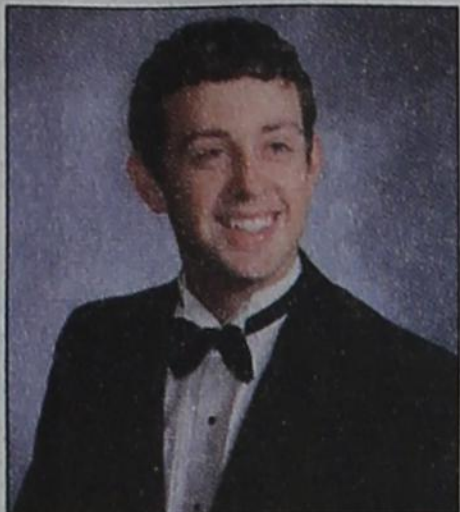
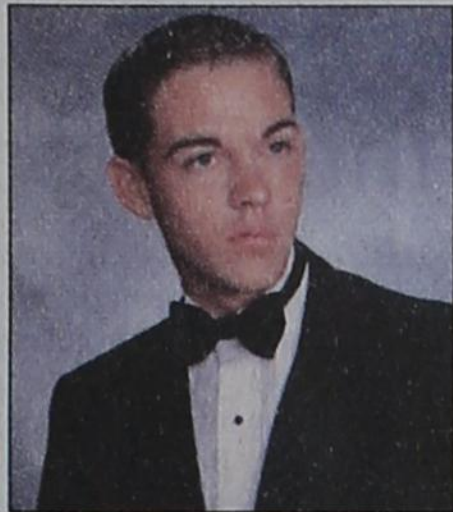


Hart Top Graduates



Jeff Corbitt - Val.



Trent Barnes - Sal.



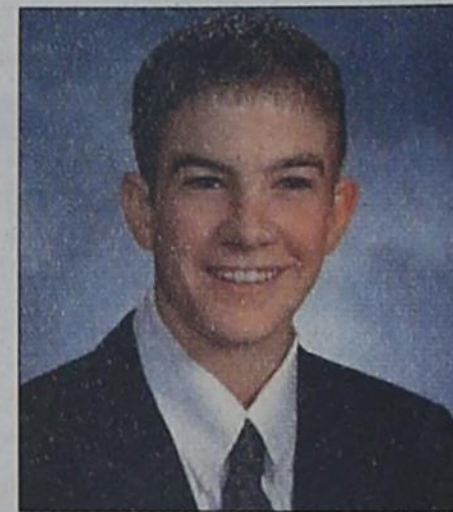
Jake Porsch - Val.



Sheena Ehly - Sal.



Kim Brockman - Val.



Brett Hoelting - Sal.

Dimmitt Top Graduates

Nazareth Top Graduates

The Castro County News

80th year—No. 8

Dimmitt, Texas Thursday, May 20, 2004

75¢

14 pages

New principal hired for DMS

By **DAVIE BROWDER**
Managing Editor

Dimmitt ISD trustees voted unanimously Monday night to hire Mike Graham as middle school principal.

Graham comes to Dimmitt from similar jobs in Klondike and Andrews, said superintendent Les Miller. Graham spent a number of years in Andrews as an assistant middle school principal and for the past year has been K-12 principal at Klondike.

"It was his experience that drew us to him," Miller said. "We had about 28 applications. We narrowed it to six and interviewed those six and he clearly came to the top."

Graham and his wife will move to Dimmitt, where he will

officially start his duties on July 1. The Grahams have three grown children, Miller said.

In addition, the board also approved hiring Heather Black as a first-grade teacher. The board accepted three resignations: Ronna Carson (first grade), Michelle Johnson (second grade) and Brett Ramsey (assistant high school coach and social studies).

Since there were no contested spots on the board, new trustees were sworn in. They are: Robert Woolbright, Mary Helen Flores and incumbent Rick Wright. David Schaeffer was re-elected president; Rick Wright was re-elected vice-president and Barbara Bain was re-elected secretary.

The budget was amended to cover the paving and bleacher

repair work that was approved at the last board meeting and TASB was awarded the worker's compensation contract for the district.

There were a number of presentations Monday night from staff. Those included the following: Elaine Hazel, presented the junior high and high school choir results; Doug Morris brought the trophies won by the junior high and high school bands; Charles Cotter, Don Bell and Gene Penney discussed the awards won by TSA at the high school and junior high levels. Cotter was named the Technology Advisor of the Year for the state. Dimmitt High School's TSA was named the Outstanding Chapter of the Year at the state meet in

See **TRUSTEES**, Page 11

PAL'n Around

Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) is an academic class that pairs selected seniors at Dimmitt High School with students at Richardson Elementary and Dimmitt Middle School.

The purpose of the program is to encourage young students to value school, make good decisions and react in a positive manner to situations they face.

The friendships that form between high school and elementary students are remarkable. PAL has been in the Dimmitt High School curriculum since 1991.

PAL students are trained in the summer and then for an additional six weeks in the classroom before they begin working with elementary students.

The program is coordinated with the guidance counselors and administration in each building.

This year there are 16 PAL students serving more than 230 youngsters. The sponsor/teacher for the program is Katie Ivey.



Students at Richardson Elementary and their PALs get together for a group shot one sunny spring afternoon in early May.



At left, Caleb Dickerson, J'Juane Triana and Jake Porsch play around on the playground at Richardson Elementary.



Enjoying some 'girls only' fun are Ashley Busso, Alexandra Torres, Shayle Swink, Marissa Ontivero, Ambrosia Rivera and Marisol Quintana.

At right, on Jake Porsch's back, Steven Munoz gets a ride, while J'Juane Triana waits his turn. At far right, Marcus Martinez talks with Todd Jansa.



Garza holds on to City Council seat

Race close for NISD trustees

Voters in Dimmitt and Nazareth went to the polls on Saturday.

In Dimmitt, there was only one municipal election - in Place 1. It was a close race, but less than 10 percent of the registered voters in that district bothered to go to the polls.

In that race, incumbent Roy Garza retained his council seat by a scant two votes, defeating challenger Amos Quintero. Three other council positions were up for election, but none drew opponents, so those elections were cancelled. Incumbents in those three spots are Roger Malone, Gloria Hernandez and Bill Potts.

More voters turned out for the city and school elections in Nazareth.

Nazareth Mayor Ralph Brockman retained his job with a 67-20 victory over Marlin Durbin. Virgil Huseman, who was unopposed for the city commission, received 64 votes.

In the race for the NISD See **VOTERS**, Page 2

Don't forget

Commencement at Nazareth High School is set for Friday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m. at Swift Stadium. It will move inside in case of bad weather. Both Dimmitt and Hart will hold commencement at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 28. At Dimmitt, graduation will be at the high school stadium; at Hart it will be in the high school gym.

GRADUATION TAB will be published in the May 27 edition.

WEATHER	High	Low	Prec.	
	Tuesday	87	56	.36
	Wednesday	82	52	
	Thursday	87	52	
	Friday	63	37	
	Saturday	68	37	
	Sunday	79	46	
Monday	80	50		
May Moisture	.76			
2004 Moisture	7.43			
2004 Snow - 6.5 inches				
Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.				

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Forum

Letters to the Editor

We invite Letters to the Editor or commentary. The Castro County News, however, reserves the right to edit for length and style. If you'd like to express yourself, send your opinion to us at
The Castro County News
 P.O. Box 67
 Dimmitt, TX 79027
 or via e-mail at editor@castrocountynews.com

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 Cell: (806) 647-7284 LOCATION: 4 miles East of Dimmitt on Hwy. 194

YOUR EYES

COMFORT AND STYLE BOTH IMPORTANT WITH EYEGLASSES

You may want to buy a pair of glasses because they are the latest fashion, or you like the way the look adds to your appearance. They should also be comfortable, especially if worn on a regular basis. For example, you want to ensure that the frames are wide enough for your face, so the temples, or sides of the glasses, do not dig into the sides of your head as they extend backward toward your ears. Your eye-care specialist can provide many styles of frames that have varying temple lengths. Also, at the final eyeglass fitting, he/she can adjust the curves at the end of the temples so they fit comfortably.

The nosepiece of the glasses should also fit correctly. Many frames have soft, silicon nose pads that are adjustable for fit. If the pads cannot be adjusted, make sure they are secure without pinching the bridge of your nose.

When you try on your new frames, shift your head up and down and sideways. Also bend over to see how well your glasses stay in place. With the properly adjusted nose pads and temples, your eyeglass frames should remain comfortably on your face without moving.



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In view of the recent Athletic Banquet, I felt there was a little unfinished business.

The Aaron Wilcox Memorial Scholarship for Football was given to a deserving recipient, however, the presenter was not properly informed of the details behind this scholarship. In no way should that coach be held to blame; he is not the person who should be embarrassed, but it is very important to me that this be said. Aaron Wilcox was too important to his family and friends to let this go unsaid.

Aaron Wilcox was a young man of good character and full of life. His parents grew up in Dimmitt; his father played football as a Bobcat and they both became Bobcat boosters with a relish. His grandparents and family have owned Dimmitt Ready Mix for years. His older sister was a proud Bobbie who was on the State Champion team of 1993. Aaron was the light of all their lives.

I was blessed to watch him grow up. He was in my children's choir at church, my junior high Sunday school class and my boys participated in 4H/FFA and sports with him.

Whether he was showing animals, shooting trap or playing football, he was an absolute joy to watch and be around.

The only thing bigger than Aaron's smile and big bear hugs was his heart for football. He was a lineman, participating on the varsity team his sophomore year and took great pride in his team effort. I am sure if you contacted

his former coaches, they would tell you that his work ethic, dedication and enthusiasm were rarely matched. Aaron's life was cut short curing the Christmas holidays of his sophomore year in a car accident.

He left with us memories that uphold the true meaning of a Fighting Bobcat.

The young men that have received this award, though having big pads to fill, have all been chosen because they followed the examples that

Aaron's legacy left behind. Whether they were landing their blocks or running down the field to score a touchdown, they showed their team pride by fighting their hearts out and never giving up. The first two recipients had the honor of playing with Aaron. The third had the privilege of playing summer baseball, shooting trap and going to the football field on Sunday afternoon with him. These young men were Cody Brockman, Justin Sutton, Tanner Griffith, Thomas Brockman, Juan Diaz and the current year's recipient, Caleb Dickerson.

If you have ever coached, taught or worked with any of these young men, you have come to know a part of Aaron Wilcox and what he stood for. He truly represented the Spirit of the Bobcat and I do hope you get to meet him someday, because I believe God took him home to be on His welcoming committee!

Tami Griffith
 Dimmitt

Dimmitt woman campaigns for Silver-Haired Legislature

Dimmitt's Libby Cleveland has announced that she is a candidate for election to the Silver-Haired Legislature from the Panhandle Region.

The Silver-Haired Legislature was first organized in Missouri in 1974 and has been adopted in 26 states. In Texas was started when the 69th Texas Legislature adopted supportive legislature in April, 1985.

SLH members served two-year terms.

Election of members to the SLH will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 25, at the local Senior Citizens Center.

Eligible voters must be 60 years of age or older by the fourth Tuesday in May of 2004.

"I would like to encourage development of programs that would utilize seniors as mentors, advisors, etc. ... for students who need extra help or encouragement," Cleveland said in her campaign literature. "I want to encourage seniors to volunteer with schools and libraries to encourage reading, story telling, keeping history of the region alive and meaningful.

"Do not shelve 'seniors' but use them, their expertise, their enthusiasm, their compassion, their interests and their experience in reaching out to children, students and troubled youngsters."

Cleveland lives in Dimmitt and teaches math at Wayland Baptist University, as well as supervising student teachers. She also volunteers for the Salvation Army, tutors and mentors students of all ages in math and teaches swimming to children. She organized and leads aerobics and assisted in fund-raising for a local volunteer fire department.

Candidate Chester Cunningham has also been stumping in the Dimmitt area. Cleveland has made several stops in the Dimmitt area; he lives in Fritch.

Areas that he would like to address if elected include: protection of all retirement and health care programs; property tax relief; high cost of insurance; school finance; and health.

He is a former superintendent of schools in Estelline and Fritch and has worked in administration in both junior and senior high schools.

One of the purposes delineated for the SHL is "to help older Texans know that if they are to become a viable political force, they must become informed and knowledgeable about issues facing the community, state and nation.

WORD SALSA

by Tony Tallarico

Circle these English words and their Spanish equivalents, which appear in the grid horizontally, vertically, diagonally and backward. *Rodea estas palabras inglesas y sus equivalentes españoles, que aparecen en la cuadrícula horizontalmente, verticalmente, diagonalmente y hacia atrás.*

TIME

ENGLISH
 FOR THE MOMENT
 CLOCK
 FREE TIME
 FUTURE
 HOUR
 HURRY
 JUST IN TIME
 LATE
 LONG AGO
 MINUTE
 SECOND
 TIMETABLE

SPANISH
 DE MOMENTO
 RELOJ
 OCIO
 FUTURO
 HORA
 APURAR
 JUSTO A TIEMPO
 TARDE
 HACE TIEMPO
 MINUTO
 SEGUNDO
 HORARIO

R D O P M E I T A O T S U J C
 S E G U N D O O G A G N O L V
 T B L H A C E T I E M P O K R
 C E H O T U N I M B F C G D A
 K N P S J R L O I T K Q Z L R
 T I M E T A B L E M B H A Y U
 O R U T U F R E C K L T Z W P
 T D U B T N E M O M E H T T A
 N N T O F J Q P N T H U R R Y
 E O I E H K T O I R A R O H E
 M C Y D I L P A L C E H S W R
 O E T U N I M P R U T G Z C U
 M S J C H M S U F D R Y B A T
 E J U S T I N T I M E D R T U
 D H N B G N Y E M I T E E R F

VOTERS

Continued from Page 1

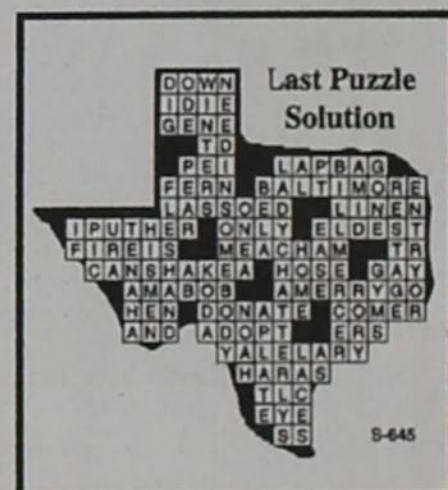
board of trustees, the two incumbents will return, although one was by a single vote.

Incumbents Keith Hoelting received 118 votes and Patty Kern 85. Challenger Keith Birkenfeld missed a tie and runoff by a single vote, as he polled 84.

