

# The Castro County News

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, January 11, 2001

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR, SISTER**—Little Melanie Vargas, 19 months, leans over to kiss her baby sister, Isabel Ruth, who was the first baby of the new year born at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt. Parents of the two girls are Abel and Roxanne Vargas of Dimmitt. Isabel was born Jan. 7 at 7:36 a.m. She weighed 6 pounds and 7 ounces and was 20½ inches long. Grandparents are Abel and Lydia Vargas and Jesse Medrano Sr., all of Dimmitt. Great-grandmother is Thomasa Tenorio of Hart. Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Gas company tactics generate heated discussion at meeting

Following their regular business Monday night, the Dimmitt City Council hosted a discussion among community members and representatives of Energas Company, the supplier of natural gas for this area.

Stella Devers, center coordinator for Panhandle Community Services in Dimmitt, and PCS employee Esther Espinosa aired complaints about how Energas is handling PCS clients who have applied for help in paying their heating bills.

Also, Dimmitt Police Chief Ray Aleman told the council that he has heard citizens express concern about the situation. Dimmitt Municipal Judge Garner Ball also told the council that it took three days for him to get a reply from Energas on a matter he contacted them about.

Russell Murph of Hereford, area manager for Energas, and Mike DeArmond, Energas operations manager out of Plainview, answered questions and offered to remedy some of the complaints that were aired.

Devers said that even after PCS had agreed to pay the bills for their clients Energas still "harassed" them with collection actions and charged some of them the \$10.50 "tagging fee."

"You are scaring our people. They are frightened," Devers said. "Energas has come across as very rude, impersonal and uncaring."

Devers said PCS has done everything Energas has asked in getting

information to them about clients who are being helped with their bills, but two to three days later, the clients are still being "tagged" with a disconnect notice and charged the \$10.50 fee.

"If that has happened, we will get it remedied and reimburse the fees," Murph said, asking Devers to get him specific information on the cases she was referring to. He also promised to give her the phone number for his office so that she could contact him directly to resolve any problems.

Murph told the council that it is imperative for the company to continue collections activities. He said 50% of customers who are tagged pay their bill without having to be disconnected (which would cause the customer to have to pay a deposit and a reconnect fee).

When a customer does not pay their gas bill by the due date, after seven days they are sent a notice saying that they will be disconnected by a certain date if they do not call the office and make arrangements to pay the bill.

DeArmond said the door tag gives "a personal touch" as a reminder that is placed before the cut-off date.

"If they can't afford to pay their bill, it doesn't make sense to charge them another \$10.50," said council member Clint Seward.

Murph said the door tag is not placed if a customer responds to the

initial letter that is sent out.

However, customer response is being made more difficult by the overburdened call center. Devers said she has heard of people being put on hold for three hours or longer and then only reach a recording.

Murph said the higher price of natural gas, which is a pass through expense, has generated an enormous volume of calls to the company. He said the call center, which is in Amarillo, has trained one group of personnel and has another one being trained. He said there is a high rate of turnover.

"We recognize that there is a problem getting through to the call center," Murph said. "We are taking steps to get it straightened out, but it may be two to three weeks to realize a positive impact. We are working on it day and night to get it going and eliminate the things we're talking about."

Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins criticized the company for closing the local office three years ago without prior notice, just after a rate increase was granted.

"And now after a rate increase was granted a few months ago, the call center is falling apart," Collins said. "It is amazing that a company this big can make these ignorant decisions. How can they make these idiotic mistakes?"

Collins said it also is a problem that there is no local payment center, either. Murph said that work is being done on setting one up.

Collins reassured Murph and DeArmond that the city is not angry with them or the local employees of Energas, but "detests the policies of Energas."

In other business, the council approved an interlocal agreement to pool with other governmental entities to obtain the best price for seal coating. The project will be coordinated through the engineering firm of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper.

The council also approved a resolution concerning membership in the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority.

Collins said there is no obligation to the city in adopting the resolution, it is just expressing interest in joining the authority.

