

Staff Photo by Don Comedy

## NEW LOADER

The City of Haskell received a new Fiat-Allis track loader Monday. The loader will be used primarily at the city dump. Shown with the loader is City Councilman Hugh Horton, right, with representatives of Brown-McKee, Inc. and driver, Dave Miller.

# Dallas Cowboys To Play In Haskell

The Dallas Cowboy Hoopsters, comprised of members of the world famous Dallas Cowboy Football Team will come riding into Haskell for two games on Friday, April 17.

The team, led by Drew Pearson, all-pro wide receiver, and Jay Saldi, big tight end, will compete against "talent" from the area, with area coaches playing the first game, and the second game will feature outstanding local talent from the area, led by Haskell Chamber of Commerce manager, Jerry Jennings.

The first game will begin at 4:30 p.m., and the second at 8:00 p.m. Tickets will go on sale Monday, March 30, at the Chamber of Commerce office, and will be available on a first come-first serve basis. Only 1,000 tickets per game will be sold, and if all are pre-sold, there will be none available at the

door, so get yours early.

The games are being sponsored jointly by the Haskell Chamber of Commerce and the Haskell County Jaycees, with proceeds going to provide funds for the many civic projects sponsored by the organizations throughout the year.

Although the actual players will not be known until game time, due to various commitments of the players, some of the players who compete with the Hoopsters are: Pearson and Saldi, Tony Hill, Benny Barnes, Andy Frederick, Bruce Huther, Tom Raferty, Harvey Martin, Mike Hegman, Ron Springs, Billy Jo DuPree, Wade Manning, Aaron Mitchell, Jim Cooper, Bruce Thornton, Doug Cosbie, Rafael Septien, James Jones, Dextor Clinkscale, Timmy Newsom, Butch Johnson, Robert Newhouse, and Danny White. At

least 8 members of the team will be here to play, subject to their availability.

Make plans now to attend this super shootout, as the Cowboys come to the Haskell High Gym on April 17th.

COTTON
CATTLE

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## Local Farmers Lobby In Washington D.C.

BY GINA JENNINGS

"Price, price, price..." It's the disease that's ailing cotton producers. And two local farmers talked with lawmakers about the cure this week on Capitol Hill. Ken Lane and Rick Perry joined eleven other farmers on March 22 in Washington for three days of intense lobbying on behalf of the nation's number one industry—agriculture.

Crushed by high production costs and low returns, many family owned farms are being driven out of business. According to Lane, "The situation is critical. I've been watching it for a long time. That's why I get upset and go to Washington."

Both Lane and Perry agree that what farmers need is quite simple. They must get paid more for their products.

In this case, what's good for the

farmer is also good for the consumer. "Doubling the price of cotton would turn the economy of the South and Southwest around," Lane explained. However, it would have little effect on the cost of consumer goods. Such an increase would up the price of a cotton shirt by only 39 cents, and it would add billions of tax dollars from agricultural profits to the U. S. Treasury. They're looking for a way to balance the federal budget—well, there it is.

Many farmers in the Haskell area are having to supplement their farm incomes with off-farm businesses. And with off-farm incomes exceeding farm profits this year, the face of agriculture is changing. Unless new legislation is passed to create a more favorable climate to family farmers, we will be seeing bigger and fewer farms, predicts Perry.

Lawmakers hold the big key to solving current problems as they design legislation to replace the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977. Congress began hearings on the 1981 Bill this month.

Members of the Texas Farmers Union are pushing for cotton to be placed in the Strategic Reserve program, a program which has worked successfully for grain producers since 1976. An expanded loan program, the farmer-owned reserve would insure fair prices for cotton. "It is a tool that helps the farmers but doesn't cost the government," says Lane.

Among other priorities included in Texas Farmers Union efforts are loan rates for all commodities based on parity, continuation of the disaster program, 100 percent parity for embargoed commodities, continued loans for gasahol production, automatic set asides for under-priced commodities and an end to the windfall profits tax for small royalty owners and producers.

Thus far members of the TFU have been critical of the Reagan Administration for the continuation of the Soviet grain embargo, elimination of gasahol loans, continuation of the windfall profits tax, destruction of the dairy program and the lack of specifics on the 1981 Farm Bill.

