liter. Nitrate movement was very similar for both manure and commercial fertilizer treatments and poses no threat to the groundwater supply.

A study using 30 tons per acre is currently underway, McDonald says, using similar parameters to the 20-ton study. "We're very encouraged at the results of these tests—it affirms that manure is an environmentally sensitive organic fertilizer that area farmers can incorporate into their fertilizer programs."

HOO-RAY!!

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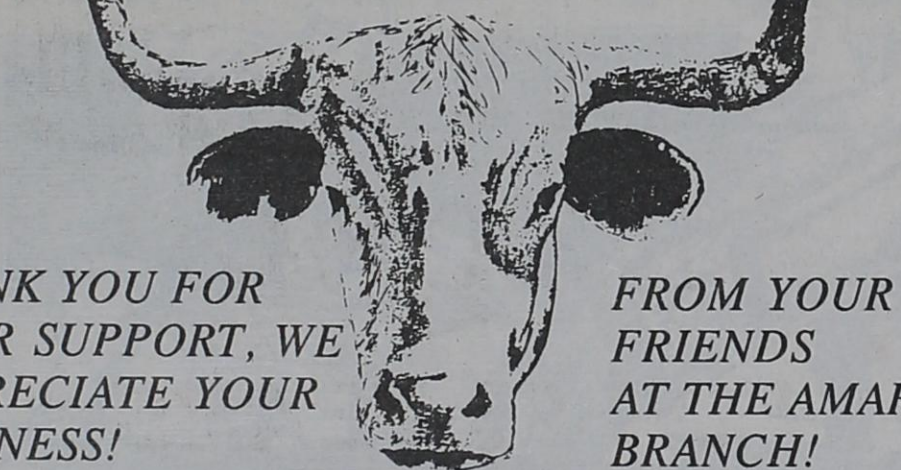
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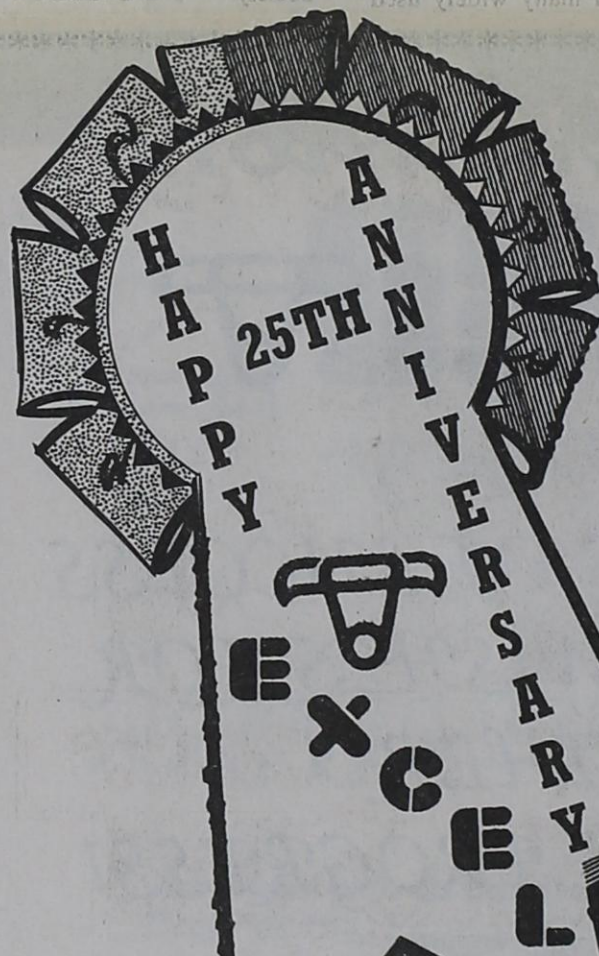
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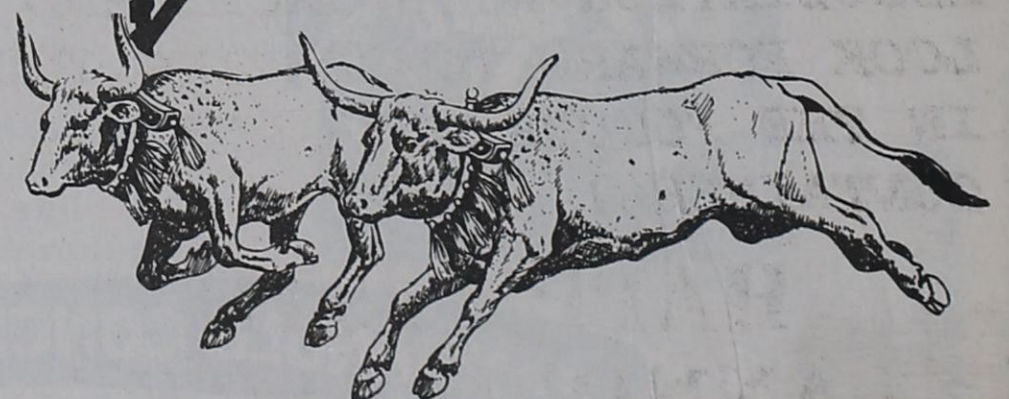
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Excel Corporation Markets Everything But The "Moo"

(Compiled from reports by Ian and Ivory Isaacson, and local interviews)

When a beef packing plant like the Excel Corporation's facility at Friona processes cattle, about the only thing that doesn't get utilized is the "moo."