## Bealls store to close

Bealls will close its Dimmitt store.

Dimmitt's Bealls is one of 121 on the list to be closed by the parent corporation, Stage Stores, Inc., as part of its ongoing restructuring under Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

The closings will leave the retail chain with 348 stores in Texas and 14 other states.

The closing here should be accom-

plished by sometime in March, store manager Ruthie Thomas said.

"From now until the closing, we will be holding a liquidation sale," Thomas said.

The inventories of the closing stores reportedly were purchased Saturday by the Ozer Group, a liquidation company headquartered in Needham, MA, which Thomas said has also bought the inventory of the newly bankrupt Montgomery Ward, Inc.

Also on the closing list in this area is the Bealls store in Muleshoe.

Thomas said the corporation hopes

that closing the Dimmitt and Muleshoe stores will bolster the revenue in the Bealls stores at Hereford, Littlefield and Clovis.

This was the second round of closings announced by Stage Stores, Inc. The Dimmitt store survived the first round.

"It wasn't that the Dimmitt store was not making any money," Thomas said. "In fact, our store consistently exceeded its monthly sales goals. It's just that they had to go with their higher-volume stores."

The Dimmitt store has posted increased sales every year since it succeeded the C. R. Anthony store here, Thomas reported.

"The company just had to make some choices, or the bankruptcy court would have done it for them," Thomas said.

The Houston-based corporation is closing 29 stores in Texas, including seven in Houston, three in San Antonio, three in El Paso, one in Austin, one in Mount Pleasant, the store in Lubbock's Town & Country Shopping Center, and the stores in Slaton, Denver City, Kermit, Colorado City, Coleman, Jasper, Bonham, Madisonville and Bellmead, as well as Dimmitt and Muleshoe.

The Dimmitt Bealls store employs three full-time and seven part-time workers.

"The community has supported this store," Thomas said, "and those of us who work here would like to thank everyone for that support."

## Harman selected for All-State Band

Rachal Harman, a senior at Dimmitt High School, has been selected to attend and participate in the 1A-3A All-State Band after winning the position of fifth chair clarinet at area auditions held Saturday in Sundown.

At the area auditions, she competed against 33 clarinetists from three other regions, including 1A to 3A schools in Region I Area West, comprised of schools as far flung as Perryton, Crane, Alpine and Tahoka.

She will attend the All-State Band Clinic and Concert on Feb. 7-11 in San Antonio, with the concert being held in the Scottish Rite Auditorium in downtown San Antonio. There she will compete against approximately 40 clarinet players to determine chair placings in one of two bands. The symphonic band will be conducted by retired Col. Arnold Gabriel, US Air Force. The concert band will be conducted by Bobby Francis of Texas Christian University.

Harman has been an all-state bandsman her junior and senior years. She qualified for the area auditions by winning one of the top eight chairs in the symphonic band at All-

## DISD extends Miller's contract

The employment contract for Dimmitt Independent School District Supt. Les Miller was extended three more years, through June 30, 2004, and he was given a \$1,500 raise in a unanimous vote of the school board Monday night.

Also, the board voted to accept the resignation of DHS coach and geography teacher Hugh Farmer, who has taken a position with a college in California.

The votes were taken after the board discussed the matters in executive session.

In other business, the board discussed charging tuition to DHS students who take summer school to make up credits toward graduation, but did not take any action on the matter.

It had been suggested to charge \$25 for each half credit. DISD Curriculum Director Doricell Davis said that neighboring school districts charge much more in tuition. She said she felt the \$25 would help cover the cost of materials for the classes.

The materials are being taken from the supplies of the alternative program, and it is cutting into the program's budget, Davis said.

The board members said they felt the materials cost of about \$300 could just be added into the budget, rather than charging it to the students.

School board member Chevo Lumbra was absent from the meeting.

## Former Nazareth resident is shot to death inside home

Kristopher Ryan Gerber, 27, of Amarillo, former Nazareth resident, was shot and killed Monday, the victim of an apparent double homicide in Amarillo.