More Letters to the Editor, Page 12

Answer to 5/24 Word Salsa:

R D O P M E I T A O T S U J C
 S E G U N D O O G A G N O L V
 T B L H A C E T I E M P O K R
 C E H O T U N I M B F C G D A
 K N P S J R L O I T K Q Z L R
 T I M E T A B L E M B H A Y U
 O R U T U F R E C K L T Z W P
 T D U B T N E M O M E H T T A
 N N T O F J Q P N T H U R R Y
 E O I E H K T O I R A R O H E
 M C Y D I L P A L C E H S W R
 O E T U N I M P R U T G Z C U
 M S J C H M S U F D R Y B A T
 E J U S T I N T I M E D R T U
 D H N B G N Y E M I T E E R F



ACROSS

- TXism: "never eyes on it"
- TXism: "he's deep he'll never climb out"
- Alpine FM station confederate officer: Gen. Robert
- Mr. Neiman, the partner of Marcus
- East TX wildcatter C.M. " " Joiner
- TXism: "nothing to write home "
- TXism: "two pod" (alike)
- TX-made Sally Field film: " in the Heart"
- TX president: Johnson
- TXism: "bright eyed and bushy "
- TXism: "tater"
- pickup's spare
- big TX family
- TXism: "useless as ear rings "
- TXism: "as ticks on a hound dog"
- TXism: "brave enough to eat in town cafe"
- wrong directions for horseshoe pits due to sun (3 wds.)
- TXism: "cut a boarding-house pie" (divided)
- TXism: "keep your eyeballs peeled"
- mother of TX Ginger or John Connally

- chill is the state
- TX Chesnut tune: "Old Have New Names"
- TX Dr. Duke
- San Antonio is the of the Alamo
- TX Willie's 4th wife
- national org. for gun-totin' TXns (abbr.)
- TXisms: "chews his own (independent)
- TXism: "dohicky"
- TX's country
- Ross State University
- resort

DOWN

- TXism: "sweating "
- TXism: "got the morals of cat" (Immoral)
- Galveston
- TXism: "couldn't find an egg under a sitting hen"
- Christian
- Dallas' first elected woman mayor
- TXism: "smack in the middle"

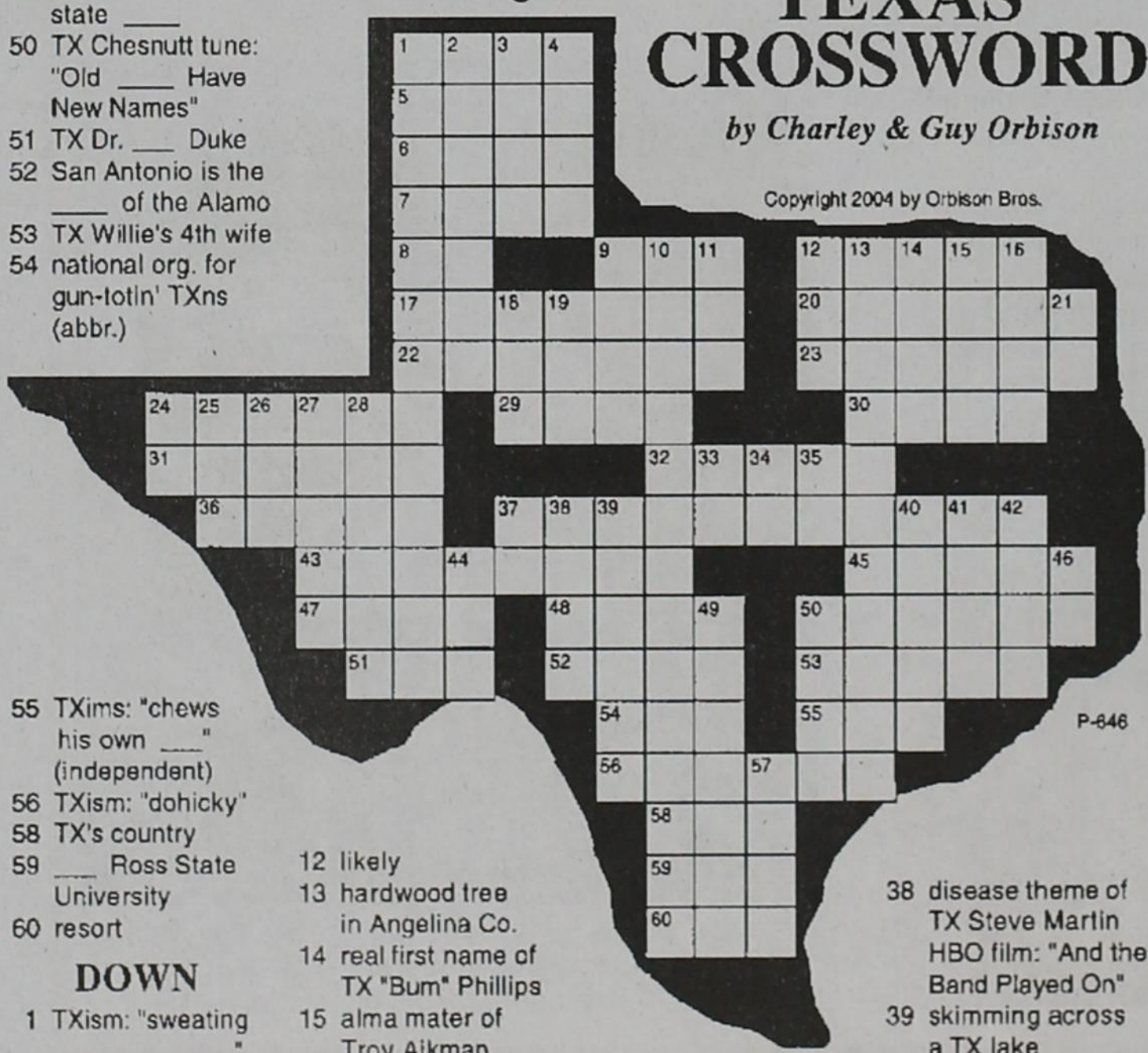
- likely
- hardwood tree in Angelina Co.
- real first name of TX "Bum" Phillips
- alma mater of Troy Aikman
- TX Roy Orbison's rock group: "Kings"
- TX pest: fire
- TX Bush's missile program (abbr.)
- TX network journalist Donaldson (init.)
- TX eatery: "Folks"
- TXism: "he's tighter than bark tree" (mlser)
- disease theme of TX Steve Marlin HBO film: "And the Band Played On"
- skimming across a TX lake
- exotic antelope raised in TX
- TX Dan Jenkins book: "Tough"
- pecan is the TX state
- rasslin' mat
- TXism: "dot the i's and cross the "
- "be alert" on a ball field (2 wds.)
- TXism: "plain as the nose on your festive celebration

The Original

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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The Castro County News

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 P.O. Box 67, Dimmitt, TX 79027

Published each Thursday in Dimmitt, Texas, 108 W. Bedford.
 Periodicals postage paid at Dimmitt, Texas.
 Publication Number 092980.

One Year Subscription Rates:
\$21.00 (in Castro County) **\$22.50** (out of Castro County but in Texas)
\$25.00 (out of Texas)
 Foreign subscriptions-please call for rates

Member of the Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association and Panhandle Press Association.



DEADLINES

Display and Classified Advertising.....Tuesday Noon
 Agriculture, Business and Industry News.....Tuesday Noon
 Social and Church News.....Tuesday Noon
 Community Correspondence.....Tuesday Noon
 Personal Items.....Tuesday Noon
 General News, City and County.....Tuesday Noon
 Editor and Publisher.....Chris and Joye Bradford
 Advertising Department.....Jefferson Francis
 Managing Editor.....Davie Ann Browder
 Production Department.....Jefferson Francis
 Bookkeeping.....Joye Bradford
 Community Correspondents.....Dorothy Hopson, Dimmitt
 Virgie Gerber, Nazareth
 Angie Arguijo, Hispanic Voice

On the Go

with Dorothy Hopson, 647-4579

Beth and Gerald Harder recently joined a trop south to visit family. They went to Midland to visit with Kaci Schulte, who is a registered nurse. She works in the emergency room at Midland Memorial.

They traveled on to San Marcos and New Braunfels, with a stop in Sonora to tour the caverns there. While in San Marcos, they attended the awards presentation at Texas State University with Lori Schulte. She took them to The Rock, a weekly praise and worship service that is held at the Catholic Student Center on campus. They also attended Parents Weekend, hosted by Mu Epsilon Theta Sorority. Lori is a member.

They were able to visit with another daughter, Kara and Travis Bock and their family in New Braunfels. Kara is completing course work for principal certification at Texas State University. She recently passed the TeXeT test as completion of the course. She is presently working as an instructional specialist in New Braunfels.

Kara and Travis are building a new home between San Marcos and New Braunfels. Beth and Gerald were able to take a tour of it.

They spent time with Tom and Clarice (Schulte) Acker,

formerly of Nazareth at Canyon Lake. Clarice is a sister to the late Lester Schulte.

Delbert and Jackie Smothermon, Dorothy Sheffy and Milly Greening (Delbert and Dorothy's sister from Quanah) attended a Smothermon family reunion in Bakersfield, Calif. The reunion was held in the Smothermon Park, Arvin, Calif. The park was named for Dorothy's third cousin, the late Elmer Smothermon.

Arvin, Calif., is a small town outside of Bakersfield and has no motels. The Texas clan drove to Indio, Calif., to visit Delbert and Jackie's son, Michael and his family. Then they drove to Bakersfield. There they met Dorothy's daughter, Donna and her husband, Tom Stafford (both DHS grads) from Las Vegas, Nev. Tom and Donna's daughters and their families joined them from Fresno, Calif. There were relatives at the reunion from 10 different states.

The Smothermons, Dorothy and Milly, saw Buck Owens Crystal Palace, took a scenic route back to Indio, Calif., spent time at Venture Beach; watched surfing and parasailing, toured Mission San Buenaventura (The Mission by the Sea).

The San Buenaventura Mission's first service was held on Palm Sunday, March 30, 1749. Regular services are still held there today. It has survived several earthquakes.

On the drive home, the original four ate at the Cracker Barrel and did some shopping at the candy factory at Clines Corner, N.M.

Robert and Driscilla Storrs, Dorothy Sheffy's daughter and son-in-law from Lubbock came Saturday, took Dorothy, Brett, Scott, Shawn, Stuart and Sid Sheffy out for a Mothers Day treat to dinner.

Dr. J.W. and Sara Hill took Dr. Vanessa Hill, Dr. Berry Hill, both interns in San Antonio who have been working so hard, to a well-earned weekend at South Padre Island for R&R.

Kelly Taylor and Cindy Seward were birthday honorees at a luncheon at K-Bobs recently. They are both teachers at Dimmitt Middle School. Teresa Williams provided birthday cookies shaped like flowers at the party for refreshments. There was a roomful of happy birthday well-wishers.

Naz News

with Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

What a beautiful Baccalaureate Service was held in Holy Family Church on Sunday morning for 12 seniors and 17 eighth-graders, being promoted into High School. Father Ken Keller, pastor, gave a beautiful, very meaningful homily that we could all benefit from - not just the seniors!

The CYO Choir did a great job singing a selection of appropriate hymns with Candace Birkenfeld on the trumpet; Jake Hoelting on

the piano; Fideles Fetsch on the saxophone; and Garrett Kleman and Ross Birkenfeld on Guitars.

The Senior Class President, Trey Robb, gave a short speech to the eighth-grade class and seniors, during which he thanked teachers and parents for their help through the years and he also gave special recognition to classmate Ricky Pena, whom he said was a very special student who seemed to get very little recognition.

Junior Class President,

Jamie Birkenfeld, also spoke to both classes and concluded with a very appropriate poem written by coach Brenda Schulte!

Catholic Life Insurance presented each senior with a gift.

The juniors then hosted breakfast for the senior class and parents and teachers at the Home Merc. Building.

The parents then hosted a party Sunday afternoon at the country home of Dale and Mona Brockman.

A large number of senior citizens gathered at the Center on Sunday evening for a meal provided and cooked by the men for Mothers Day. All mothers ate free of charge! The men also cleaned up after the meal! May birthdays recognized at a short meeting were: Betty Acker, Fritz Gerber, Shirley Whitehead, Wilton Whitehead and Catherine Hochstein. Our guests were Father Brendon Sherry from Ireland; Darryl Birkenfeld; and Joanne Starr. A door prize was won by Alvina Gerber.

I enjoyed a few days in Austin last week. Early Sunday morning, Keith Gerber, Sandra Hoelting and Virgie Gerber drove to Lake Ivie, where Harold Gerber had prepared hamburgers for lunch for a Mothers Day treat. Several couples from the lake enjoyed lunch with us and,

of course, one of Melba's wonderful desserts!

From there we drove on to Austin, beautiful scenery of wild flowers and enjoyed a late dinner at the home of Rick and Robbie Gerber. Also attending were Wade Hoelting of Austin; Whitney Hoelting and her friend from San Angelo; Jake Hoelting; and Jessica and Nick Gerber.

Monday and Tuesday were spent at the beautiful Lakeway Tennis Center, where we watched Jamie Birkenfeld and Jenna Acker participate in the State Tennis Tournament. They won their first match with Wolf City, 6-0, 6-0, Monday morning. In the afternoon, they played Thral and won, 7-5, 6-0. Tuesday morning, in between rain showers, they played last year's state champs, the Clarendon twins. They split sets and were halfway through the third set when they had to finish on an inside court

because of the rain. Our team lost, 5-7, 7-5, 4-6. We are very proud of our girls and coach Brenda Schulte.

Also at the meet were the girls' parents, Greg and Glenda Birkenfeld and son, Matt; Dwayne and Anne Acker and daughter Lacey; Cathy Rundell and her children, Cami and Charlie Rundell; Patty Kern; Don Schulte; and Joyce Nelson and children of Fort Worth.

Carl and Mary Kleman and Ed and Leola Ramaekers attended the State meeting of Hochheim Prairie Insurance in Yoakum recently. They also spent a couple of days with Bernard and Irene Kleman of Burnett. They also enjoyed the wild flowers in the Hill Country.

Don and Gail Sams and son Landon of Wheeler, spent the past weekend here with Gail's mother, Evelyn

See NAZ, Page 5

Hispanic Voice

with Angie Arguijo, 647-0106

Hola todos. Hi everybody. I cannot believe May is halfway gone. I have less than 15 days to learn EVERYTHING there is to know at Dr. Vandiver's office. Sara has made up her mind and will be retiring on June 15. I told her I was going to have to buy her a cell phone so I can get a hold of her no matter where she is (I don't think she liked the idea). I am glad to say that I received more information this week than last. I got a little worried, que paso (what happened)? Pense que se hiban quedado dormidos otra vez. I thought everyone had fallen asleep again. Enough talk, here is the info for this week.

Jose Antonio and Maria Ramos received a very special surprise on Mothers Day weekend. Their son, Tony Ramos of Phoenix, had told his mother a little "mentirita (lie)" about not being able to make it home because he was busy working on a special project. Well, Saturday night Tony called his sister Enedina Nunez and told her he was approaching his parents' home in Dimmitt. Enedina woke her parents up and told them there was someone at the door who would like to talk to them. Of course, Mr. and Mrs. Ramos were a little shaken and worried about who would want to talk to them so late at night. When they opened the front door, they found Tony his wife Zoraya and their two daughters, Emily, 1, and Stephanie, 3, standing in the doorway. Maria was so happy to have her son and granddaughters home for Mothers day. The grown ups had a great time catching up on everything and Tony's girls had a chance to play with their cousin, Magdalena. The entire Ramos-Nunez family attended a graduation ceremony for Jose Anival, Mr. and Mrs. Ramos's youngest son. He graduated with honors on Friday, May 14, from South Plains College. Jose Anival is currently employed as a police officer in Littlefield and is planning to become a Highway Patrol officer. Jose Anival was very glad to finally graduate and was excited about spending time with his brother Tony.

The Mendoza family also got a great Mothers Day surprise. Nacho and Lorraine Mendoza informed everyone that they are expecting a little boy in September. Lorraine kept it well hidden from everyone. No one had a clue. Congrats to you both. I have one question though. Que vamos hacer con otro Nachito? What are we going to do with another Nachito?

Ernie Reyes, formally of Dimmitt, called me last week to tell me that his band Los 3 Kings, were going to hold a benefit dance for Ethridge.

Ernie said that the event was going be their official "homecoming," since they were originally from Dimmitt. Members of the band include Ernie Reyes, Ramiro Reyes and David Cardenas. Los 3 Kings entertained the crowd with a variety of

classic rock and country music. Hay mucho talento nacido en Dimmitt. There is a lot of talent born in Dimmitt.

Speaking of talent, Dimmitt Middle School held a talent show on Thursday. There were many great acts including dancing, singing, comedy and even gymnastics. One thing that was obvious to everyone was that many of the acts were performed in Spanish. Middle school teacher Sylvia Del Leon, worked with many of the performers and encouraged them to perform in Spanish. It's great to see kids proudly showing their Mexican roots. Muy bien hecho, ninos. Good job, kids.

Anita Sebedra spent the week in San Antonio visiting with a sister and other family members. Her daughter, Lucy, called her to check up on her and said that Anita is having a great time. Anita should be home on May 21, if she doesn't decide to stay.

Feliz Cumpleanos to Monica Dozal. She will be turning "Sweet 16" on May 24. She is very excited, cause she will also be receiving her driver's license. Mucho quidado todos, no digan que no les advertimos! BEWARE drivers, don't say we didn't warn you!