Virtually everything else—hair, hide, hooves, horns, bones, intestines, blood—has an end use and a market value. Between the area packing house, local by-products outlets and industries elsewhere, some 99 per cent of each animal is used.

Carol Aistrup, Excel's plant controller at Friona, says that edible offal products such as hearts, livers, intestines and tripe, find a home on the international market.

Edible offal from the Friona plant is cooked, frozen at Millard Warehouse in Friona, and channeled into the export market. Much of this material goes to Japan.

Inedible portions of cattle carcasses from the Friona plant at Friona are also utilized through local, national and international channels.

Hereford Bi-Products has facilities at Friona for handling gullets, lungs, livers, and spleens, all of which are processed into dog food for the pet food division of H.J. Heinz. The materials are directed to El Paso by Hereford Bi-Products.

The Hereford firm also buys neck bones from the Friona Excel plant. These are shipped directly to Hereford and used for bone meal.

Blood from the slaughter plant is dried and shipped for sales elsewhere, for use in a variety of products.

One of the items manufactured from this material is blood meal, which, ironically, is utilized in poultry feed.

Cattle blood has a number of important uses in the medical field, supplying plasma to treat hemophilia, to kill viruses, to supply iron for countering anemia, blood albumin for RH factor types and thrombin as a blood coagulant.

Beef by-products have many other medical-related uses. Because cattle are much like humans in their

organic chemical structure, medicines made from beef by-products are readily accepted by humans, and scientists can produce medicines much more economically from these by-products than from man-made materials. Scientists use this resource in surgery, research and routine health care.

From the pancreas of cattle such as those processed at Friona, a number of medical products are derived, such as insulin for treatment of diabetes, glucogen to treat hypoglycemia, trypsin and chymotrypsin for treating burns and wounds, and pancreatin to aid in digestion.

The pituitary glands supply medicines to improve lactation, regulate blood pressure, control intestinal and renal functions, and help arthritis and allergies. Cattle livers are a source of material for heparin, an anti-coagulant, liver extract for treating anemia and Vitamin B-12.

Bone provides bone marrow for treating blood disorders and soft cartilage for use in plastic surgery, and the spinal cord and nervous system provide cholesterol for hormone products.

Intestines are used in the manufacture of sutures.

Hides from the slaughter of up to 3,800 head of cattle a day at the Friona Excel plant are placed in the export market, with Japan and Korea buying the majority.

Gelatin extracted from hides, horns, hooves and bones is used in a wide array of food items such as ice cream, yogurt, mayonnaise, marshmallows, and flavorings for cooking. Gelatin is also a material used in manufacturing photographic film.

Many household items are derived from fats and fatty acids by-products. Shaving cream, perfumes and cosmetics, ceramics, shoe cream, deodorants, soaps, insulation, textiles, detergents, cellophane, linoleum, plastics, floor wax, insecticides, paints and freon are among these. Sheetrock and wallpaper are also end products of beef by-products.

Beef fats and proteins are also ingredients in many widely used

lubricants and fluids. Fatty acids contain glycerol, which is used in anti-freeze. Stearic acid, derived from cattle by-products, is used in helping tires hold their shape. A binding agent derived from cattle fat is also used in asphalt. Hydraulic brake fluid, various machinery oils and fluids, steel ball bearings containing bone charcoal, car polishes and waxes and textiles for car upholstery are also items derived from beef by-products.

By-products from Friona's Excel plant could end up anywhere from Fido's feeding dish in a home somewhere in the Panhandle to an operating room at a major metropolitan hospital on the East Coast, to luggage traveling to Europe, to a dinner table in distant Japan.

But, if the end user is looking for a clue to the item's source, the "moo" will be missing.

(Ian and Ivory Isaacson are members of the 4-Leaf Clovers and Little Peppers 4-H Clubs in Deaf Smith County. Their dad, Stan, is the manager of the 7-X Feedyard, located near Summerfield. Ian and Ivory will be competing in district 4-H method demonstration competition in Canyon in May with their presentation, "Did You Pack Your Cow Yet?" which they prepared with the help of their mom, Cindy. Their method demonstration highlights the importance of beef by-products.)

Cancer Unit Sets Drive

The Parmer County Unit of the American Cancer Society will be conducting a business drive in Friona during the month of May.