Amarillo police are investigating the incident in which Gerber and his roommate, 33-year-old David Collazo, both suffered fatal gunshot wounds to the head inside their residence in the 3900 block of East 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Amarillo.

According to reports, a 9-1-1 call alerting police to the incident was fielded by Amarillo dispatchers at 7:42 p.m. Monday.

An acquaintance of the victims had reportedly stopped by the house, found the two victims and asked a

neighbor to notify authorities.

Collazo was found dead at the scene. Gerber, who still had a pulse, was rushed to Northwest Texas Hospital where he later died.

As of Tuesday afternoon, law enforcement agencies had no suspects in the case and no motive was apparent. Investigators were unable to locate a murder weapon at the scene and details were sketchy.

Autopsies were ordered on both of the men and will be conducted at the Lubbock County Medical Examiner's Office to determine the exact cause of death and how many times the men were shot, according to reports.

## DHS cheerleaders warn about phony fund-raising effort

Someone has been calling local businesses and asking them to sponsor items that will be distributed by the Dimmitt High School cheerleaders.

DHS cheerleader sponsor Michelle Wilson said that the squad is not behind the phone calls and has no plans to distribute any such items.

Wilson said business owners have told her that they were asked to pay to have their business name put on stadium seats, cups and water bottles, among other items.

None of the business owners Wilson spoke with had agreed to pay any money.

"I just hope there are not others who may have been talked into it," Wilson said. "The only fund-raising efforts our cheerleaders do each year is selling ads in the *Top of Texas* football magazine and the football programs."

She said if anyone has more information on the mysterious "fund raisers" to please contact her at the high school at 647-3105, or they may talk with DHS Principal R.L. Stockstill.

Wilson said she would like to get information on the company that is making the calls and find out what is going on.

## 1:1

By Don Nelson

This is my kind of story.

It comes from Christopher Matthews, a columnist with the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Washington bureau.

When I read it, I knew I had to share it with you, although I didn't know just when.

The "when" took care of itself this week when I got under the weather and overworked and didn't have time to do anything else.

So, enjoy:

"As a story-telling US senator, Alan Simpson was famous for tales as tall as he stands himself: 6 foot 7."

"But when I caught up with the 69-year-old in his native Cody, Wyo., last week, he was ready with a wild one every inch the truth. It was about a couple of Boy Scouts back in the time of World War II."

"One week, the Scoutmaster told us we were going out to the 'Jap camp.' That's what we called it back then. He was talking about the giant internment camp where Japanese-Americans were being detained for the duration of World War II."

"Simpson and his fellow Scouts were stunned by the idea. Why would anyone, much less a group of kids, dare enter this forbidding place surrounded by guard posts 'with all the guns pointed inward?'"

"The Scoutmaster stood his ground. 'Because they're Boy Scouts in there.' We're not going,' the Scouts complained. 'It's dangerous!'"

"They're Americans just like us!" the grown-up persisted.

"What young Alan and his pals discovered was a group of kids just like themselves."

"There was one particularly spirited guy I just kind of linked up with," Simpson said. "He showed me around the tarpaper shack he and his family were living in. We tied knots, did other things together."

"On a second visit, Simpson and this other 11-year-old joined forces to dig a drainage system that managed to send the rainwater rushing right into their own tent."

"Their later reunions would result in far more successful partnerships."

"In 1971, Simpson read in the newspaper that a fellow with a

### Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday ...	47	24	
Friday ...	55	25	
Saturday ...	54	26	
Sunday ...	56	28	
Monday ...	44	22	
Tuesday ...	52	22	
Wednesday ...	51	21	

January Moisture ..... 0.00  
2001 Moisture ..... 0.00

Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.



Rachal Harman

Region auditions Dec. 4, competing against 100 other clarinetists. She was selected as third chair.