My brother-in-law, Aaron Arguijo called us last week and informed us that was going to be deployed back to Iraq. Aaron is in the Navy and has been stationed in Beaufort, S.C. He didn't give us much information, but did ask for us to keep him in our prayers. He was scheduled to finish his four-year term in August, but now his discharge date is uncertain. He mentioned to us that he might be in Iraq until January of 2005.

Una advertencia para todos (a warning to everyone)! No coman mucho dulce Mexicano (don't eat too much Mexican candy). I'm sure by now everyone has heard that a lot of Mexican candy has been found to contain large amounts of lead. Especially the candy that contains chilli powder (that's the best kind). So parents, keep it out of your home and TRY to keep it away from you kids.

Bueno, eso es todo. That's all folks! Thanks to everyone who has sent me info and thanks to all my readers. I hope to hear from everyone about end-of-school events like prom and graduation. Like I've said before, try to get all information to me by Thursday night so I can make sure it gets put in the next week.

Oh yeah, a lot of people have told me they enjoy the Spanish saying I include in the column. Well I'm running out of things to say. If you have any funny sayings you'd like to share, send them to me. Keep the info coming to angie79027@hotmail.com or 647-0106 or just drop it off at Dr. Vandiver's office. Estudiantes, disfruten la ultima semana de escuela. Students, enjoy the last week of school.



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For Pre-registration or Sponsor fees, Call any of the following Lion's:

Jon Riddle	647-3151
Paul Mason	647-5169

People



College News

LEVELLAND - Two students from the Castro County area received awards May 6 at SPCs annual Student Awards Assembly.

BIANEY SAUCEDO of Dimmitt was named to Who's Who at SPC. The daughter of Conrado and Olga Saucedo, she was a Miss Caprock nominee and member of Hispanic Student Organization, Catholic Student Organization, STAR Center and treasurer for the Student Government Association. She is a graduate of Dimmitt High School.

CHAD MOTE from Nazareth received the Silver Medal in Skills USA State Championship Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Mote and is a member of Skills USA-VICA.

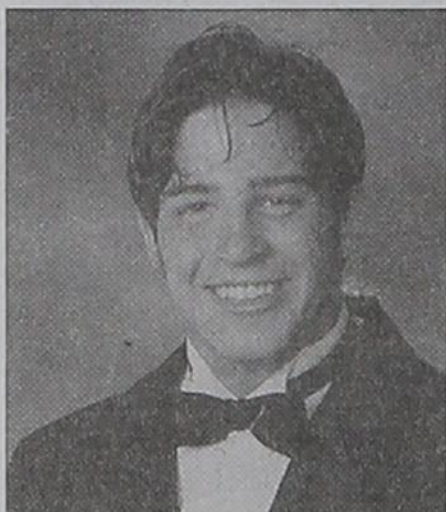
Also at South Plains, a record 539 students participated in the college's 45th commencement exercises, held May 14 in the Texan Dome.

ERIN JONES of Nazareth received her associate of science degree.

Martin will graduate from Lazbuddie with honors

Rob Martin, son of Tom and Linda Martin of Flagg, will graduate as Salutatorian of the 2004 Class at Lazbuddie High School with a GPA of 104.9. Graduate will be at 8 p.m., May 29, at the school auditorium.

As a senior, Rob, served as president of his class, National Honor Society president and president of the Robotics team. He was a member of FCCLA and of the Spanish National Honor Society. He participated at the state level competition in UIL all four years of high school. He medaled in accounting, computer science and won the gold in state in ready-writing this year. He participated in varsity football, basketball, golf and cross country. He earned all-district and honorable mention all-



ROB MARTIN

region in football and was Homecoming King his senior year. Martin has received the Texas Tech Honors Endowed Scholarship; the Amarillo Globe-News Scholarship for Student Volunteerism; the Amarillo Area Foundation Alvin A. and Hattie Mae Bush Accounting Scholarship; and the Friona VFW Essay Contest Scholarship. He will attend Texas Tech in the fall.

Dimmitt Area Retired School Personnel hold final meeting of the year May 11

The Dimmitt Area Retired School Personnel Association held the last meeting of the year, *Celebrating our Heritage*, on Tuesday, May 11, at 7 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Building with President Joanne Snider presiding.

Sixty members and guests enjoyed a Texas style "brisket, and all the trimmings" dinner arranged by Sandra Bagwell and committee members: Bessie Strickland, Gloria Hernandez, Tomasa Leal, Jerry Durham, Nell Kelley, Jackie Edwards, and Janice Stanton. Sandra, Joanne, and Barbara Bain provided the brisket.

Decorated by Dawn Goolsby and Pat Keith, the tables were covered in red, white, and blue and highlighted with cowboy candle bottles, stars, and Texas-style artifacts: cowboy boots, hats, ropes, wagons, bluebonnets, cacti, and even a snake and a lizard.

Special guests were soon-to-be new retirees and

spouses.

Dr. Bill Green, curator history, at Panhandle Plains Historical Museum at Canyon, presented the program, "Pioneer Life in the Texas Panhandle".

Prior to the 1870's, Indians occupied this area.

During that time, settlers and buffalo hunters began to arrive which makes the Panhandle "young" in terms of pioneer life.

Excavations at Adobe Walls 25 years ago provided much information that is now available on how people here lived at that time.

Many of those artifacts are on display at the Museum. In September of 1874, Colonel Ronald McKinzie defeated the Indians in Palo Duro Canyon, killing their horses, forcing them to walk back to Oklahoma.

That ended the Indian problem, which opened the way for sheepherders from New Mexico to come into the Canadian River area, but they clashed with open range cattlemen and were soon driven out.

In 1876, Charles Goodnight established the first permanent ranch.

His wife started a herd of buffalo, which remained there until a few years ago when they were moved to Caprock Canyon State Park. Dr. Green went on to explain how settlers obtained water, food, housing, and transportation.

Volunteer work awards were given to Sandra Bagwell, Barbara Bain, and Centrie Mayberry.

Winners of the "Walk a Million Steps" health program were Dawn Goolsby and Judy Hauf.

Mary Jo Brown reported that the Book Project was a success with over 325 books given to young children in our community.

She also distributed a survey to help with program planning for the next year.

Joanne Snider presented flowers and certificates of appreciation to outgoing officers Mary Jo Brown, Billye Davis, Lucille Dollar, Janet Bain, and Barbara Bain.

Committee chairpersons, Ralph Smith, Verbie Nelson, Avis Smith, Waurayne Hughes, Pat Bagley, and Elmer Berryhill, were thanked for their work.

John Krodel, state TRTA board member of Amarillo, installed new officers: President-Mary Jo Brown, first vice-president-Pat Bagley, second vice-president-Dawn Goolsby, secretary-treasurer-Judith Hauf, and historian-Karen Durham.

Outgoing president, Joanne Snider, was thanked for her leadership during her two-year term of office.

Citing appreciation for all the "time, effort, dedication, and energy expended on behalf of DARSPA," Mary Jo Brown presented Joanne with a symbolical check for \$500 to the DARSPA Scholarship Fund.

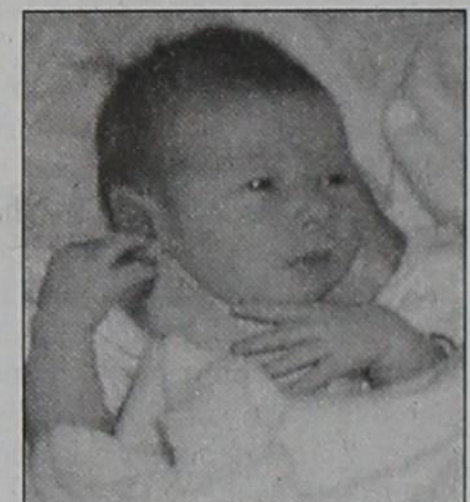
Money for the check came from personal contributions by members to honor Joanne who spearheaded the establishment of the fund. Ticket drawing and door prizes were awarded.

Meetings will resume in September; however, legislative work may need to continue throughout the summer.

Who's New

Kyle and Pam Yates of Memphis, Tenn., are the proud parents of a baby girl, born at 3:39 p.m., April 13, 2004, at Baptist Women's Hospital in Memphis.

Anna-Grace Marie Yates weighed 6-pounds, 13-ounces; and was 18½-inches long. Grandparents are Brad and Melinda Yates of Memphis. Great-grandparents are Bill and Dee Brisco of Dimmitt.



Anna-Grace Marie Yates

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CHURCH NEWS

Abundant Life Family Church is moving forward

BY TOM MULLINS

The Apostle Paul wrote in Philippians 3:13 "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

On Feb. 13, 1998, my wife Kay and I, along with two of

NAZ

Continued from Page 3

Evelyn Backus. On Friday morning, they attended the graduation of Lauren Sams from South Plains College in Levelland. Lauren was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. She will attend Texas Tech in the fall.

LeRoy and Dorothy Pohlmeier, Monette Schilling, Jolene Schulte and Heather Schilling traveled to Colorado Springs recently for the graduation of Tiffany Conrad, daughter of Tom and Brenda Conrad, from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo. She graduated with a bachelor or science degree in marketing. Tom and Brenda hosted an open house in Colorado Springs. Tiffany left the next day for a three-week tour in Europe, her gift from a family friend!

Charley and Bev Hill spent Mothers Day weekend in Henrietta with their daughter, Traci, husband, Kevin School, and children, Anni, Ethan and baby Charlie. They enjoyed watching Anni and Ethan play soccer on Saturday morning.

Ed Ramaekers, Ralph Albracht and Betty Wilhelm recently flew to Houston to attend the wedding of Elmer Albracht and Marcella Cosentina, held at St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church. Also attending were Joe and Elaine Sullivan of Dallas; Jean Kenman of Cincinnati, Ohio; Dottie Doherty of Chicago; and Art Albracht of Houston. Also, many friends of the couple from Houston and Marcella's brother from Bolivia, South America.

Congratulations to Darryl and Azalia Hoelting of Oklahoma City on the birth of a girl, Yvette Megan, born Mary 4, 2004. She weight 9½-pounds and was 24-

our children, Jeremy and Brandon, started a bible study in the little building just north of what was then Bealls. There were just eight-to-10 of us to start with, but by September, 1999, we had outgrown that building and leased a part of the George Nelson Trucking building at 500 S. Hwy. 385.

After about three years, we inches long. She has a big brother, Kyle, and a big sister, Olivia. Grandparents are Ronnie and Regina Hoelting of Nazareth and Julian and Isabelle Duran of Fort Worth.

Congratulations to Tanya Huseman, who recently received her master's degree in accounting from WTAMU. Attending commencement exercises were her parents, Ted and Deanna Huseman; her grandparents, Denny and Delores Heiman; and her friend, David Doan and his parents.

Carroll and Denise Gerber, Carson Gerber and his friend, Amanda Hughes, attended the graduation of Wade Parks in Tatum, N.M. Wade was the valedictorian of his class of 30 students. He is the son of T.J. and Teresa Parks, who formerly lived here. T.J. was superintendent of Dimmitt Schools and Teresa was the Nazareth home economics teacher.

Bill Hoelting and Edna Schilling recently attended an 85th birthday party for Romilda (Seurer) Wether of Hinton, Okla. She is a niece of the late Katie Hankins.

Prayers are asked for: Deanna Huseman, Jennifer Etheridge, Richard Brockman, Christa Hill Brown, Bernice Hoelting, Ray Schmucker, Jerome Birkenfeld, Florene Schulte, Alvin Anderle, Joe and Amy Schmucker, Carolyn Bermea, Louise Braddock, Bea Hoelting, Alice Palazzini, Edith Huseman, Margaret Cantrell, Elmer Huseman, Rita Book, Joe DeLeon, Genevieve Noble, Carey Artho, Burnette Johnson, Ruby Mae Annen, Judy Hoelting, Anna Huseman, Floyd Birkenfeld, Debbie Wieck, Leona Fisher, Bobby Mobbs, Sam Burt and those who are serving in our Armed Forces.

leased another part of the building, giving us a little more room for growth. This past March, the Lord made it possible for us to purchase the entire building. For this, we give God praise. So, like the Apostle Paul, we are "...reaching forth until those things which are before us ..." When asked what we contribute our growth (which is multi-racial, and multi-cultured) to, I have to answer, "If you'll just love and have compassion for people, they will com," because Jesus said in John 14:12, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I got unto my Father." The one thing that moved Jesus to do what He did, whether healing the sick or raising the dead or forgiving sins, was compassion. So if we (Christians) will love people and have compassion for them, they will come. I want to take this opportunity to thank Jim Clevenger for renting the little building to us for a ridiculously low amount and then, George and Vickie Nelson, for being great landlords. Thanks so much from the bottom of our hearts to these wonderful people. May the Lord richly bless them one and all.

The Wilderness or the Promised Land

Just as the Israelites had to choose when they reached Canaan, we also must choose.

We have to look at the struggles we will face to obtain the promised land and then decide whether through the wilderness. There are many reasons to choose the promised land.

In choosing the promised land, we have chosen God's side. The Father will be our "general." He will lead us into battle and "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Obtaining the promised land will consist of defeating "giants" and many different "nations" that are larger in size than we. It will be a daily struggle, but the reward is much greater than we can imagine. The Hebrew writer says, "There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his



Brett Page

works as God did from His."

The wilderness has just as many struggles as fighting for the promised land. Going through life without God and His rules is just as difficult as being a Christian.

The life of sin is hard on our bodies and minds.

We still need food and

clothing, we still must work and we still have family pressures.

If we don't think and act like everyone else, we still will be ridiculed.

Choosing the wilderness will never become more than the wilderness.

If we pick the wilderness, we will wander around life and then, when it is over, we will inherit eternal struggle.

If we fight the battle for the promised land, when we have fought the good fight and finished the race, we will receive the gift of peace, rest and eternity with God in heaven.

Brett Page is the preacher at Fourth and Bedford Church of Christ.

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 Sunday Morning Worship Service-10:30 a.m.
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Praise to thee, my Lord, for all thy creatures.

—St. Francis of Assisi

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Obituaries

STANLEY JACK SANDERS

Services for Jack Sanders, 63, of San Marcos, were at St. John's Catholic Church, Monday, May 17, with the Rev. Oliver Johnson of Austin officiating. Burial was a San Marcos City Cemetery.

Mr. Sanders died Thursday, May 13, 2004. He was born on June 7, 1940, in Dimmitt to Marion Royce and Eva Louise Riley Sanders. A building contractor by profession, Sanders retired in 1990. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and playing bridge and dominoes.

His father; a brother, James Sanders; and a sister, Sandra Yarborough, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his mother, Eva Olsen of San Antonio; four daughters, Mary Evans and husband, Todd, Jacqueline Haley, all of San Marcos, Shauna Castille and husband, Steven of Kyle and Sherry Burros and husband Randy of McQueeney; their mother, Diane Sanders of San Marcos; and 10 grandchildren.

Memorials may be made in c/o The River Group, San Marcos Alcoholics Anonymous, Balcones Bank, 301 North C.M. Allen Pkwy., San Marcos, TX. 78666.