It has been many years since this has been done. Businesses will be contacted, but contributions can always be made at the Friona State Bank to help in the fight against cancer.

This Sword Says We're Your American Cancer Society



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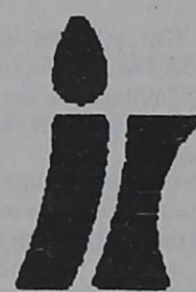
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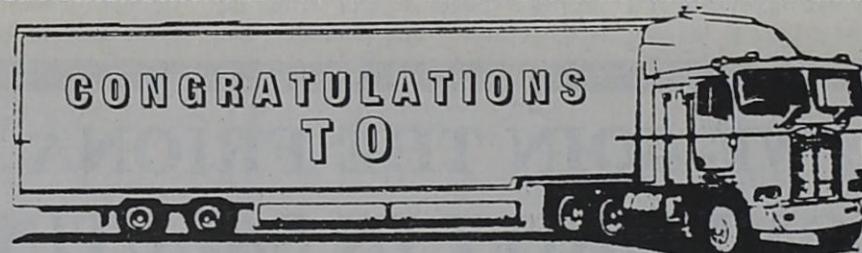
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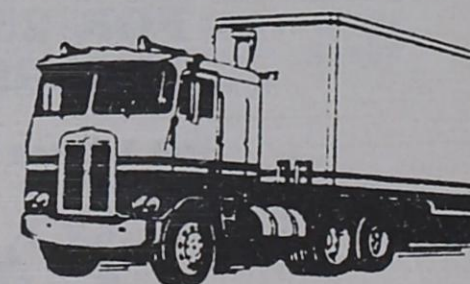
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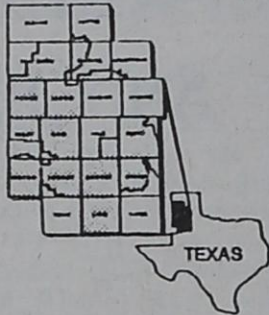
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County	Number Of Observation Wells Maintained	Average Annual Change 1983-1993	Average Annual Change 1988-1993	Average Annual Change 1992-1993
Armstrong	9	+0.13	+0.00	+0.46
Bailey	80	-0.31	-0.53	-0.32
Castro	89	-1.29	-1.68	-1.62
Cochran	69	+0.41	+0.26	+0.66
Crosby	72	+0.49	-0.18	+1.66
Deaf Smith	88	-0.72	-1.15	-1.03
Floyd	98	-0.42	-0.72	+0.10
Hale	27	-0.12	-0.93	+0.42
Hockley	88	+0.36	+0.12	+0.88
Lamb	99	-1.02	-1.11	-0.17
Lubbock	128	+0.33	-0.19	+1.72
Lynn	75	+1.10	+0.34	+2.76
Parmer	97	-1.26	-1.71	-1.47
Potter	6	-0.49	-0.88	-1.43
Randall	51	-0.14	-0.26	-0.03
District	1,076	-0.31	-0.69	+0.14

Average Changes In Depth-To-Water In Feet For Observation Wells Maintained By The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 1993



Ground Water Levels Are On Decline In Parmer County

Parmer County ground water levels decreased an average of 1.47 feet in 1992 in the measured well in the network of 97 privately-owned wells maintained by the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 in its 577,950 acre service area within the county. This decline represents a decrease of 127,437 acre-feet of water from storage in the Ogallala Aquifer last year in Parmer County.

Ground water levels within the Water District's Parmer County service area declined 1.26 feet during the 10-year period from 1983 to 1993. A decline of 1.71 feet was recorded during the five-year period from 1988 to 1993.

Ground water levels in the Ogallala Aquifer within the 6.4 million acre Water District service area had an average rise of 0.14 of a foot from January 1992 to January

1993. This is a net increase of about 135,103 acre-feet of ground water in storage in the Ogallala Aquifer within the Water District service area.

A zero average annual change in ground water levels was recorded for the first time in the Water District's history in 1985. Depth-to-water measurements revealed an average ground water level rise of 0.50 of a foot in 1986; an average rise of 0.90 of a foot in 1987; an average decline of 0.51 of a foot in 1988; an average decline of one foot in 1989; an average decline of 1.06 feet in 1990 and an average decline of 0.73 of a foot in 1991.

A network of 1,076 privately-owned observation water wells is used to determine the annual change in the quantity of water in storage in the Ogallala Aquifer within the High Plains Water District. The

depth-of-water measurements are taken in January and February of each year in order to allow water levels to stabilize from the pumping during the previous growing season.

By comparing the current depth-to-water measurements with those taken the previous year, Water District technical division staff members can determine what changes have occurred in the ground water levels.

Of the 15 counties or portions of counties making up the High Plains Water District, eight recorded average rises in depth-to-water levels. These counties were Armstrong, Cochran, Crosby, Floyd, Hale, Hockley, Lubbock and Lynn. Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Lamb, Parmer, Potter and Randall Counties showed average declines in the depth-to-water measurements.