Other DHS band students who participated at the area try-outs were Todd Jansa on tuba, Stephanie Hazel on alto clarinet, and L.J. Soler on trumpet.

# 200,000 children enrolled in CHIP, more are sought

Zachary Lopez, 7, and his sister, Talia, 16, of Austin both suffered severe headaches last summer. For the first time in their lives, the children's mother, Ida Lopez, didn't hesitate to call a doctor because now that she and her husband enrolled their children in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in Texas, she can afford the expense.

"The CHIP program has given me great peace of mind," said Ida Lopez, a receptionist at an Austin-based cable manufacturer. "Both my husband and I work, but our employers can't afford to offer health insurance to our children, but for just \$18 a month CHIP covered the cost of my children's doctor's visits—even to the eye doctor. Now they have eye glasses, their headaches are gone, they can see clearly and they are studying hard in school."

Ida Lopez and her family represent one of the thousands of Texas families who have gained "peace of mind" since they enrolled in CHIP. Program officials are extremely pleased with the rate of enrollment and report that 200,000 Texas children have enrolled since the program began last May. These numbers mean Texas has outpaced other comparable states in the initial months.

Jan. 2, program leaders announced new initiatives to reach even more Texas families who may not be aware that they qualify for the program. These initiatives include a new multi-million dollar statewide advertising campaign, local community-based marketing initiatives and increased outreach involving business and community leaders.

CHIP was launched nine months ago with federal funds and money from the tobacco lawsuit settlement as part of the TextCare Partnership, Texas' umbrella children's health insurance initiative that also includes Medicaid and the Texas Healthy Kids Corporation. CHIP offers low-

cost insurance to low-to-moderate income families.

Premiums are \$18 a month or less, depending on a family's size and income. For example, a family of four can make up to \$34,000—or more (possibly up to \$38,000) if they have child-care or other qualified expenses—and still qualify for CHIP.

"In less than a year, CHIP has made it possible for 200,000 children to visit the doctor when they're sick without their parents worrying about what it's going to cost," said Don Gilbert, Texas Health and Human Service Commissioner. "Still, there are thousands more families in Texas who are eligible to take advantage of this opportunity and may not know it. That's why we're taking some new steps."

Over the next three months, TextCare Partnership is launching:

◆ An intensive, statewide TV and radio campaign. Approximately \$3 million will buy TV and radio advertisements to start in mid-January and run every other week through the end of August. TV and radio scripts are available upon request.

◆ Locally produced and directed community-based marketing initiatives. \$1 million is being allocated state-wide to approximately 10 community-based organizations such as the United Way, Catholic Charities and county health departments. The state currently contracts with over 50 non-profit groups that have grassroots networks in place to help get the word out to families who may qualify for CHIP.

◆ An aggressive campaign to involve more businesses in promoting community awareness about the TextCare Partnership. TextCare Partnership has begun a corporate development effort which has already secured agreements from EllerMedia and Reagan National Advertising for free billboard space around the state and is working to expand that collabor-

ation with the state's outdoor advertising industry. In addition, the Aetna Foundation has agreed to purchase needed items such as portable copiers for outreach workers and push cards with program information for distribution by community organizations.

◆ A statewide print advertising campaign in community newspapers. This initiative is focusing on African-American, Spanish language and Asian community papers statewide. It was to start in January, with a total of six insertions (one ad a month for six months).

◆ A statewide billboard campaign. This campaign is a result of the corporate development effort above. It relies on donated space. The state will pay for printing and posting fees. It will last four to eight weeks.

CHIP offers a full range of health insurance coverage, including regular checkups, immunizations, prescription drugs, eyeglasses, lab tests, X-rays, hospital visits, dental care and mental health care, from a broad choice of doctors.

Families interested in CHIP or other TextCare Partnership insurance options for their children may call 1-800-647-6558 toll free to ask questions or start the application process over the phone. They also may visit the program and download an application on the Web at [www.textcarepartnership.com](http://www.textcarepartnership.com).