More Obituaries, Page 14

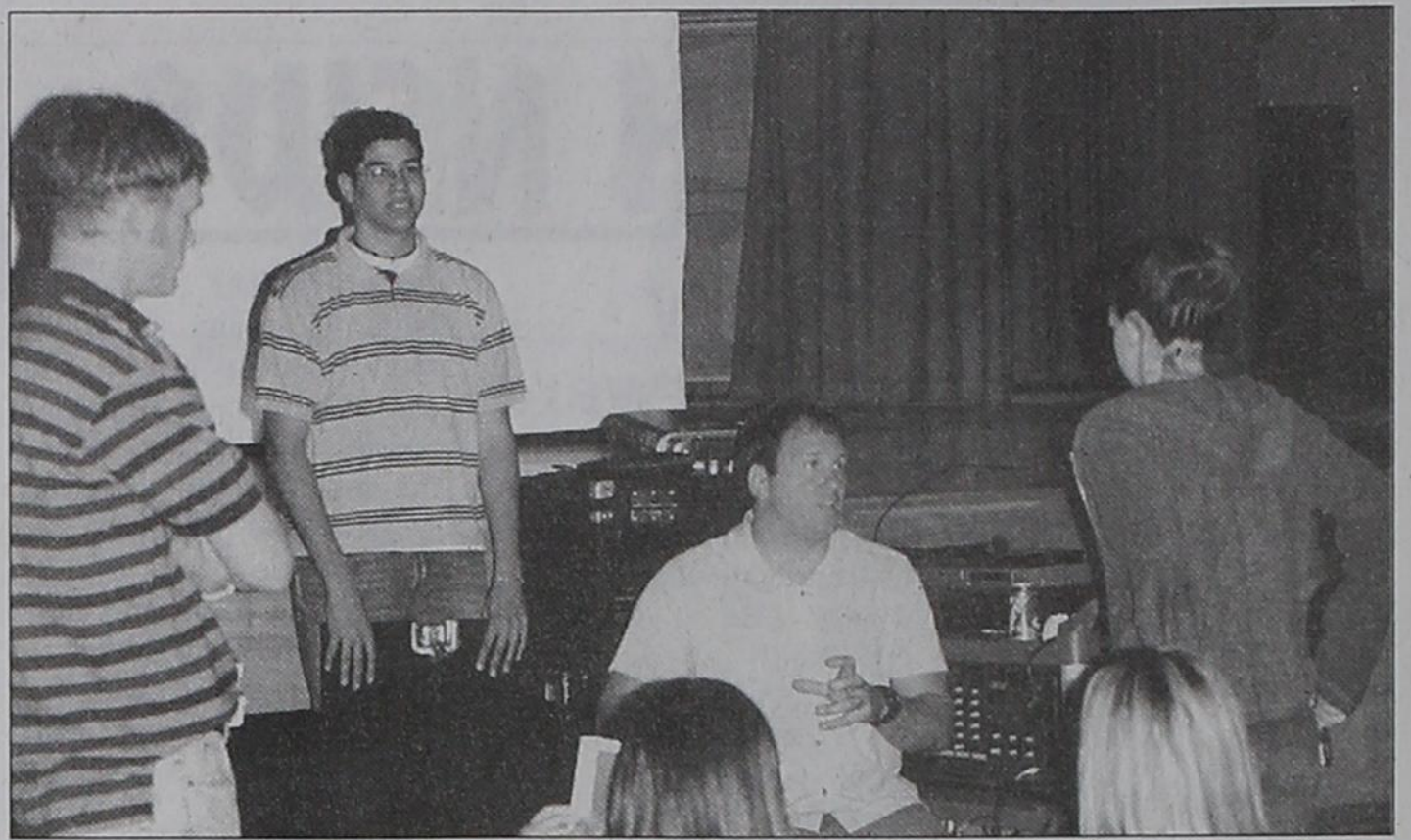
Petrocelli speaks during Prom Promise at Dimmitt High

Dimmitt High School was extremely honored to have Bobby Petrocelli as a guest speaker during the annual Prom Promise presentation put on by the student council last week.

Petrocelli told his story of triumph over tragedy. Petrocelli fell victim to a drunk driver several years ago.

Late one night a blue and white Chevy pickup traveling 70 miles per hour plowed into the side of his bedroom wall.

The driver of the pickup was under the influence of



BOBBY PETROCELLI, center, talks with Dimmitt High School students during Prom Promise activities

alcohol.

The impact left him on the other side of his house in his dining room.

Meanwhile, his wife was pinned under the pickup in a mound of blankets.

Petrocelli was hospitalized

for weeks and sustained numerous injuries.

His wife, however, was less fortunate and lost her life due to suffocation.

Petrocelli said he was able to move on and feels extremely blessed to have the people who care about him in his life.

His message against drugs was tremendously moving.

A video edited by Stephanie Hazel was also shown during the presentation.

The video highlighted the events of the mock crash held last year during Prom Promise week.

It was dedicated in memory of Stacy Saenz and Casey Villeneuve, two students who lost their lives in a drunk driving accident a few years ago.

Drunk driving statistics were also read every morning during the daily announcements. The student council would like to send a special thanks to Bobby Petrocelli for telling his heartbreaking story.

School menus

DIMMITT

Friday: Breakfast - Pancake on a stick. Lunch - Hamburger, chicken enchiladas, beef stir fry, potato rounds, Mexipinto beans, Mexicali corn, hamburger salad, tossed salad, broccoli/cauliflower, peaches, spanish rice, cornbread. Monday: Breakfast - Blueberry loaf. Lunch - Bean chalupas, shrimp poppers, Italian lasagna, spanish rice, vegetable

medley, great northern beans, taco condiment salad, tossed salad, fresh fruit, garlic bread, tortilla chips. Tuesday: Breakfast - Teddy Grahams. Lunch - Fish nuggets, chili fritos, pork tamales, scalloped corn, broccoli with cheese sauce, savory green beans, tossed salad, taco condiment salad, fresh spinach salad, watermelon, Kaiser rolls, cornmeal twist bread, frito corn chips. Wednesday: Breakfast - Student one-

half day: Fresh doughnuts. Lunch - Corn dogs, over fried chicken, Chinese plate, potatoes au gratin, summer squash, butter beans, tossed salad, potato salad, pasta salad, chilled fruit cocktail, rolls. Thursday: Breakfast - Student half-day: Waffles with syrup. Lunch - Nachos with ground beef, tuna and noodles, old-fashioned beef stew, Mexipinto beans, baked potatoes, sweet potatoes and apple, taco condiment salad, tossed salad, honeydew melon, orange gelatin surprise, crackers, cornbread.

NAZARETH:

Friday: Breakfast - Sausage on a roll, cereal. Lunch - Sandwiches, chips, lettuce, fruit, dessert.

HART

Friday: Breakfast - Scrambled eggs, bacon, biscuits, cereal. Lunch - Chef salad, chicken sandwich with chips, hot dog on a bun, chili, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato and pickles, peaches, applesauce, gelatin dessert, brownies. Monday: Breakfast - Breakfast burrito, cereal. Lunch - Burrito, hamburger, pizza, salad, corn, peaches,

peanut butter bars. Tuesday: Breakfast - Breakfast sausage pizza, cereal, graham crackers. Lunch - Corn dogs, chicken sandwich with chips, chicken strips and nuggets, rolls, gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, peaches, cherry cobbler. Wednesday: Breakfast - Sausage, scrambled eggs, buttermilk biscuit, cereal. Lunch - Lasagna/meat, pizza, chef salad, toast (mixed grain bread), salad, corn, carrot sticks, pineapple gelatin dessert, sliced pickles. Thursday: Breakfast - Waffles, cereal. Lunch - Chicken sandwich with chips, ham sandwiches with fries, salad, fruit cocktail, gelatin dessert, fresh fruit, peanut butter cookie.

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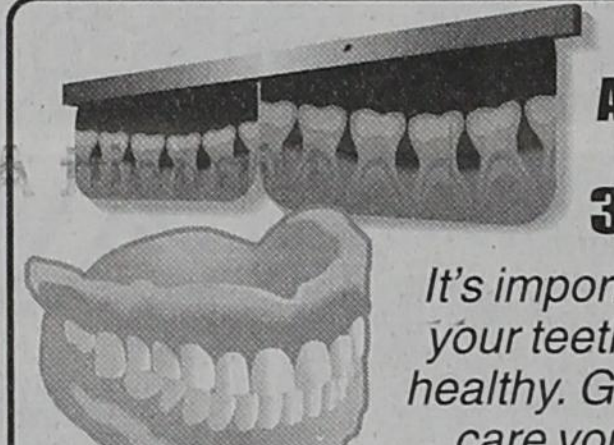
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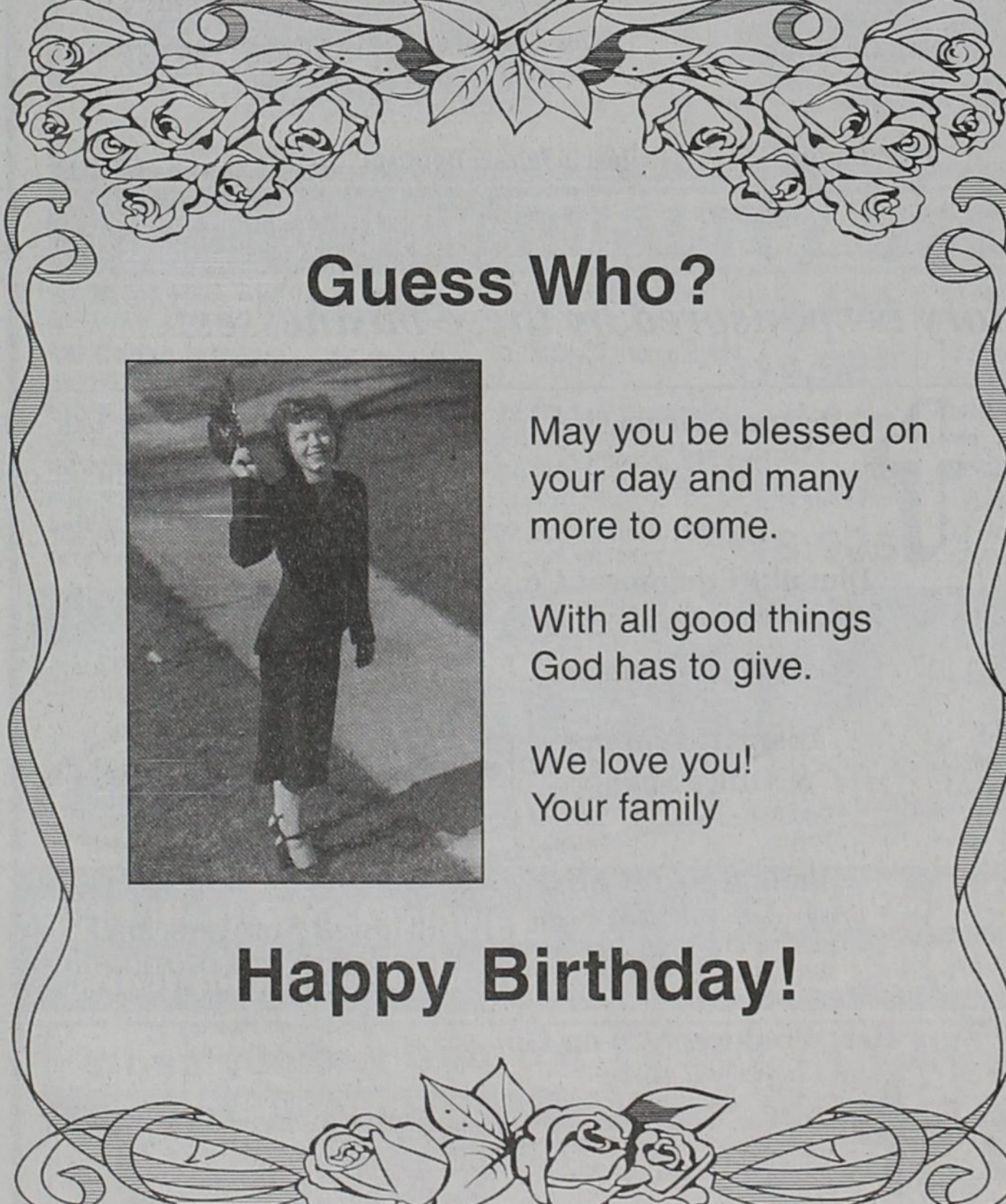
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Guess Who?

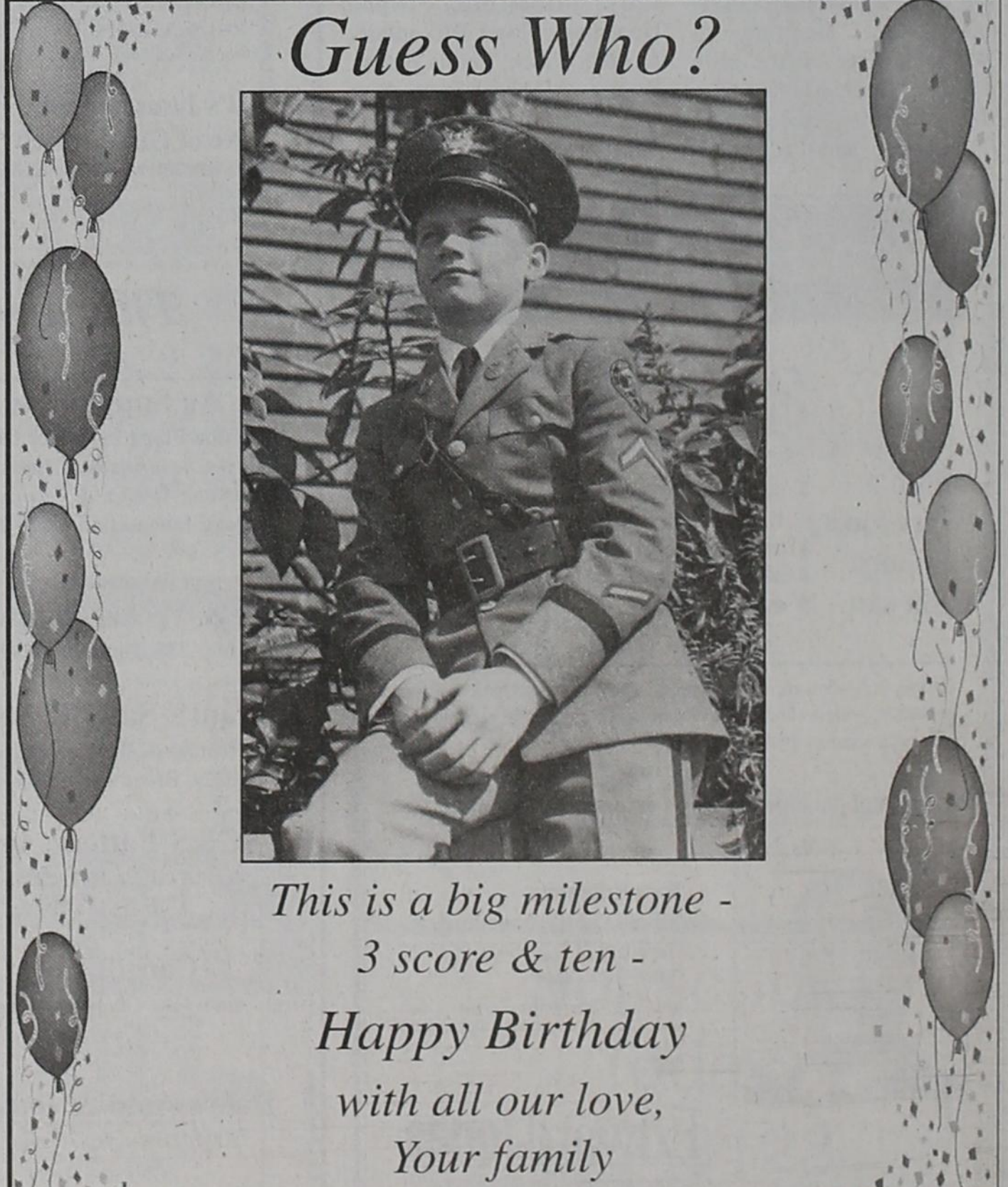


May you be blessed on your day and many more to come.


With all good things God has to give.

We love you!
Your family

Happy Birthday!



Guess Who?



This is a big milestone -
3 score & ten -
Happy Birthday
with all our love,
Your family

Bobcats All-District Baseball

First Team

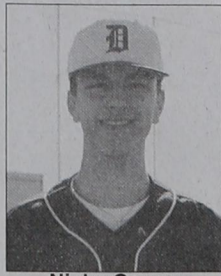
Second Team



Caleb Dickerson



Jared Griffitt



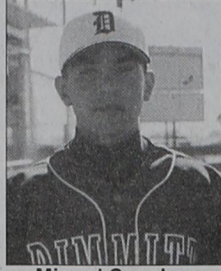
Nicky Gauna

Honorable Mention

Aaron Herrera



Raul Melendez



Miguel Sanchez

Bobbies Softball

First Team - All District



Kristin McClure
Pitching



Jacqui Hinsley
First Base



Shantell Self
Second Base

Second Team



Brittany Williams
Designated Hitter



Sheena Ehly



Angelica Huerta
Third Base

Honorable Mention - Bobbies



Clarissa Herrera
Pitcher



Chelsea Buckley
Shortstop



Kayla Saenz
Right Field



Jacqui Hinsley
Pitcher



Samantha Neri
Center Field

Dimmitt Athletic Banquet, Page 13

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Swifts deliver against Plains; Clarendon next

By **DAVIE BROWDER**
Managing Editor

Listen to the way Nazareth defeated Plains, 10-8 in 12 innings and you're not sure if it's big league ball or high school you're hearing about.