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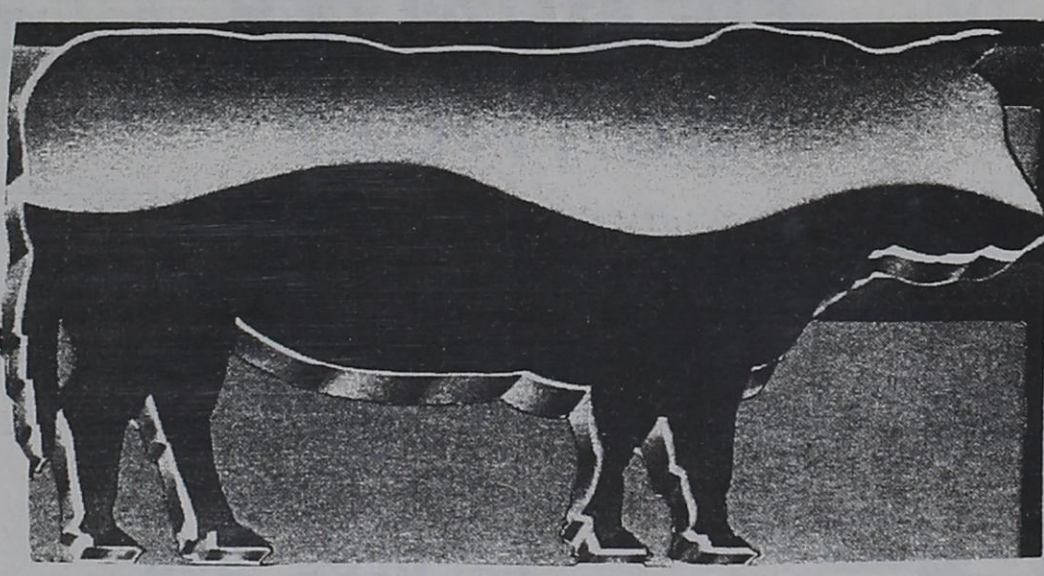
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RECEIVES LOVING CUP....Nancy McIntyre of Spearman and Sharon Oeschger of Amarillo present John Cluck, president of the First National Bank of Perryton, with the traveling loving cup for being a dedicated supporter of the Harrington Cancer Center.

R. Perry Added To TSN Radio

Dallas-based Texas State Networks announced today the addition of State Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry to their programming line-up. Perry will answer questions posed by residents around the state regarding farming and agriculture issues, as well as the goings-on in Austin and Washington.

The daily five-minute program, entitled "Shoot the Bull," was offered to the 123 affiliates of the Texas State Network beginning Monday, April 5.

TSN News Director Tina Nelson said initial survey results have been very encouraging. "Initially, we looked at this as an opportunity to bolster our ag network programming, but after we started surveying our affiliates, we found a surprising amount of interest from our news affiliates and were pleased to be able to give our customers

what they want." Nelson added that once Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry responded to TSN's inquiry, and agreed to do the program, all the pieces fell into place. "Commissioner Perry has been incredibly cooperative and we are pleased that he has been able to commit the time necessary to making this a quality program," Nelson said.

The program will be hosted by Texas Agribusiness Network Associate Farm Director Scot Harrison.

The Texas State Network is the oldest and the largest state radio network in the country, with continuous service for almost 55 years.

Currently, TSN provides more than 120 Texas radio stations with Texas news, agricultural, weather and feature programs.

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Financial Institutions Support Cancer Center

The Harrington Cancer Center has recognized the area financial institutions involved with the Area Bank Matching Contribution Program. 1992's recognition once again came at the cancer center's "The Stars at Night" special event on March 27.

The following institutions were recognized in four categories:

Largest actual contribution--First National Bank, Perryton, Booker Branch.

Largest account balance--First National Bank, Perryton; John Cluck, president, with a balance of \$414,746.62.

Banks raising over \$500 in 1992 deposits--First State Bank, Canadian; First State Bank, Dumas (First National, Amarillo, Dumas Center); First National Bank, Panhandle; First National Bank, Perryton; First National Bank, Perryton, Booker Branch; First National Bank, Wheeler.

Banks participating in the 1992

area bank matching contribution program--Banc Central, Amarillo; First National Bank, Amarillo; First National Bank, Borger; First State Bank, Canadian; First National Bank, Canyon; First Bank and Trust, Childress; First Bank and Trust, Clarendon; Farmers and Stockmans Bank, Clayton, New Mexico; Citizens State Bank, Dalhart; First State Bank, Dimmitt; First National Bank of Amarillo, Dumas Banking Center.