## Jamboree set for Saturday

The Plainview Jamboree will be held Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Ollie Liner Center in Plainview.

Admission to the event will be free, but donations are asked for the Meals on Wheels program of Plainview and Hale Center.

Groups slated to entertain include The Millennium of Plainview, Brady Rasco of Lockney, Keisling and Delpha Bond of Plainview, Country Six of Olton and the US Pickers of Plainview.

There will be a drawing for door prizes between the performances. The concession stand will be available starting at 6:30 p.m., and items for sale will include hamburgers, chips, frito pie, brownies, candy, coffee and soft drinks.

"Come and enjoy good food and good music," a spokesperson of the event said.

Another jamboree is scheduled for Feb. 10.

## 4-H forming judging teams

The Castro County 4-H is organizing teams for various judging and quiz competitions and those interested should contact the Extension Office as soon as possible.

"4-H has lots of judging opportunities to fit all interests," said County Extension Agent Rick Auckerman.

Some of the teams which could be formed are livestock judging, dairy judging, horse judging, nutrition quiz bowl, range judging, soil judging, consumer judging, entomology judging and horse quiz bowl.

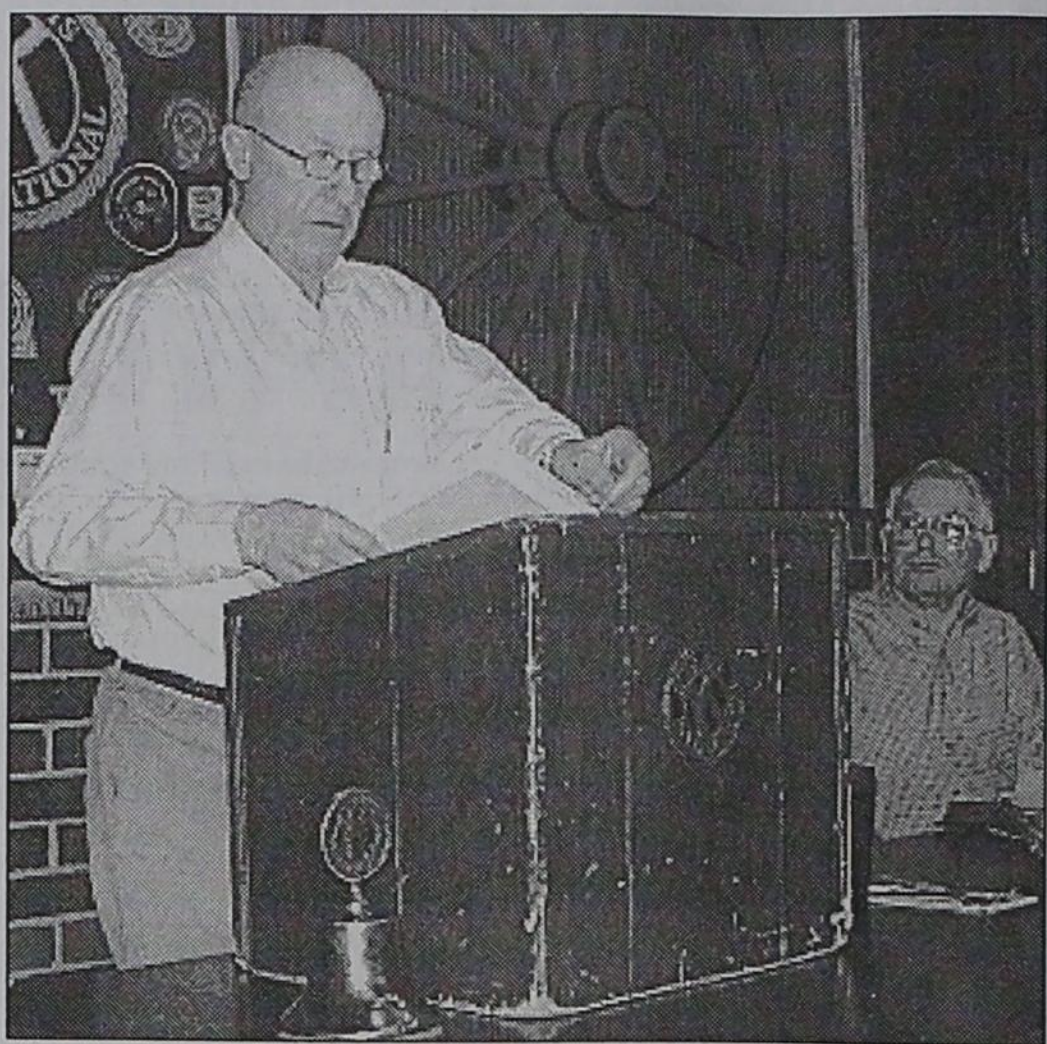
Those interested should contact Auckerman or Extension Agent Marilyn Neal at 647-4115.