It was high school - but it was a game that those attending will not forget for a long, long time.

Especially Naz baseball coach Ralph Albracht.

The teams were tied 4-4 at the end of seven innings.

In the eighth, both teams scored one run.

In the ninth, the Swifts went out, 1-2-3, but Plains got men on second and third with one out.

"We walked the next hitter," Albracht said. "They tried to suicide squeeze and we threw them out at home plate. We got the third out and ended the inning."

In the 10th, Nazareth went scoreless, and once again Plains threatened, but failed to score.

In the 11th inning, Brett

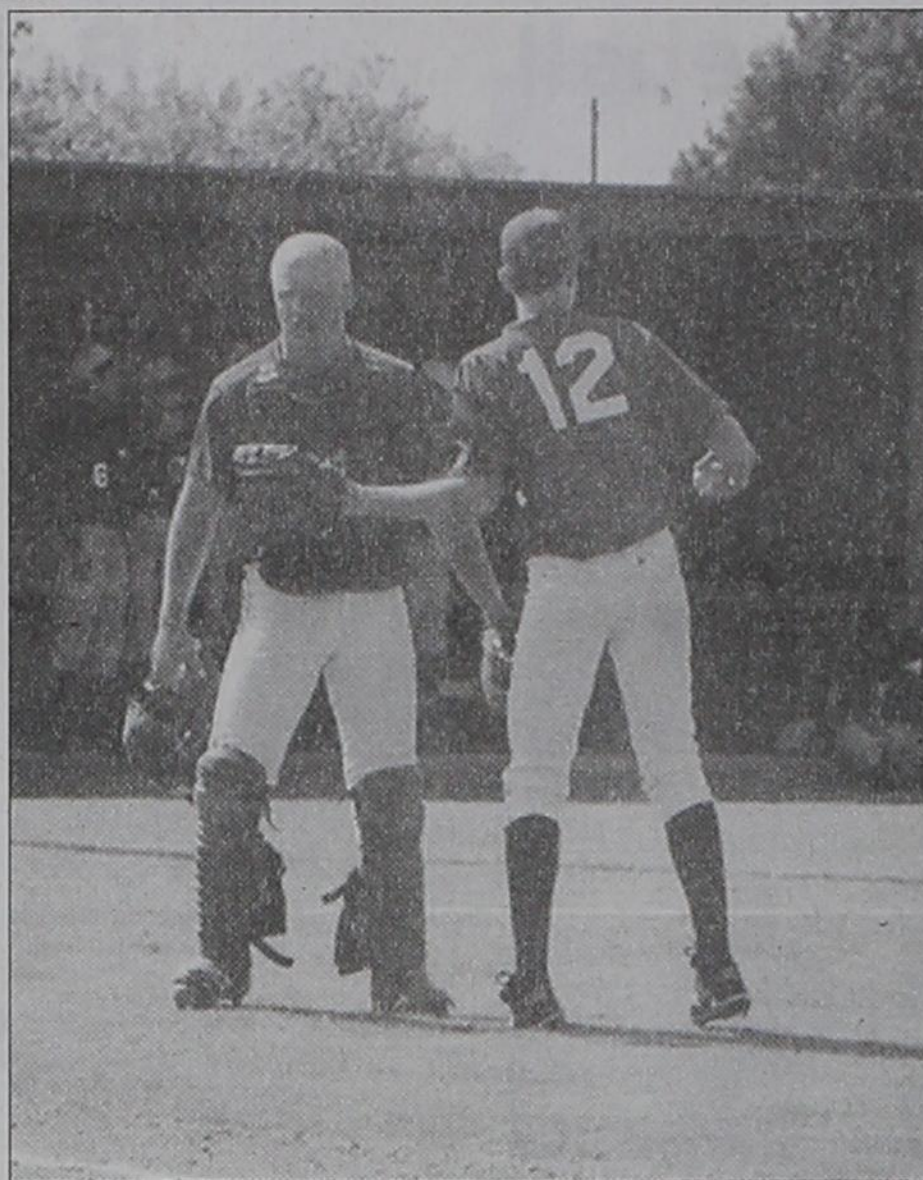
Hoelting went in to relieve pitcher Nate Huseman who had pitched 10 innings. Hoelting got three outs in a hurry, but the Swifts couldn't score.

In the 12th inning, the Swifts got men on first and second. That's when Plains brought in its relief pitcher.

"With one out, Jordy (Rowland) hit a double, scored two runs and Jordy was on second," Albracht said. After a second out, Plains walked Clifford Gerber and Skyler Birkenfeld came to the plate. "Skyler came to the plate; he had a 3-2 count and he hit a 380-foot homer and we were up by five."

In the bottom of the 12th, Plains scored three runs, but it was not enough to earn a ticket to the playoffs.

"It was a game for the ages," Albracht said. "I've been around baseball for about 50 years and I don't remember a game like that one. About two or three



Pitcher Brett Hoelting, No. 12, and catcher Garrett Kleman have a discussion on the mound against Ralls.

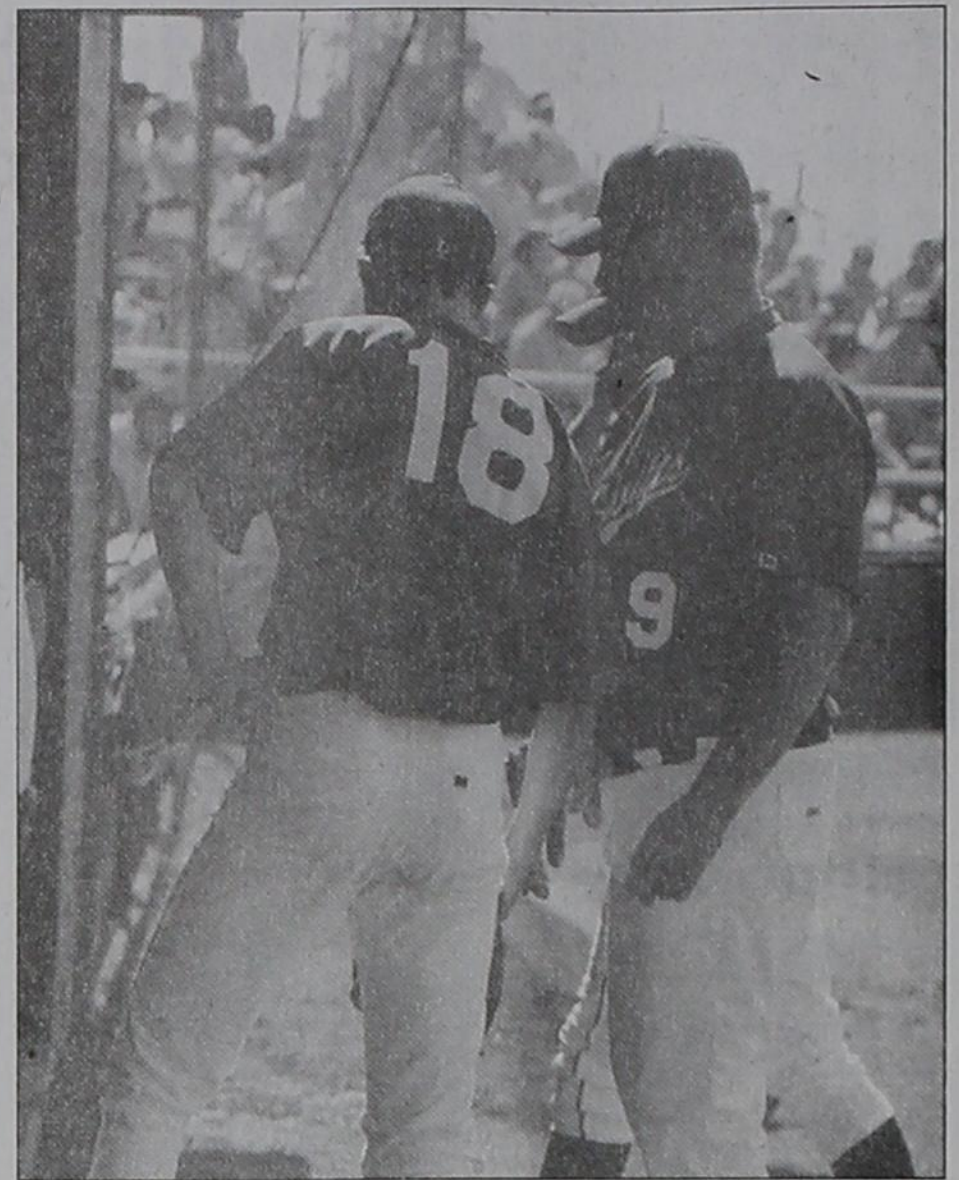
years ago, we had one kind of like that against Claude; we won it with a suicide squeeze.

"That home run Skyler hit was one for the ages."

Then it was on to the best of three games against Clarendon, with the first at River Road on Monday night. Nazareth fell to

Clarendon, 17-10, Albracht said, noting it was a game rife with errors.

The next game will be again at Caprock High School in Amarillo, at 11 a.m. Saturday. If Nazareth wins, the third game will immediately follow.



Coach Ralph Albracht has a few words with Skyler Birkenfeld, No. 18, on the way into the dugout during the Ralls game. Birkenfeld's homer against Plains propelled the Swifts into the playoffs.

Naz's Brockman awarded \$2,000 scholarship from Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative

Five area high school students have each been awarded a \$2000 scholarship from Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

Kimberley Brockman, Nazareth High School, daughter of Ralph and Sharon Brockman was one of the recipients. Brockman is Valedictorian of her graduating class.

Others are: Gina Artho, Hereford High School, daughter of Duane and Valerie Artho; Khallie Foster, Farwell High School, daughter of Richard and Kanetha Foster; Ashley Hartzog, Farwell High School, daughter of Roy and Trudy Hartzog; and Jessica Noggler, Vega High School, daughter of John and Jean Noggler.

Brockman and Hartzog plan to attend Texas Tech University.

Noggler will enroll at West Texas A and M University while Artho will go to Southern Nazarene University.

Khallie Foster plans to attend South Plains College in Levelland.

Each \$2,000 scholarship



KIM BROCKMAN

will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 per semester for two semesters. These scholarships are available to immediate families of active members and active employees of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative's board of directors made the decision to provide scholarships to students within the DSEC service area through a scholarship fund.

The five students were chosen from a field of highly qualified candidates by a select committee of men and women representing the entire service area.

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American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Good Neighbor

SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL TALENT.....8:00 a.m. daily

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KDHN 1470

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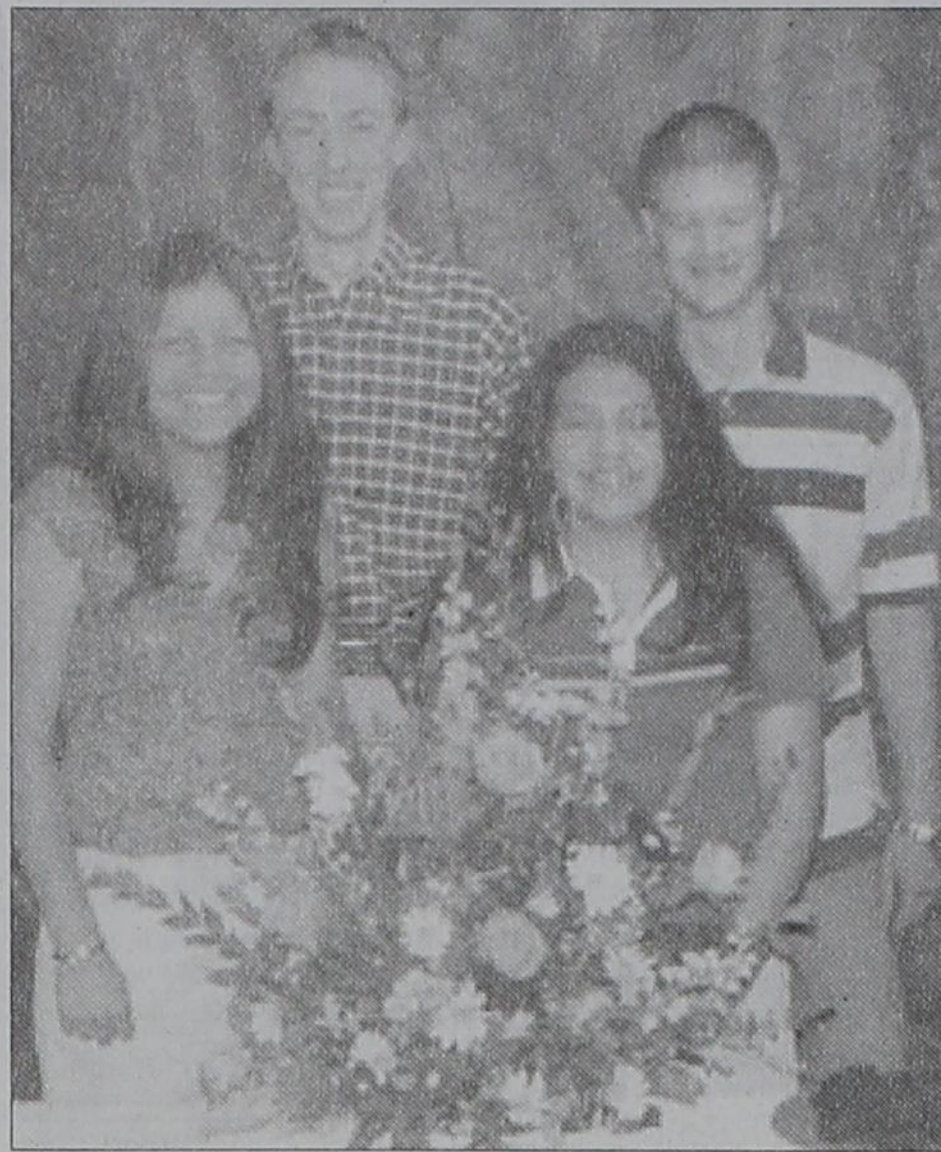
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FFA Appreciation Awards



FIVE APPRECIATION AWARDS were handed out during the Hart FFA Banquet, held May 3. They went to, left to right: Shelly Hanes, Brad Barnes, Eliazar Castillo, Rick Auckerman and Laura Hart.