Also, **Friona State Bank, Friona;** Fritch State Bank, Fritch; Gruver State Bank, Gruver; First State Bank, Happy; First National Bank, Hereford; First National Bank, Canadian; First Bank & Trust, Memphis; Memphis State Bank, Memphis; First State Bank, Mobeetie; Citizens Bank & Trust, Pampa; First National Bank, Pampa.

Also, **First National Bank of Commerce, Pampa;** First National Bank, Panhandle; First National

Bank, Perryton; First National Bank, Perryton, Booker Branch; Perryton National Bank; First National Bank, Spearman; First State Bank, Stratford; Texline State Bank, Texline; Wellington State Bank, Wellington; and First National Bank, Wheeler.

Area financial institutions actively support the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center by encouraging citizen gifts and support to the Cancer Center. Active customer donor accounts are those which receive gifts at least quarterly.

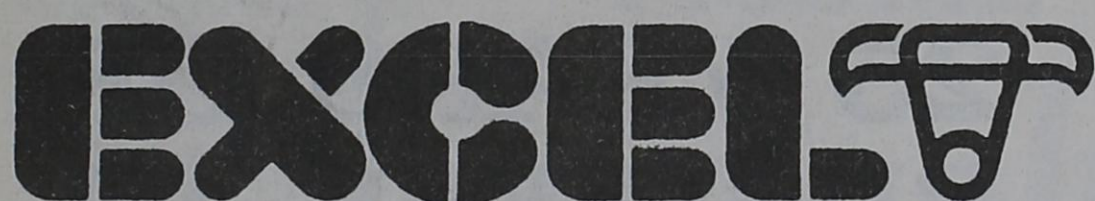
Each institution receives a plaque honoring its Trustee status and a traveling Loving Cup is presented annually at the center's special event to honor the most donation-productive trustee for the year. For more information regarding the Area Bank Matching Contribution Program, contact Charlotte Rhodes at (806) 359-4673.

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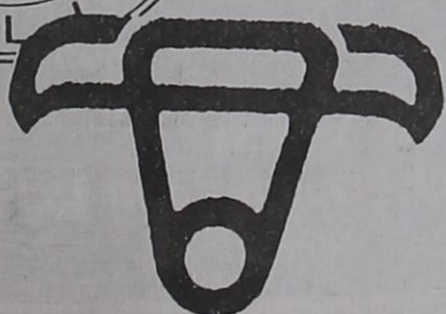
BEST WISHES



On Your
25th
Anniversary
In Friona



We wish you success in the future and want to thank you for allowing us to serve as the contractor on the recent plant addition.

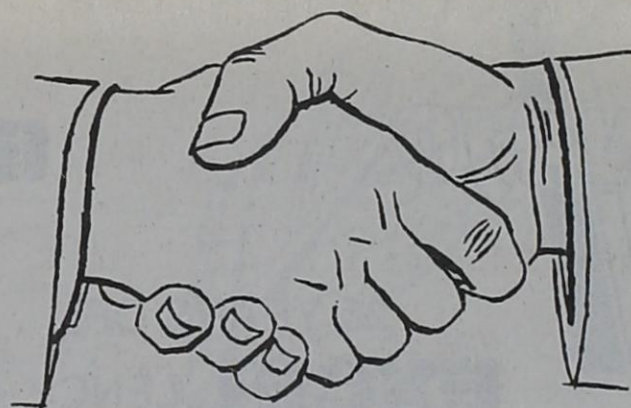


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RECENT EXPANSION....A ground-breaking was held at Friona's Excel plant in June of 1991 for the \$11 million expansion project at the plant. From the left are Guy Hunter, project manager; Randy Highsmith, construction engineer; and Jacky Messer, contractor.



AT PLANT DEDICATION...Twenty-five years ago this past week, Friona Star publisher Bill Ellis, left, was visiting with John S. Reid, second from left, who at the time was president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. Reid was one of the speakers at the plant dedication in 1968. Next in order is longtime Friona Santa Fe agent J.C. Beck, and Friona Star photographer Tyler Vance.

Program Is Set In Lubbock On Lowering Estate Taxes

Farmers and ranchers have been concerned for years about high taxes that erode their estates. To help take the bite out of their high estate taxes, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service is planning several educational programs.

A two-day seminar is planned for May 20-21 in Lubbock, which will help farmers and ranchers learn how to reduce taxable estates and learn new methods for passing their operations to the next generation without tax and administrative burdens.

The seminar will begin with a discussion on estate taxes, including deductions, expenses and tax rates.

Basic estate planning devices will be explained in depth. Among these are wills, by-pass trusts, gifts, disclaimers and property

titles.

Relating estate plans to income tax savings can be of even greater benefit than just thinking about an estate plan. In fact, sometimes income tax savings can even be greater than estate tax savings for people with commercial farm and ranch businesses.

There will also be a separate segment of the program devoted to treating beneficiaries fairly. This is a most important subject when there is a farm or ranch in the family and only part of the heirs want to run it.