## Bridal Show will benefit MS Society

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual M.S. Benefit Bridal Show will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Jan. 21 at the Amarillo Civic Center Grand Plaza, with proceeds to benefit the Panhandle Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Wedding planning hints and guidelines will be offered, along with displays by bridal-related merchants and consultants. Tickets for admission are available at the door for \$3 per person.

Activities throughout the event will include modeling of bridal and formal wear, chamber music, games, door prizes, entertainment, a silent auction, and a grand prize giveaway of two airline tickets.

**Last Puzzle Solution**  
S E A T  
K I S L R  
I T S A  
T D  
A Y E  
A B L O O D  
G I N A  
E L I S A  
L O E L  
O R E G A N  
R I O  
D E L O N  
L A U R E L  
E L O P E R S  
G E  
L A N T E L O P E S  
V I T T L E S  
L A D  
S T I R E M  
N E A R  
W I T T  
I N C R E A S E D  
O A T A  
N E A R  
T R I A L L A N D  
O I L  
R C L  
S K Y



CARL KING of the Texas Corn Growers Association speaks to the members of the Dimmitt Kiwanis Club Monday at noon, touching on energy and agriculture concerns that are facing area farmers. King said the members of the West Texas Gas Users Association are looking for ways to combat the rising price of natural gas. More about his remarks will be included in next week's issue of the News. Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Cats subdue Sandies, 55-52

The Bobcats balanced the books against the Amarillo Sandies here Tuesday night, 55-52.

Amarillo had prevailed in the two teams' first meeting, 79-73, in Amarillo.

For Sandies Coach John Smith, it was a return to the gym where he helped make history as a Dimmitt High School all-stater. He was a starter on two of Coach Ken Cleveland's state championship teams, including the 38-0 team in 1983.

Coach Smith got to revisit "Bobcat basketball" at its best when Dimmitt's fans joined the players in a third-quarter rally that turned the game around.

Amarillo led by 11-8 after the first quarter and by 24-20 at halftime, but the Bobcats outscored their guests 22-12 in the third to take a six-point lead into the fourth quarter, then held on for the three-point win.

Dee Norman led Dimmitt's scoring again with 25 points, and Austin Sherman contributed 11.

Amarillo's Ezra Bailey, who nailed nine treys and scored 32 in the first game, was held to three points Tuesday night.

"We just tried not to let Bailey get on track, and to stop their points around the basket," Bobcat Coach Alan Steinle said. "Our guys did a good job defensively, both inside and outside."

In the varsity girls' game Tuesday night, the Roosevelt Lady Eagles came from behind to take a 45-42 win over the Bobbies.

The Bobbies (9-12) and the Lady Eagles (16-6) are both 1-1 in district play now.

Rachel Fabela and Tamara Robertson scored 12 apiece for Dimmitt and Heather Black added 11.

## Bobcats will start district play Friday

The Bobcats will open District 2-AAA play at Shallowater Friday night, then will host Muleshoe Tuesday.

For the Bobbies, Friday night's game will be their third district contest. The Bobbies are 1-1 after defeating Littlefield and losing to Roosevelt in 2-AAA play.