Hart National Honor Society

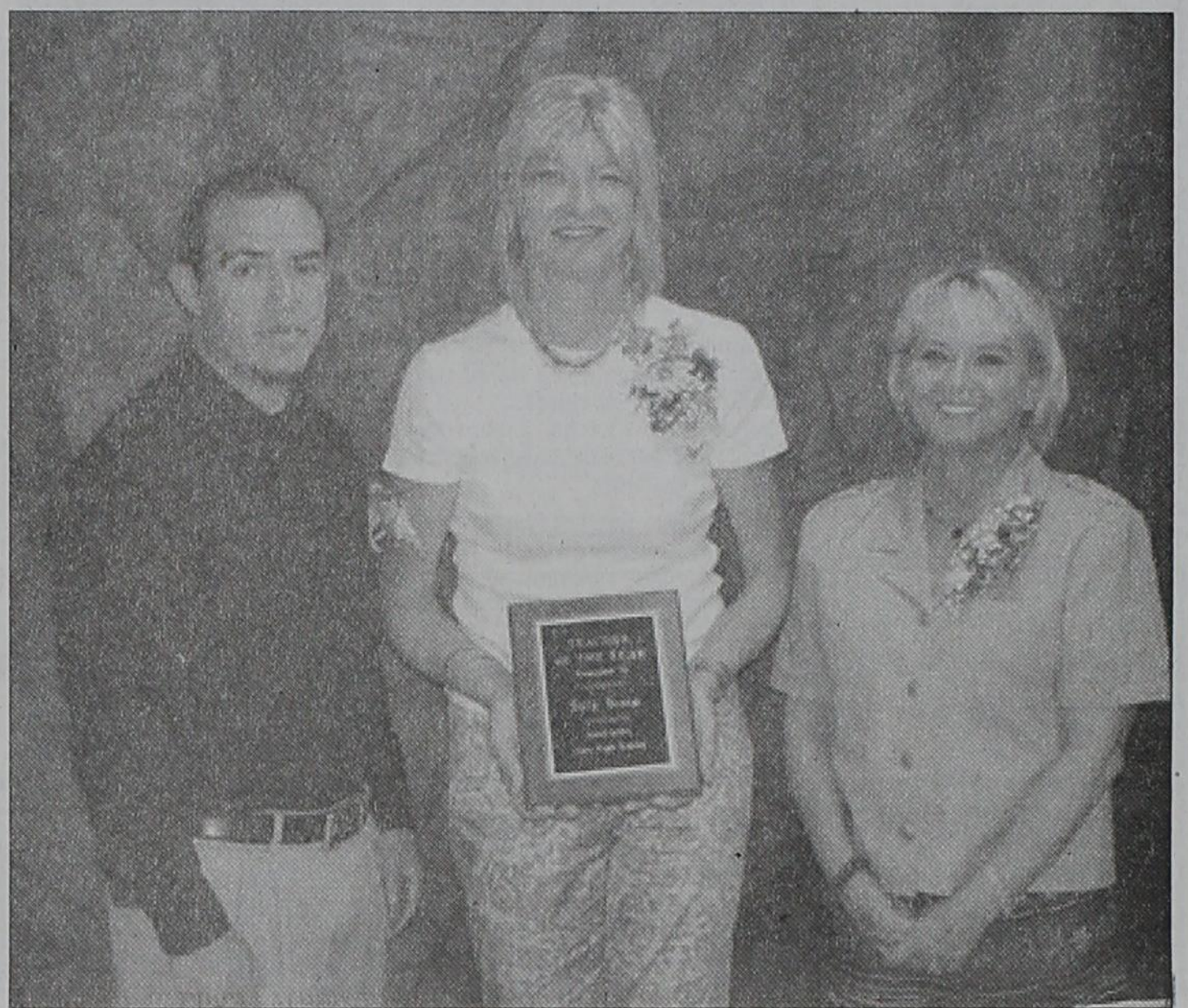


At left, four Hart Students were recently inducted into National Honor Society. Left to right, front: Lisa Lopez and Olivia Vega. Back, left to right: Kyle Johnson and Orrin McLain.

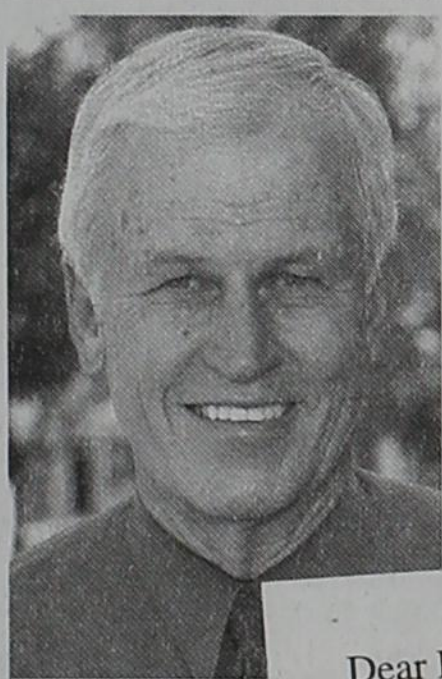
Bottom: Teacher of the Year Nominees were also announced. They were, left to right: Armondo Minjarez, Sally George-winner and Lanette Henry.

Volunteer Awards

Hart Student Council attended a banquet honoring them and other schools for their volunteer work April 17. The student council received \$1,000 to be used for other volunteer projects. Also, Trent Barnes and Angelica Mata each received a \$1,000 scholarship for their individual efforts in volunteering. At right are Barnes and Mata with their plaque.



Coming next week: The Hart Athletic Banquet



Charlie Stenholm works tirelessly to keep our promises to Veterans!

Dear Friends,

As a Congressman representing West Texas, I've worked hard to make sure our values are heard and understood in Washington. I strongly support the war against terrorism and back our troops and veterans 100%.

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As your Congressman I'll continue to fight for our men and women in uniform and for the veterans benefits they so richly deserve.

May God bless our men and women serving the cause of freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Charlie

**Charlie Stenholm...
West Texas Values,
West Texas Independence.**



To find out how you can help re-elect Charlie Stenholm to Congress, call his campaign office at: 806-788-1215 (Lubbock) or 325-692-5863 (Abilene), or visit his web site at www.stenholm.org.

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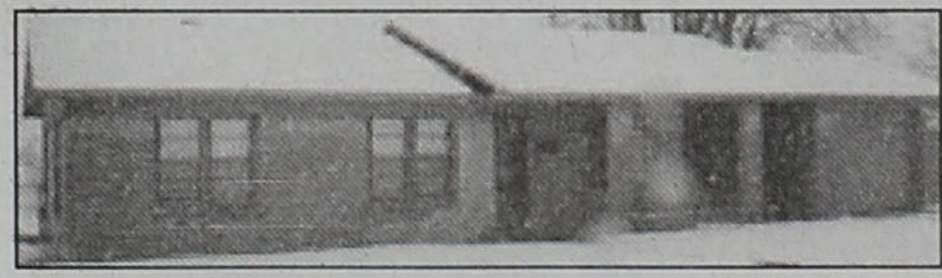
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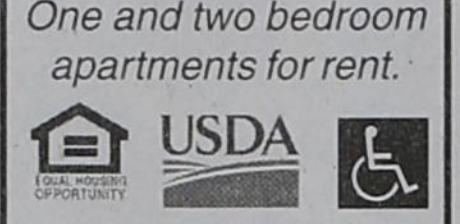
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Good Luck to Castro County Graduates!

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Thankyou

Card of Thanks

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all the people who attended and donated to our fund-raiser. We will never be able to show how much we appreciate the thoughts and prayers you have given us and continue to bestow upon us during Deanna's illness.

A special thank you to those who helped organize the event and gave their time and talent to make the night so special.

Thank you each and every one and may God reward you for your kindness and generosity.

Sincerely,
 Ted, Deanna, Tonya,
 Tisha & Bradley Huseman

Thank You

There could be no better place to live when you have a problem than in Dimmitt. Dear friends, you have supported me in so many ways since my surgery. I want to thank you for caring. Thank you for the food, the cards, the calls, the flowers and the gifts, but mostly for the prayers that you have sent heavenward for my recovery. I will be forever grateful and thankful. Thanks too, to the volunteers who deliver Meals on Wheels. May God richly bless you all.

Shirley Wise

Notice

TAX SALE
COTTON GIN & GRAIN ELEVATOR FOR SALE

Castro county Appraisal District is accepting bids for a gin & elevator formerly known as the Bruegel Brothers Gin & Elevator located in the northwestern Castro County. The land is described as a 15 acre tract out of the N.E. corner of Section 11 Lge 491, J.T. Jowell Survey. The Castro County Commissioners and the Dimmitt ISD School Board each have the right to reject any or all bids. Bids must be placed with the Castro Co. Appraisal District, 204 S.E. 3rd, Dimmitt, Tx. 79027, Phone 806-647-5131, Fax 806-647-5132 by June 1, 2004, 4:00 p.m. Call the Appraisal District for further information. 8-2tc

Soybean producers may request referendum

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture has announced that it will offer soybean producers the opportunity to request a referendum on the Soybean Promotion and Research Order as authorized under the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act.

The request for referendum will be conducted at USDA's County Farm Service Agency offices.

To be eligible to participate, producers must certify and provide documentation that shows that they produced

soybeans and paid an assessment on the soybeans during the period of Jan. 1, 2004, through Dec. 31, 2004. Only those producers who desire a referendum on the order will participate.

Beginning May 3, 2004, and continued through May 28, 2004, producers may obtain a form to request a referendum from County FSA officers either in person or by sending a request by mail or facsimile. Forms may also be obtained from: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/mpb/rp-soy.htm>

Trustees

Continued from Page 1

Waco; and Mindy Maxwell was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship - the first time anyone from this area had won it. Dimmitt Junior High TSA won its state meet. Houston Sutton won a \$500 scholarship.

Two students - Jacqui Hinsley and Maribel Montiel presented the FCCLA program and what had been done throughout the year.

Jeremy Norman and Montiel presented the High School Student Council activities from throughout the year.

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Lubbock
Contract 6112-47-001 for ROADSIDE MOWING in CASTRO County will be opened on June 17, 2004 at 9:10 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$170,316.53.
All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference for Contract 6112-47-001 to be held on June 03, 2004 at 10:00 am at the TxDOT MESQUITE ROOM 135 SLATON ROAD LUBBOCK, TX 79404.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 13074

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Lubbock District
District Engineer
135 Slaton
Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771
Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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100 W. Bedford Street Dimmitt, Texas 79027 Phone (806) 647-3154 Fax (806) 647-4588
Swisher County Abstract Bldg. 116 S. Maxwell Tulia, Texas 79088 Phone (806) 995-3564 Fax (806) 995-3590
Marsha Cobb Escrow Officer castro@halecountyabstract.com

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Todd Pebsworth, Agent
Robin Pebsworth, Agent

TIME of Remembrance
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Skins Pot! Call 647-4502 to sign up

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Dimmitt Office: 306 Bedford

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Community Calendar

Sixth Annual Benefit Cookout

The Dimmitt High School student organizations are holding the sixth annual benefit cookout to benefit the Children's Hospital in Lubbock in honor of Kami Porsche, a sister of a member of the Student Council.

Hamburgers, chips, a canned drink and a brownie or rice krispie treat will cost \$3 per person. The benefit will be from 11:45 a.m. until 1 p.m., Thursday, May 20, at VoAg Building at Dimmitt High School.

Homes for foreign students sought

Here's a chance to get to know a person from abroad and to learn that people are basically the same. If you're interested in hosting a foreign student by having them live in your home, call Vicki Buckley at 647-2472.

DHS Band Banquet set for May 21

The Dimmitt High School Band will have its annual Band Banquet honoring the graduating seniors on Friday, May 21, at First Baptist Church, Dimmitt.

The evening will begin with a free concert at 6:30 p.m., featuring eighth-grade through graduating band students. Dinner will be served at 7:15 p.m.

There will also be a dance at the high school band hall from 9 p.m. until midnight.

Tickets for both the dinner and the dance are \$10. Tickets for the dance only at \$2. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Contact any of the band officers of call Mr. Morris at 647-3108 for tickets.

Castro Memorial Garden sets Memorial Day Service

The Castro Memorial Garden Memorial Day Service will be at 8:30 a.m., Monday, May 31, at the cemetery. At 10 a.m., two new members will be elected. The public is invited and reminded to bring hoes or whatever is needed to work.

In addition, members will be painting the fence. Donations will be appreciated.



SPC GRADS

These six students at South Plains College were among a record number of students graduating Friday, May 14, from SPC. Ceremonies were at 10 a.m. in the Texan Dome. From left are Bianey Saucedo from Dimmitt, Denise Hinojosa from Lubbock, Katie Kozina from Levelland, Priscilla Samarripa from Plainview, Tawny Cannon from Wolfforth, and Marquita Franklin from Sundown. (SPC Photo)

Rotary Club selling memorial flag contracts

The memorial flag contracts for 2004 are \$30 and are flown at the Castro County Courthouse square on eight occasions during the year. A list of memorials are published in the Castro County News on Memorial Day and Veterans Day each year. Funds made from this project are used to provide college scholarships for Dimmitt High School graduates.

Anyone wishing to purchase a flag contract in honor or memory of someone should contact Trish Elliott at 647-4624. Leave a message if there's no answer.

Last week to see 'Hidden Treasures'

A final showing of the exhibit, "Hidden Treasures," is being held this week at the Home Mercantile building, located at the corner 2nd and Leo Streets in Nazareth.

The public may view the exhibit of more than 40 pieces of local art on Thursday, May 20 from 5 to 7 p.m., and on Friday, May 21, after the NHS graduation, from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

The Home Mercantile Board of Directors extend a heartfelt thanks to all the artists who generously contributed pieces for this exhibit.

"Hidden Treasure", is an exhibit of local artwork on display at the Home Mercantile in Nazareth. The exhibit features more than 30 artworks in different mediums: oil, acrylic, goldleaf, and watercolor painting, plus metal work, quilts, photography, stained glass, birdhouses, and poetry. Pieces from the following artists are included in the exhibit: Darryl Ball, Irene Wilhelm, Tanya Wethington, Darlene Fetsch, Elaine Kern, Trey Robb, Weldon & Joann Jones, Rose Birkenfeld, Patsy Huseman, Joe Gillis, Peggy Birkenfeld, Marcy Hoelting, Kay Stephens, Terri Birkenfeld, Bridget Birkenfeld, Carson Gerber, and Neal Kleman, Margaret Braddock, Beverly Hill. Special honor is being accorded to artwork from three deceased artists of the Nazareth community: Rosemary Wilhelm, Lucille Drerup, and Father Stanley Crocchiola.

"Hidden Treasures is a monument to the amazing amount of artwork that has been and is being done in any community...mostly hidden from the public eye, in workrooms, homes, and shops," notes Home Mercantile Director, Darryl Birkenfeld. "It is inspiring to think how many hours people have sacrificed, in the midst of busy lives and full-time jobs, to leave a legacy of beauty for many generations. This exhibit is an attempt to bring a small amount of local art into a venue where many people can enjoy it."

Anyone wishing to arrange a visit at another time may do so by calling Beverly Schulte, Home Mercantile Board President, at 945-2580. "Hidden Treasures" will be available for viewing until May 23.

Letters to the Editor

What a blessing that we in Dimmitt and Castro County have in our great hospital! We should be thankful for our present hospital staff and for the present and past boards of directors who have often struggled to keep our hospital alive and well. Many communities our size and larger have not been fortunate to keep their hospitals open.

On Easter Sunday afternoon, I was taken to the emergency room in great pain. Thank heaven the efficient ER staff immediately went to work to

determine my problem. I am grateful that Dr. Matos was the attending physician that day. He immediately discovered that I had a possible life-threatening problem. After X-rays and blood and other lab tests, Dr. Matos said that he could repair my problem promptly. Surgery was set for 7 a.m. the following morning.

The surgical staff was kind, efficient and exacting. Before I realized it, I was back in my room being supplied the kind of Tender Loving Care that

patients in many larger hospitals only dream covet.

There is no other place where I could have received the unceasing personal and loving care that I experienced here in our own home town hospital. Never were there long waits after I pushed my call button. From the RNs, the LVNs, aides, lab staff, desk clerks, therapists - even to the housekeeping staff - each person was generous and pleasant. There wasn't ever any unpleasantness about any need I presented.

And the FOOD! The food in our hospital is delicious. The food staff is generous and substitutions are provided if needed. They even encourage extra snacks and juices. After 10 days in the hospital, I am still enjoying the same good food delivered each day at lunch by the Meals On Wheels program. These are delivered by volunteers.

I thank God that His providence kept me in Dimmitt this Easter for my surgery and allowed me to be nursed to wellness by our loving hospital staff.

I want to urge you to stay here, if you have a choice. Pick Dimmitt and the Castro County Hospital. You will discover, as I did, that this is the best place to be.

Shirley Wise
Dimmitt

Crime Line

Castro County Crime Line will pay a reward of \$500 for information that leads to the arrest and indictment of the person or persons responsible for the theft that took place April 26, 2004 to April 27, 2004. During the night hours a 1995 Bobcat front-end loader was stolen from Bud Hill Feedyard, northwest of Dimmitt. A reward will be paid for information leading to its recovery.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO GIVE YOUR NAME! All information you provide is confidential, just call Crime Line at (806) 647-4711 or the Castro County Sheriff's Office at (806) 647-3311 and ask for Sheriff Fitzgearld.

DHSCalendar

Thursday, May 20

3rd grade Field Trip
Middle School Retirement Party - 3:45
High School Student Council Meeting - Noon
High School Benefit Cookout - Noon
High School Awards - 7 p.m.