Another discussion will center on estate planning tools for agriculture and will deal with corporations, partnerships and selling part of the business to heirs.

The second day of the program will be devoted to special estate tax

rules for agriculture. These include special farm land valuation, deferred estate tax payment rules, life insurance, "flower" bonds and other property.

"Estate planning is a step toward reduced taxes," points out Hayenga. "This process should start when you plan to inherit substantial property, when you have an active and growing business, when you still have time to take tax-saving actions, when you have minor children, and when your children marry or divorce."

For more detailed information about the seminar, contact your local County Extension Agent or from Wayne A. Hayenga, or Carol Sabo Agricultural Economics Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, 77843, phone: (409) 845-2226.

CONGRATULATIONS

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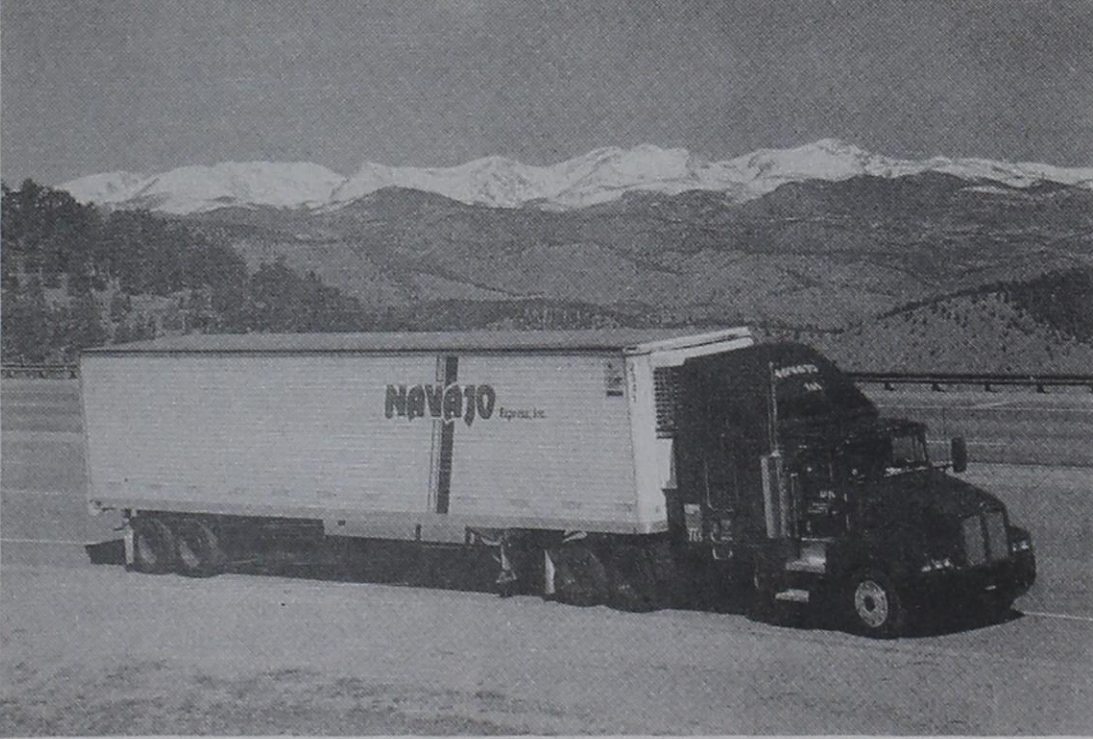
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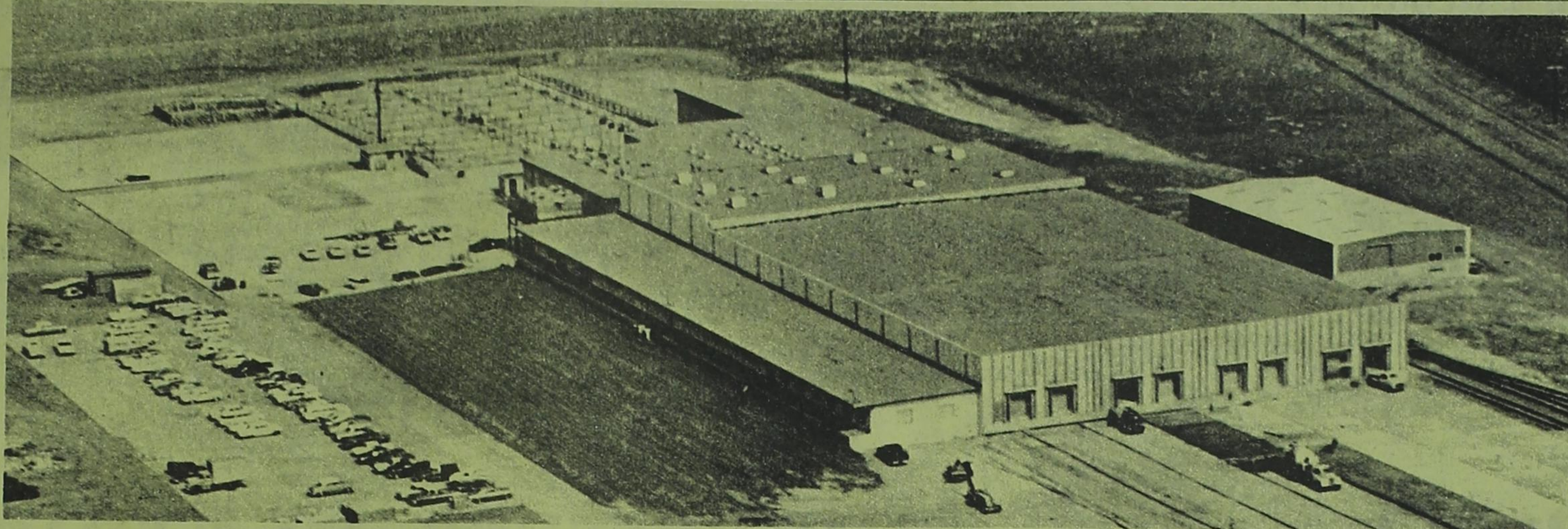
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BEFORE & AFTER----