Shallowater's Mustangs and Muleshoe's Mules "are both among the better teams in the district," Bobcat Assistant Coach Anthony Howerton said.

"They're both very strong, physical, competitive teams, and they're both very aggressive defensively," Coach Howerton said. "They have a lot of similarities. They're both capable of playing up to the competition."

## Scoreboard

Table with basketball scores for Dimmitt Freshman Tournament, including games like Bobcats 59, Muleshoe 31 and Swiftettes 78, Tascosa 71.

### More about 1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

strangely familiar name had just been elected mayor of San Jose, Calif. He wrote and asked if it was the kid he'd met in Wyoming during World War II. It was, the Honorable Norm Mineta wrote back.

"By the end of the '70s, both men were serving together in the US Congress."

"We immediately looked each other up," Simpson remembers fondly. Although they came from different parties, they became personal friends and, on at least one occasion, legislative allies.

"That was when the senator from Wyoming helped the California Democrat win passage of a bill compensating Japanese-Americans for what had been done to them during World War II."

"Last Tuesday, Norm Mineta, Democrat, was nominated by President-elect Bush to become a member of his cabinet."

"And no one is happier than his fellow Boy Scout who tied knots with him 60 years ago."

## Panhandle-Plains PCA announces name change

The Panhandle-Plains Production Credit Association is now named Great Plains Ag Credit and is starting the year with a newly formed Federal Land Bank Association providing for the addition of long term real estate lending services to farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses in the South Plains and the Panhandle.

Stockholders of this agriculture cooperative (headquartered in Amarillo and with regional offices in Amarillo and Plainview) recently approved this inter-company consolidation, resulting in both a newly chartered Agricultural Credit Association (ACA) and Federal Land Bank Association (FLBA). The FLBA simultaneously became a Federal Land Credit Association (FLCA), meaning it is a stand-alone entity as opposed to being an agent of the Farm Credit Bank of Texas, which provides loan funds to the association.

The consolidation of services results in no change to the ag lenders' long time production agriculture lending operations, which are now through Great Plains Ag Credit, PCA. Under the new structure, both Great Plains Ag Credit, PCA, and Great Plains Ag Credit, FLCA, are entities of Great Plains Ag Credit, ACA.

Great Plains Ag Credit is a major agriculture lender serving an area in the upper South Plains and western two-thirds of the Panhandle covering 200 square miles. Its 2000-year operations ended with \$157 million in short and intermediate loans, of which \$28 million are real estate mortgage loans transferred to the

new long term lending operation, according to Carroll Haygood, the association president. Regarding the name change, Haygood said that "Panhandle-Plains PCA turned out to be an interim company name originating with the merger of Amarillo and Plainview PCAs in 1999."

He added, "The majority of agriculture producers, better relate to

Amarillo PCA and Plainview PCA, each operating 65 years before combining their resources."

Troy Christian, board chairman from Farwell, said, "The ability for producers to obtain short, intermediate and long-term credit all from the same organization and loan officer has significant service and convenience advantages. The consolidation to a full service agriculture lender has been a long-time board goal."

Mike McLain of Gruver, board vice-chairman, said, "It is gratifying the association was positioned both in capital and experienced personnel to add long-term real estate lending, and that operational efficiencies gained is positive both for producers and the association, now and in years to come."

Other Great Plains Ag Credit directors are Dennis Anthony, Friona; Danny Detten, Panhandle; David Doshier, Vega; Joe Everett, Stratford; Earl Harkins, Hereford; Joe Stokes, Hale Center; and Dwight Teeple, Lockney. Regional credit offices are maintained in both Amarillo and Plainview. Other credit offices are located in Dalhart, Dimmitt, Dumas, Floydada, Friona, Muleshoe, Olton and Tulia.