Lane said he doesn't know if the Reagan administration will be receptive to the voices of farmers. "We'll see if they're ready to listen," he says. "The other Administration didn't help—we'll try this one."

## BURGLARY

Staff Photo by Bill Comedy

Burglars struck the Haskell Clinic last weekend and completely destroyed the office safe. Taken from the safe was over \$1,000.00 in cash and checks and about \$200.00 worth of narcotics. The clinic was burglarized last August and owners now plan to discontinue keeping cash, checks or narcotics in the building overnight.



pipe  
smoke  
by don comedy

A serious problem with jealousy surfaced this week at the *Free Press*.

Another problem will occur later in the week when an intelligent expert will arrive to fix the problem and will rationalize away the obvious jealousy.

Before we get too deeply involved in this 'soap opera,' a little background information is in order.

Seven years ago, the *Free Press* purchased a typesetting computer. The electronic monster refused to function for almost three weeks.

During that time, service representatives of the company which sold the computer repeated said to us they had never had that kind of problem before.

When the electronic wizards finally got the computer going, it worked perfectly for about two years.

When we purchased another computer, the original broke again. Three years later we bought a third computer and the original broke again.

Last week we purchased a new bookkeeping computer and 'old faithful' broke early Monday morning.

At press time Wednesday the service man had not yet arrived but it is obvious that he will never believe the jealousy that exists in that particular mass of wire and components.

The service man will probably

attribute the problem to something as unlikely as dust. (Everyone knows the dust never blows in West Texas.)

One result of the break-down will be apparent to *Free Press* readers in the form of different sizes of type in news stories.

Hopefully after the service man comes and after our consultation with a psychiatrist, things will be back to normal next week.

## Rule Chamber Banquet Set March 31

The Rule Chamber of Commerce banquet will be Tuesday night, March 31 in the school cafeteria. Curly Hayes of Abilene, Public Relations Man for West Texas Utilities, will be the speaker of the evening.

The Sagerton musical group will give the entertainment. The identities of the outstanding man and woman of 1980 will be revealed at this time.

The Chamber accomplishments of the past year will be given. The officers for the coming year will be announced and guests will be recognized.

Tickets will be \$5.00 and can be purchased from a Chamber member or at the door.

## Special Awards Presentation Set At Banquet

Plans for the 45th annual banquet of the Haskell Chamber of Commerce have been finalized and chamber officials are looking forward to a delightful evening.

The banquet will be held this Friday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria. Tickets are \$6.50 each and are available at the *Free Press*, Lane-Felker, the Chamber office and from all directors.

Highlighting the evening will be special entertainment provided by Brent Scott and Bishop Powell.

Another traditional event during the banquet will be the presentation of awards to the outstanding man and woman of 1980.

The banquet meal will feature sirloin steak prepared by Tom Watson, Sonny Reynolds and W.H. McBroom.

## Organizational Meeting Set For Little League

An organizational meeting of the Haskell Little League will be held Wednesday, April 1, at 8 p.m. in the Haskell City Hall.

While it is not necessary for players to attend the meeting, it is imperative that all parents and supporters attend.

Several major decisions will be made at the meeting and all interested persons are urged to attend and make their wishes known.





Staff Photo by Gina Jennings

### FARMERS SPEAK OUT

Local farmers Rick Perry (left) and Ken Lane reviewed plans March 18 for their scheduled trip to Washington. Perry and Lane joined other members of the Texas Farmers Union this week on Capitol Hill lobbying for new farm legislation. Focusing on the needs of cotton farmers, the pair urged lawmakers to include cotton in the farmer-owned reserve plan.

# Training-Freeze Branding To Highlight Horse Short Course

Sessions on horse training and freeze branding will highlight the annual Horse Short Course at Texas A&M University April 5-7.

The short course is a part of the Texas Animal Agriculture Conference being conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System.

Al Dunning, a professional trainer with the Almota Ranch of Scottsdale, Ariz., will kick off the short course with a special seminar on horse training Sunday evening

at 6:30 in the Brazos County Livestock Pavilion. The seminar will deal with the basics of biting, training and riding horses as well as preparations for specialty classes such as western pleasure, reining, western riding and working cowhorse.