Friday, May 21

7th Grade Awards - 8:30am
4th, 5th, & 6th Grade Field Day
8th Grade - Faculty Basketball Game - 10:00am
Band Concert & Banquet - First Baptist Church - 6:30pm

Saturday, May 22

8th Grade banquet

Monday, May 24

Kindergarten Awards - 8:45am
1st Grade Awards - 9:30am
4th Grade Awards - 11:45am
5th Grade Awards - 1:00pm

Tuesday, May 25

2nd Grade Awards - 8:45am
3rd Grade Awards - 9:30am
6th Grade Awards - 11:00am
7th & 8th Grade Field Trip
High School Semester Exams - 7th Period
DISD Employee Banquet - 5:30pm - Expo. Building

Wednesday, May 26

Head Start & ECE Program - 9:30am
High School Semester Exams - Periods 1,3, & 5
STUDENT EARLY DISMISSAL - Buses run at 1 p.m.

High school baseball playoffs

Nazareth vs. Clarendon;
11 a.m., Saturday, May 22,
at Caprock High School, Amarillo;
second game to follow if Swifts
win first game.

Congratulations Grads!!!

from



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Extended Care

Plains Memorial Hospital provides residential care for those needing long term care. This program is a private pay program and Medicare and Medicaid payments are not accepted. The daily rate is based on the needs of each person. Plains Memorial Hospital prides itself in the personal, quality care we are able to provide our patients and long term care residents. If you or someone you love is in need of special care and nursing home care is not an option, please consider the Extended Care Program at Plains Memorial Hospital.

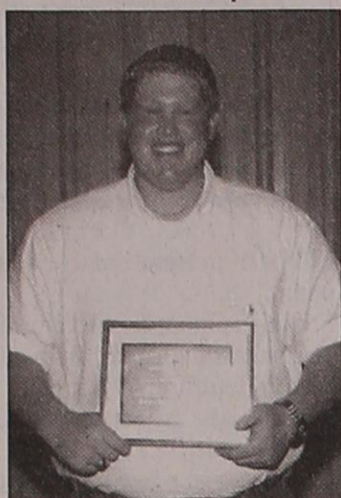
For additional information, please contact Trudy Jackson, Director of Nursing or A'llan Bradley, Utilization Coordinator at 647-2191.

"Your community, your hospital"



DHS Athletic Banquet 2003-2004

Aaron Wilcox Memorial Scholarship



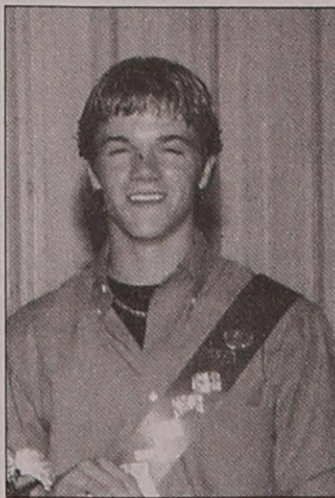
Caleb Dickerson

Spirit of Bobbie Scholarship



Shantell Self

Spirit of Bobcat Award



Adam Wright

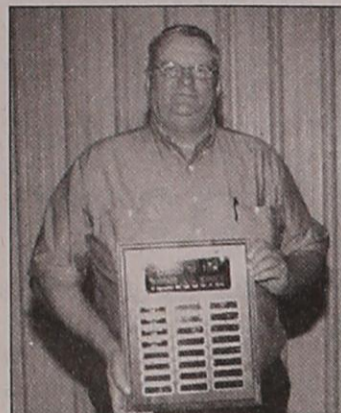
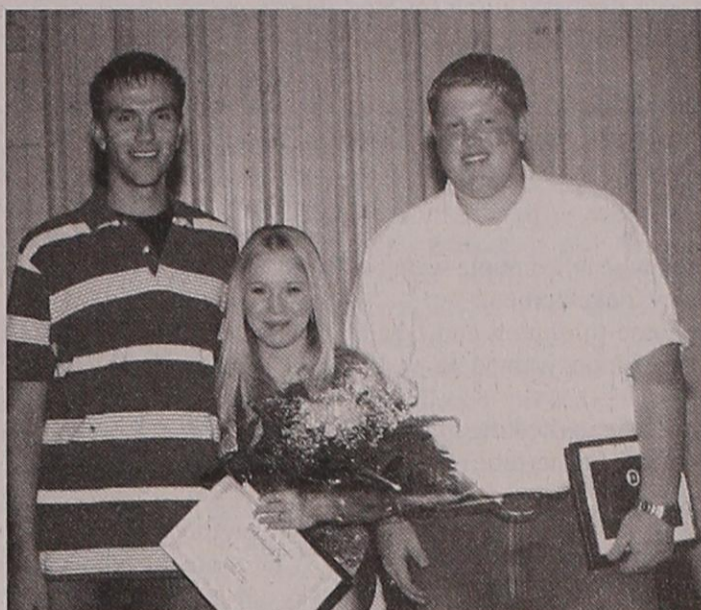
Football

Left to right: Nicky Gauna was named all-around MVP; Layne Penney was Defensive MVP; Tyler Myatt was Offensive MVP; and Jake Porsch won the Fighting Heart Award.



Football Queen

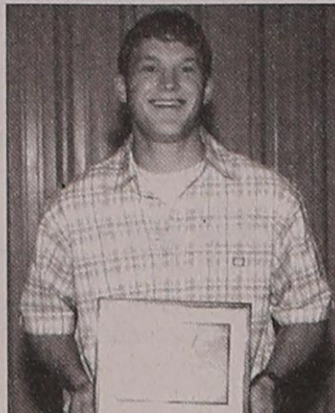
Shantell Self was elected Football Queen; at left she stands with seniors Nicky Gauna and Caleb Dickerson at the Dimmitt Athletic Banquet, held May 11 at the Expo Center.



**R.L. Stockstill
Friend of the Bobcat
and Bobbie Award**



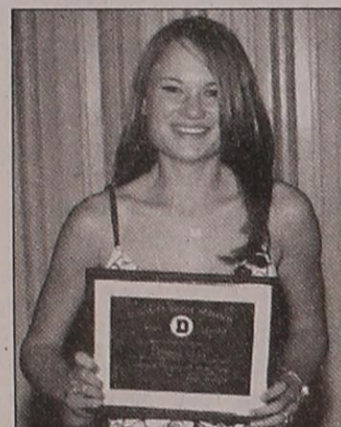
**Brittany Williams
Cross Country MVP**



**Jake Porsch
Golfer of the Year Award**

Basketball

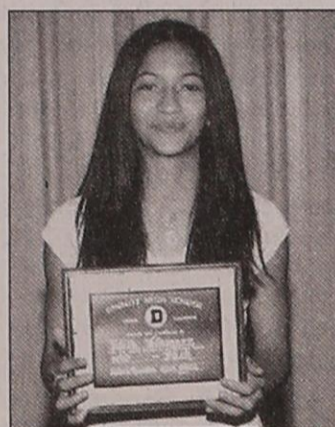
Bobcats varsity MVP is Nicky Gauna; Basketball Queen is Shayla Kenworthy; and Adam Wright won the Fighting Heart Award.



**Sheena Ehly
Tennis MVP**



**Ashlee Nino
Baseball Queen**



**Edith Valesquez
Track MVP**

Two newest sports at DHS Softball



Jacqui Hinsley, MVP; Clarissa Herrera, Hustle Award; and Brittany Williams, Team Blue Award



Bobbies varsity players earning honors were Kristin McClure, Defensive MVP; Heather Hargrove, Offensive MVP; and Shayla Kenworthy, Bobbie Pride Award.

Volleyball

Clarissa Herrera, MVP; Mindy Maxwell, Most Improved Award; and Mandi Ebeling, Hustle Award.

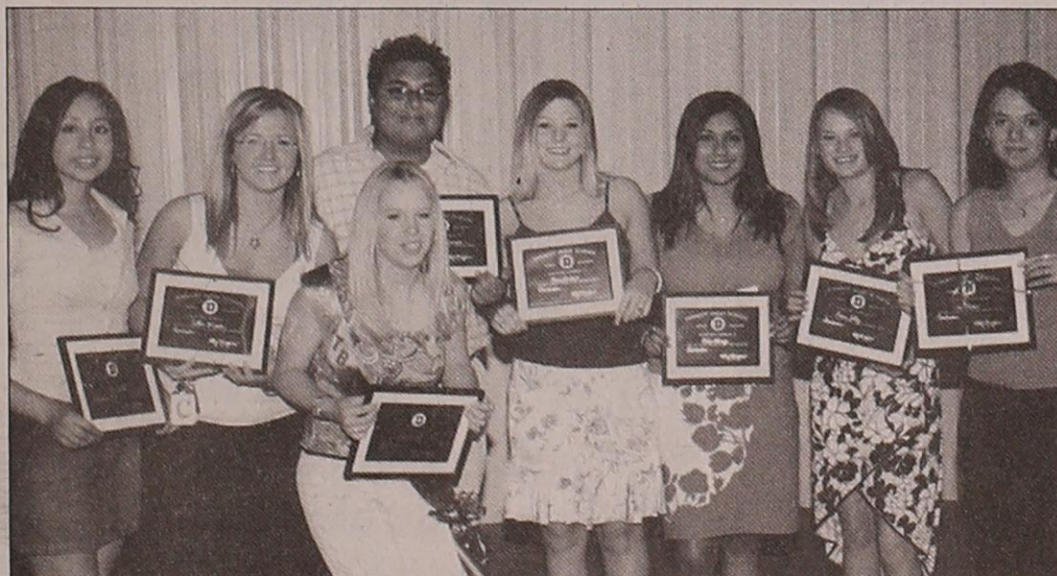


Baseball

Caleb Dickerson was named the Baseball MVP; and Aaron Herrera won the Fighting Heart Award.

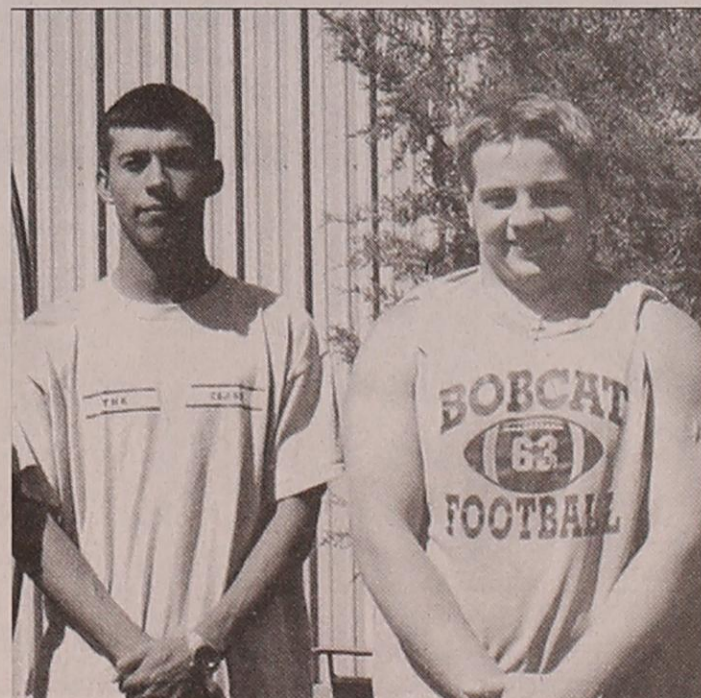


2003-2004 Cheerleaders



Left to right: Kathy Amador, Callen Mixson, Shantell Self, Rolando Ontiveros (mascot), Cami Sanders, Erica Abrego, Sheena Ehly and Shae Odom.

Track



Both Darrell Reyes, far left, and Matthew Sanders, made it to the regional track meet. Reyes was named MVP for track at the DHS Athletic Banquet; Sanders won the Fighting Heart Award.

For more information on the Aaron Wilcox Memorial Scholarship, Please see Page 2

The Idle American

BY DR. DON NEWBURY

They're still chuckling about it in Georgetown where, on a recent spring night, the Rev. Dan Wooldridge could hardly wait to see if the headlights on his almost-top-of-the-line riding lawnmower would allow effective nocturnal grass-clipping. It worked great, and for a fleeting moment, he almost wished his full acre yard were even bigger....

Such a mower has been on his "wish list" for decades, but other needs kept getting in the way, like paying college costs for two daughters and a son.

So, he's "made do" with cranky walk-behind mowers for a long time..

To Dan, his first riding mower is more desirable than the 2004 Land Rover he won in a national drawing from more than 27,000 entries. (And most registrants were fully aware of details about the grand prize.)

Wooldridge, pastor of Crestview Baptist Church for the past nine years, has served six churches during his 32-year ministry.

Wife Shannon, trained as a landscape architect, artist and interior designer, has been alongside all the way. They've knocked on thousands of doors over the years, many of them at model homes.

Such was the case back in March when the couple went to an open house for KB Homes' new development.

"We visited, invited folks to come to church and I had eaten my cookie," Dan said, "Shannon wanted to walk through the model home.

"The saleslady, noting my disinterest, invited me to take a chair, and sign up for the drawing." So he did, not even noting what the big prize was...

Several weeks later, KB people started calling and Dan suspected the obvious.

After all, salesmanship demands persistence.

Phone messages were left more than once; the last one, however, got his attention.

"You are a finalist," the message said, and the minister thought, "Sure I am. I may have already won!" He's never bought a lottery ticket, and previously never won anything more than the floral centerpiece at a banquet thanks to sitting in a "lucky" chair, etc.

So Dan returned the call, subsequently learning that he needed to show up at a Pflugerville Sales Center the next day with "proof of insurance."

He was still dubious, figuring there would be dozens—if not hundreds—of other sweaty-palmed "finalists."

The hour arrived and he felt as lonely as the Maytag repairman.

He was THE ONLY FINALIST and winner of a \$40,000 Land Rover, white in color, leather seats and more.

(The sales manager apologized for the ruse, but needed to make sure he and Shannon would be present for pictures, presentations and the like.)

The preacher is a pick-up kind of guy.

He drives a '99 F-150 with 112,000 miles on the odometer. It's as comfortably broken in as the church's back pew.

Last year he and Shannon bought their first showroom new car—ever!

And it's a sporty economy model. (Their choice confirms that the children have left home.)

Had the prize been a new pick-up, Dan might have had second thoughts.

Without hesitation, he sold the Land Rover back to the dealer, opting to take the cash.

He paid on college loans, helped underwrite costs of a mission trip and with the money remaining, bought the lawnmower...

His good fortune brings to mind the story of a preacher who played golf one Sunday morning during an out-of-state vacation.

He was horrified when he made a hole in one, realizing there was no one he could tell about it... Destined to tell and re-tell the story of his good fortune, Wooldridge will make sure listeners understand that he didn't, doesn't and won't buy a lottery ticket!

One deacon congratulated him on his decision, indicating that it might be hard on a few people to see the pastor's parking space taken by a Land Rover. (Nope, all they'll see in their pastor's parking spot is a pick-up, economy car or riding mower....)

My prediction?

A lot more preachers and others will move model homes way up high on their visitation destinations. If there's a drawing along with it, then that's a plus.

While there, the preachers will tell folks looking for new digs about possible church homes nearby after they get settled in... Then they'll get around to options on heavenly homes, saying things like, "In my Father's house are many mansions... He's prepared a place for us... If this weren't so He would have told us..."

The Wooldridges have their priorities well ordered.

And so do lots and lots of other preachers, staff members and committed Christians of many faiths. May their kind increase...

Dr. Newbury is an author/speaker/columnist in the Metroplex. His weekly column appears in more than 100 Texas newspapers. He welcomes comments at 817.447.3872 or by e-mail, newbury@speakerdoc.com

Obituaries

Abel B. Espinosa

Services for Abel B. Espinosa, 55, of Hereford were at 2 p.m., Wednesday, May 19, 2004, at The Good News Church with Pastor David Alvarado officiating. Burial was at West Park Cemetery.

Mr. Espinosa died Friday, May 14, 2004, at Phoenix Baptist Hospital in Phoenix, Ariz. He was born Sept. 15, 1948, in Corpus Christi. He attended schools in Dimmitt and had been a truck driver for 30 years. The last year he had driven for Circle A trucking in Hereford.

He married Stella Aguero on Jun 7, 1991, in Hereford. He was a member of The Good News Church.