The Excel (originally Missouri Beef Packers) plant is shown (top photo) as it was photographed from above the ground on April 20, 1968 by Star photographer Tyler Vance, and another aerial photo taken on April 29, 1993 by Star photographer Lisa McLellan. The original 1968 plant has been almost completely surrounded by new construction.



Heritage Center Makes Summer Time Changes

The American Quarter Horse Heritage Center & Museum in Amarillo, will operate under its summer schedule, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, beginning May 1 and continuing through August 31. Guests can view exhibits dedicated to the history and modern activities of the American Quarter Horse breed, enjoy specially scheduled live demonstrations in the outdoor Justin Arena and shop at Quarter Horse Outfitters.

"This marks our second full summer to greet visitors from around the world and create more fans of the versatile American Quarter Horse breed," noted Leslie Baker, director of public relations for the museum. "Regardless of a visitor's equine experience, the museum offers something for everyone."

The Heritage Center's location, along Interstate 40 East at Quarter Horse Drive, Exit 72A, in Amarillo, provides a convenient stop for summer travelers, and special parking is available for buses, recreational vehicles and horse trailers. Overnight accommodations and a variety of restaurants can be found nearby, along with many other exciting Panhandle attractions which make a stop in Amarillo memorable.

AQHA and AQHA members who present their membership card receive a discount on admission and a 10 percent discount on Quarter Horse Outfitters purchases.

The Heritage Center will resume its winter schedule on September 1, and will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

For admission rates and group reservations, call the Heritage Center at (806) 376-5181.

Financial Aid Available In Parmer County

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) has financial aid available for economically disadvantaged residents of Parmer County who plan to attend local colleges this summer and fall.