Highlighting this live horseback demonstration will be "Expensive Hobby," the feature horse in the American Quarter Horse Association film "Survival of the Fittest" and winner of the open reining class at the 1980 All American

Quarter Horse Congress.

Dunning will also conduct horseback clinics at 4 p.m. April 4 and at 12 noon April 5, points out Dr. Doug Householder, Extension horse specialist.

Discussions on Monday, April 6, will be in the Rudder Center Auditorium on the A&M campus and will deal with the future of the horse industry, genetic improvement, common skin tumors, embryo transfer, and nutrient requirements of young horses. Featured during the morn-

ing program will be a special ceremony naming the N.W. "Dick" Freeman Arena.

Freeman is a longtime horse industry leader and served as president of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo for a number of years, notes Householder.

The next day's session will provide a review of horse research at Texas A&M, a look at how to expand the horse industry in Texas counties, and a talk on body

condition as a management tool for increasing reproductive performance in broodmares.

An in-depth workshop covering freeze branding equipment, methods and procedures will be held Tuesday afternoon and will conclude the short course.

Registration information is available from county Extension agents or from Householder, Animal Science Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, Tex. 77843 (713-845-1927).

## Herbicides Recommended To Fight Range Weeds

Some ranges are already sporting a lot of weeds, and a little rain in dry areas could bring a weed explosion.

So ranchers need to consider herbicides in their arsenal of weapons to fight pesky weeds which render rangeland unproductive.

"Most annual weeds can be controlled with the herbicide 2, 4-D if it's applied when weeds are small and growing rapidly," points out Dr. Tommy Welch with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System.

Common broomweed is one of the most notorious annual weeds that periodically infests rangeland. In areas that received good fall moisture, common broomweed seedlings may be present. A heavy infestation of this weed will reduce grass production significantly and will reduce forage consumption by cattle, in late summer and fall when the weed matures and forms the familiar "broom."

"Common broomweed can be controlled with 2, 4-D when seedlings are 4 to 8 inches tall and growing rapidly," says Welch, a range brush and weed control specialist.

"When plants begin to mature and develop a broom-shaped top in late spring, control is difficult. This positive identification of common broomweed early in the season and a timely herbicide application are keys to successful control."

2,4-D amine can be used effectively in areas that receive more than 25 inches of annual rainfall while 2,4-D low-volatile ester should be used in areas of less rainfall. A 2,4-D-dicamba mixture is a good choice for harder-to-kill weeds, when growth conditions are not ideal, or when annual weeds have begun to mature but have not flowered, notes Welch. Dicamba and 2,4-D can be tank mixed, or a 2,4-D-dicamba mixture (3 to 1 ration) is commercially available under the trade name Weedmaster.

"In addition to annual weeds, ranchers must also battle perennial weeds that infest some rangeland. Among these are Western ragweed and yankeeweed," says Welch.

2,4-D is a good herbicide for easy-to-kill ragweed while 3,4-D-dicamba is needed for yankeeweed. Good growth

conditions are necessary to obtain control of perennial weeds with herbicides, adds the specialist.

If plans have been made to apply a herbicide for mesquite control and weeds are present, a 2,4,5-T-picloram mixture (Tordon 225E) or 2,4,5-T-dicamba will take care of both problems. Since 2,4,5-T-dicamba is no longer available as a commercial formulation, the mixture must be tank mixed.

Welch notes that ranchers sometimes do not get good weed control due to improper calibration of spray equipment or improper mixing of herbicide. So those applying their own herbicide should calibrate their spray equipment and read the label for proper mixing instructions.

"To obtain maximum benefits from controlling range weeds with herbicides, ranchers must also practice good grazing management," emphasizes Welch. "If overgrazing is a prime cause for weed infestation, applying a herbicide may provide only short-term weed control. With proper grazing management, a good cover of grass can be maintained and weeds can be reduced."



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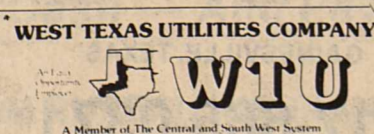
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