Survivors include his wife, Stella Espinosa of Hereford; three sons, Johnny Espinosa and Abel Espinosa Jr., both of Amarillo and Brandon Espinosa of Hereford; a daughter, Candi Espinosa Trevizo of Clovis, N.M.; a sister, Alicia Galvan of Dimmitt; and four grandchildren.

To register on line or send condolences, visit www.rixfd.com

Texas Wheat production up, U.S. totals down

The 2004 Texas winter wheat crop is forecast at 118.8 million bushels, up 23 percent from 2003 and 52 percent higher than 2002. This forecast is up 19 percent from the Texas April forecast.

According to a May 1 survey conducted by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, statewide yield is expected to average 33 bushels per acre. This is up five bushels from last year, and up four bushels from 2002. Harvested acreage for grain for 2004 is estimated at 3.6 million acres, up 4 percent from 2003.

"Earlier in the year we were looking at having half a crop, now we may have the best crop we've had in 3 years," said Texas Wheat Producers Board Executive Vice President, Rodney Mosier.

Production on the Northern High Plains is forecast at 52.0 million bushels, up 26 percent from 2003.

Winter wheat production on

the Low Plains is forecast at 25.5 million bushels, up 12 percent from last year. The Cross Timbers' production is estimated at 7.0 million bushels, up 64 percent from last year.

Production in the Blacklands is forecast at 20.5 million bushels, 17 percent more than 2003.

The U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 1.55 billion bushels, down 9 percent from 2003, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 44.2 bushels per acre, 2.5 bushels less than last year.

U.S. harvested grain acreage estimates total 35.1 million acres, down 4 percent from last season.

Hard Red production is down 14 percent from a year ago to 910 million bushels. Soft Red is up 5 percent and totals 399 million bushels.

Stenholm tours Hale County facilities

Recently U.S. Congressman Charlie Stenholm (TX-17) toured the Cactus Feedlot in Hale Center and the Excel Packing Plant in nearby Plainview, to learn about the latest advances in food safety practices. Stenholm visited the facilities with other members of the Congressional Food Safety Caucus.

Animal identification, cattle health and plant safety were among the issues discussed during the tour.

"I take my responsibilities as the Ranking Member on the House Agriculture Committee very seriously, and that is why I maintain such a strong interest in food safety. We already live in a country that has the most abundant and safest food supply in the world that comes at the lowest cost to the consumer. I intend to keep it that way," Stenholm said.

"I look forward to learning about the latest technologies designed to keep our animals and the food supply safe," Stenholm said. "Still, any regulations we impose on the industry in the future must be based on sound science. I believe we can make great strides in food safety by implementing new technology and new techniques that will minimize pathogens in food processing facilities.

"I have visited Excel several times, and I am always impressed by the facilities and their efficiency. I always feel like I leave the plant with new, useful knowledge," Stenholm said.

"I guess that's the old ag teacher in me."

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Who could this be, now 22...



Counting money at the old CU...

Happy Birthday, J.L.

TDH raises vouchers for WIC program

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) announced today that because of recent jumps in wholesale and retail milk prices, it has increased the amount of money allocated on vouchers issued to WIC nutrition program clients for milk and cheese. But vouchers issued before today's change may not cover the increased prices when presented at supermarket checkouts.

TDH raised the maximum amount WIC will pay for a gallon of milk from \$4 to \$4.50 and the maximum amount for a pound of cheese from \$4 to \$4.50.

"We had a choice of cutting back on quantities of milk and cheese for the clients or increasing the amount we would pay for those products," said Mike Montgomery, chief of TDH's nutrition services bureau. "For now, we're choosing to try to pay."

WIC clients are issued vouchers used to pay for milk, cheese, infant formula, cereal, juice, eggs, peanut butter, beans, tuna and carrots at participating grocers. Grocers then bill the WIC program the shelf price of the item or the voucher amount, whichever is lower.

The new coverage changes were made to a TDH-controlled database today.

The database is periodically downloaded by local WIC clinics, which produce and issue the paper vouchers to clients.

Vouchers usually are issued to clients for a 90-day period.

Because vouchers already issued cannot be reissued, Montgomery said WIC clients have vouchers that may not cover the shelf prices of milk or cheese.

In such cases some grocers will waive the difference, or the client has the option of shopping at another store where prices may be lower.

WIC clinics are being directed to download the revised database, and vouchers issued by the clinics after the download will reflect the new maximum amounts.

Montgomery said TDH are asking the United States Department of Agriculture for money to cover the estimated \$12 million it will cost to cover the increased expenses between now and the end of the WIC fiscal year Sept. 30.

USDA is the federal agency that administers the WIC program. Congress awarded additional funding to the USDA to help state WIC programs deal with increased expenses from food price increases and growing caseloads.

The \$657-million-a-year Texas WIC program serves some 866,000 low-income pregnant women, new mothers, infants and young children a month through more than 600 local WIC clinics. About 2,500 stores, supermarkets and other WIC vendors participate.

Election Day



DOROTHY AND V.C. HOPSON get ready to count the votes after last Saturday's municipal election in Dimmitt. Only 40 registered voters bothered to go to the polls - meaning more than 90 percent of those eligible didn't express an opinion on which candidate would be a good city councilman. Incumbent Roy Garza beat challenger Amos Quintero, 21-19.

What's the Law?

Q. My favorite restaurant charges a 20 percent gratuity on all bills. Because a gratuity is defined as "something given voluntarily-beyond obligation," it doesn't seem like they should be including it in the bill. Is this legal?

A. You are correct that most of us think of a gratuity or tip as a voluntary payment, which may vary in amount. As far as the law is concerned, however, the restaurant may charge whatever it wants, and your option is to accept its terms or eat somewhere else. In fact, most restaurants include the gratuity on a table of six or more. As long as the restaurant discloses the fact that a 20 percent gratuity is included, you are bound to pay if you order.

If this is your "favorite" restaurant, I suggest you let the management know you object to its policy. Perhaps if enough customers

complained, the restaurant will make the gratuity optional.

Q. If credit card debt is more than ten years old and they have not contacted you in that length of time, can you be forced to pay the debt? We are getting calls every day from a debt collector. Thanks for your help.

A. Whether the creditor has contacted you does not matter. If the debt is more than four years old, it is too late for you to be sued. You still have a moral obligation to pay, and they can ask you to pay, but they cannot "force" you to pay.

If you have decided that you are not going to pay the bill, you can stop the debt collector from calling you. Under federal law, if you send the debt collector a letter demanding that it stop all further communication, the debt collector can send you just one more letter and then must stop.

Cotton Report

Trading was slow this week on the New York Cotton Exchange as market observers were cautious ahead of Wednesday's release of the latest supply and demand report compiled by USDA. Although the May report was the industry's first look at USDA's projections for the upcoming season, market sources said the report was not surprising. However, many analysts called the world production figures for 2004-05 "bearish."

USDA's first projection of 2004-05 world supply and demand suggested a carryover of 36.46 million bales which would reflect an increase of 3.8 million bales from the 2003-04 crop year. The increase is attributed to an increase in world cotton production coupled with only a modest increase in world consumption.

For 2004-05, world production is estimated at a record 102.5 million bales as growers expand the area planted to cotton in response to higher prices, and major cotton producing countries recover for the ill effects of the weather experienced last year.

Worldwide cotton consumption was projected at 99.0 million bales which also would be a record but still would not be enough to offset USDA's anticipated increase in cotton production.

Minor changes were made to U.S. supply and demand this marketing year bringing carryover stocks to 3.6 million bales. U.S. production has been projected to drop to 3.6 percent to 17.6 million bales for the 2004-05 crop year based on March planting intentions and historical abandonment and yield information. Additionally, continued pressure on the domestic textile industry has prompted the department to lower mill use to 5.8 million bales while exports are expected to drop to 11.5 million bales.

In other news, USDA reported net export sales of U.S. cotton for the week ended May 6 totaled 143,300 bales. The figure was 10 percent more than the previous week and a 7 percent increase from the four-week average. Major buyers for the week included China, Indonesia and Ireland. Sales of 78,700 bales for delivery in 2004-05 were primarily to Mexico and Thailand.

Export shipments of 290,200 bales for the same week were 3 percent more than one week earlier, but 19 percent less than the four-week average. The major destination was China with shipments totaling 120,900 bales, followed by Turkey and Mexico who received 35,500 and 27,000 bales respectively.

On the spot cotton scene, trading increased considerably during the five trading days ended May 13 as Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas producers sold 3,330 bales online compared to the previous week when 246 bales were sold.

Meanwhile, USDA reported 45 percent of the intended 2004-05 U.S. cotton crop had been planted as of May 9 compared with 41 percent at the same time one year ago and the 43 percent five-year average. Seven of the main cotton producing states have reached or surpassed their normal planting averages for this time of year.

Texas cotton producers had planted 30 percent of their anticipated acres by May 9 compared with 30 percent planted at the same time last year and an average of 26 percent. Thirty-four percent of the crop was in the ground by May 9 in Oklahoma versus an average of 23 percent.

Castro County Healthcare Welch Rehab Services is offering Massage Therapy.

Swedish Massage

Deep Facial Massage

Myofascial Release

Trigger Points



Reflexology

Left to right: Maggie Dozal-Massage, Celina Brockman-Fitness.

Also starting June 1st, a Personal Fitness Trainer will be available to assist you with your personal fitness goals and set you up on an individual program. We also offer memberships to our fitness facility.

For more information on prices or appointments please call 647-5646.



Back row, left to right: Roger Malone, Chaun Gunstream, Kelly Howell, David Denman, Paul Wayland, Judy Ichtertz. Front row, left to right: Alli Thrasher, Ann Widick, Wayne Proffitt, Trudy Jackson, Linda Rasor, Carmen Sandoval, Susan Murray & Gina Martinez.

DME sets Open House for Tuesday, May 25

DME will hold its Open House from 10 a.m. until noon, Tuesday, May 25, at its new location, 112 W. Jones, to the west of the Clinic.

"We want the public to come in and see where we are and what we do. The equipment we can supply," said Wayne Proffitt, DME director.

"We'll be available to answer any questions the public might have. Many of the items available at DME may be coverable through Medicare; Medicaid; or private insurance."

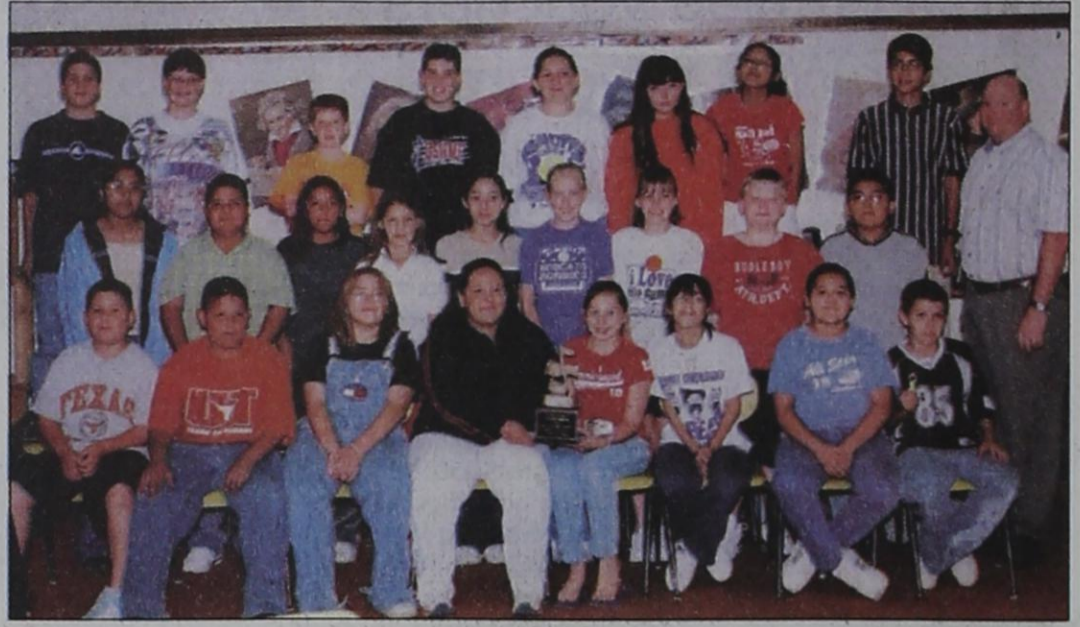
Items include diabetic supplies, oxygen,

hospital beds, wheelchairs - basically, anything that a person might need in order to stay home rather than the hospital, as well as athletic supplies for schools.

DME also offers Response Ability - an emergency call system, so if you need help in an emergency, all you have to do is push the button and help is summoned.

DME's phone is 647-5105; the office is open 8 a.m. to noon, 1 to 5 p.m., weekdays, but someone is on call 24-7, Proffitt said. "Someone will answer our phone and help you with what you need - any time or day," he said. Door prizes and refreshments.

Award-winning band



Sixth-Grade Band Outstanding At Contest

On Saturday, May 8, the Dimmitt Middle School Sixth-Grade Beginning Band competed in the 34th Annual Greater Southwest Music Festival in Amarillo. The event covered three days and included bands, orchestras, choirs and music soloists from across the nation. Performing "Marywood Overture" and "Royal Oaks March," the band was judged by three nationally renowned music adjudicators. Ensembles receive ratings from each of the judges evaluating many facets of their performance, ranging from tone production, intonation, clarity of articulation, precision, blend and balance. The ratings begin at Division 3 (Good), Division 2 (Excellent) and Division 1 (Superior). The Dimmitt Band earned an unprecedented rating of O (Outstanding Ensemble) and was complemented extensively by all judges. This marks the first time in many years that the Dimmitt Sixth-Grade Band has participated in a concert contest. This success bodes well for the future of music in Dimmitt.

Social Security Q&A

QUESTION: I have a friend who got a disability discharge from the Navy. Then he went to work for the city for seven years and eventually qualified for disability retirement from them, too. Because two government agencies have classified him as disabled, will he automatically qualify for Social Security disability benefits?

ANSWER: No. Most disability pension systems have different sets of rules and guidelines for deciding if a person is "disabled." And Social Security's disability criteria are very specific. Essentially, your friend will

have to demonstrate that he is unable to do any kind of work. The fact that he's been declared disabled by two other agencies will not, in itself, help in his efforts to get Social Security disability.

QUESTION: I applied for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits and was just told my claim has been approved. Will I get Medicare coverage with my SSI checks?

ANSWER: You won't get Medicare, but you probably will qualify for Medicaid. State governments manage the Medicaid program, and in most states, you automatically qualify for Medicaid when

you get SSI. Your local Social Security office, or your state social services office, can give you more information.

QUESTION: I am 67 years old and get Supplemental Security Income (SSI). I was told that any money I make will reduce my SSI. I am taking a one-day-per-week job that will pay me only \$50 per month. Is this going to come right off the top of my SSI check?

ANSWER: No, it won't. Although most income does reduce an SSI check, we can disregard the first \$65 you earn each month, plus one-half of anything you make over that limit.



Tuesday May 25th
10:00 a.m. til Noon

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Durable Medical Equipment
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Come by to see our selection of products and meet our friendly staff.



Product Demonstrations



Refreshments



Door Prizes



Entry form: 3 door prizes will be drawn. Need not be present to win.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Entries can be dropped by the DME office at 112 West Jones, Dimmitt.



4 Day Sale
Tuesday thru Friday
Before Memorial Day



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FREE Promotional gift items with Sealy Posturepedic Set Purchased Only while supplies last.

\$399	Cheerful Cushion Firm Queen 2 pc. set
Reg. \$599	Sale \$259
Savings \$340	
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King \$499	Savings \$300

\$599	Summer Bloom Cushion Firm Queen 2 pc. set
Reg. \$649	Sale \$299
Savings \$350	
Twin \$449	Savings \$150
Full \$549	Savings \$250
King \$649	Savings \$350

\$799	Larkspur Plush Pillow Top Queen 2 pc. set
Reg. \$899	Sale \$399
Savings \$500	
Twin \$599	Savings \$100
Full \$699	Savings \$200
King \$799	Savings \$300

\$1299	Members Euro Top Ultra Plush Queen 2 pc. set
Reg. \$1399	Sale \$399
Savings \$1000	
Twin \$899	Savings \$100
Full \$999	Savings \$200
King \$1099	Savings \$300

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