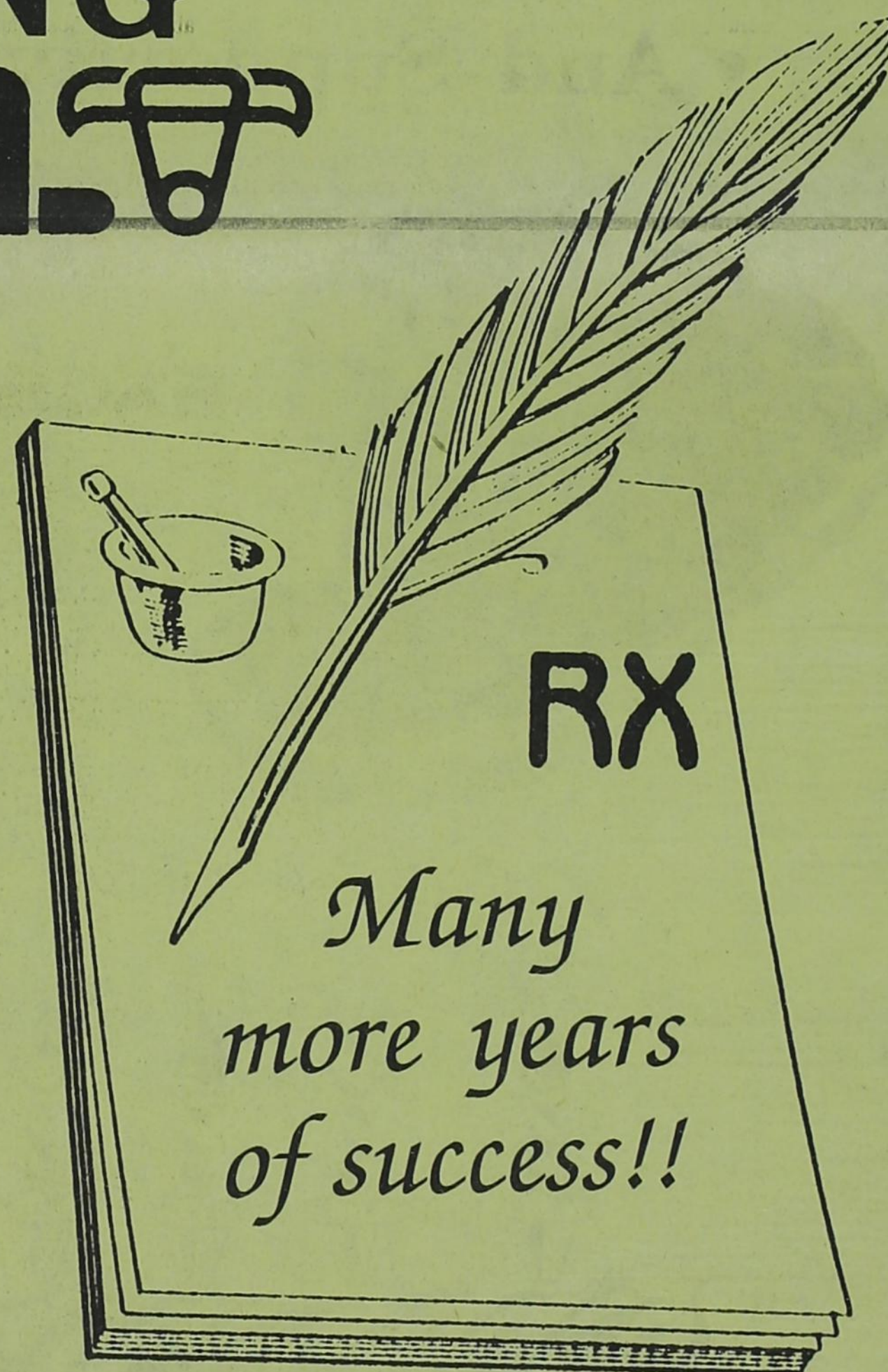
An information meeting about applying for JTPA will be held at the Friona Police Department on May 4 at 6 p.m., or call Lorna Lange at 364-8600 for more information.

Happy Birthday

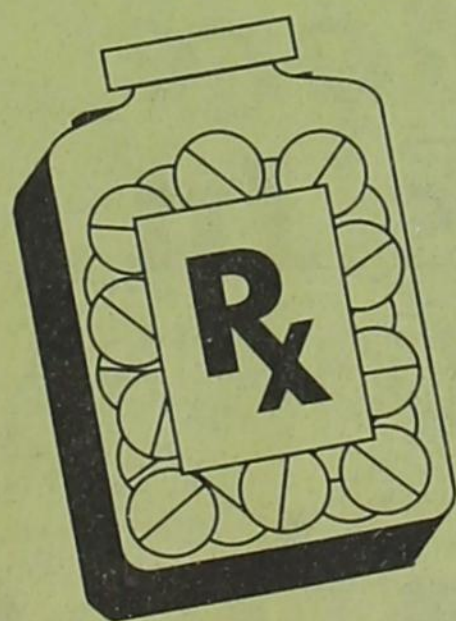
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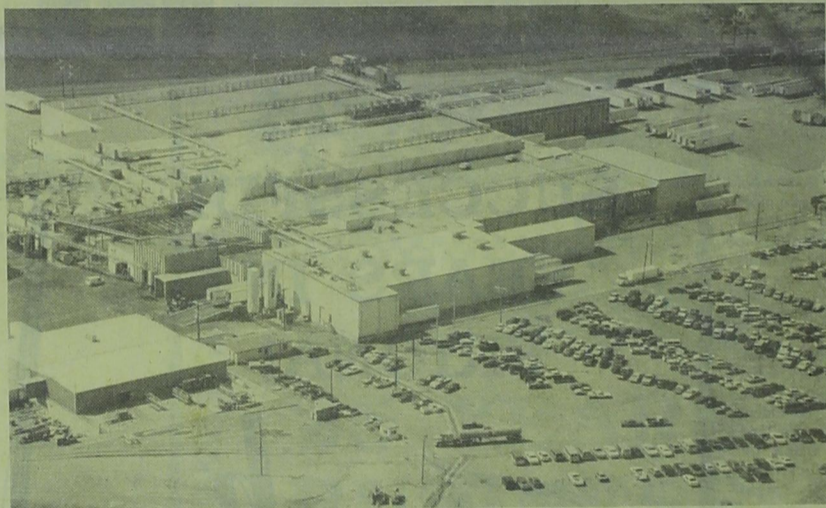
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- Outstanding Citizens
- And Supportive Leadership



***We Look Forward
To Many More
Good Years In
Your Area!***