## The Castro County News

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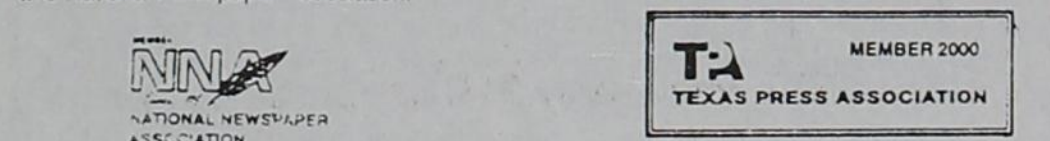


Table with advertising deadlines: Display and Classified Advertising (Tuesday Noon), Agriculture, Business & Industry News (10 a.m. Monday), Sports, Social and Church News (Monday Noon), Community Correspondence (Monday Noon), Personal Items (5 p.m. Monday), General News, City and County (Tuesday Noon).

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Community Correspondents: Dorothy Hopson, Dimmitt; Virgie Gerber, Nazareth

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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- ACROSS: 1 TX Lisa Whelchel was on "The New Mickey Mouse"; 5 Dallas' Field; 6 TXism: "fast as up a rafter"; 7 TXism: "some away" (save); 8 TX George Strait tune: "Where the"; 17 TXism: "more than way to skin a cat"; 18 TXism: "couldn't beat his way out web"; 21 dir. to Dallas from San Antonio; 22 scuffle or brawl; 23 TX Quanah Parker's medicine man; 24 nudist hangout on Lake Travis; 29 beer grain; 30 TXism: "snuff out his candle"; 31 "that is" abbr.; 32 this "Sissy" ran a close race for governor in '72; 34 classic western: "High"; 35 TX Perot's old co.; 36 TX singer Barbara; 37 TXism: "got the of it"; 38 worry; 39 TX party during Clinton's inauguration: "Black"; 41 the gun Ruby used on Oswald: 38 Colt; 42 TX Ely's "Tarzan" network; 43 poker pot starter; 44 skins an apple; 45 TX golf pro Kite (init.); 46 this great UH kicker Mike signed with Denver; 48 SMU great who played end for NY Giants; 49 historic TX ranch: R. Swenson Cattle Co.; 50 TXism: "call day"; 51 auction indication; 52 TX admiral Nimitz (init.); DOWN: 1 Lone Star Park facility (3 wds.); 2 in Mitchell Co. on 1-20; 3 home town of Dale Evans; 4 this TX Graham invented liquid paper; 9 Bandera, TX; "Cowboy Capitol of the"; 10 TXism: "tight as a cinch on a horse"; 11 TX-based co. Frito; 12 this Sweeney was a Cowboy QB (init.); 13 concluding section of a novel; 14 this Jewish month is April in TX; 15 USS Texas fired its guns on Omaha Beach at this invasion; 16 TXism: "in cement"; 19 TX Tech "Red of the"; 20 nap so. of border; 22 TXism: "fire and (retreat)"; 24 this Ford starred with TX Jones in "The Fugitive" (init.); 25 TX Lyle Lovett's "Here"; 26 theatrical fall; 27 TX Vikki's "With Hand"; 28 owe dinero (2 wds.); 29 TXism: "poured out of the same"; 30 TX Hyer film: "The of Katie Elder"; 33 TXism: "mad as a wet"; 34 former popular off. Cowboy lineman; 35 Luby's CEO at time of Killeen tragedy; 37 Caroline Hunt inn co. Rosewood; 38 Ken of "TX Chain-saw Massacre II"; 40 TX Roy Orbison's "the Lonely"; 41 TXism: "cut the mustard"; 44 Santa Anna disguise at San Jacinto; 47 Texas was naught battleship

# On the Go with Dorothy Hopson, 647-4579

Bessie Strickland left for Bryan on Friday before Christmas and was not hindered by the snow that was the "Grinch" that stole many people's Christmases this year.

She spent Christmas with her son and daughter-in-law, Butch and Pam Strickland and their children, Jonathon and Carrie.

This family has returned to the states this year on a break from serving as missionaries in Venezuela for 14 years.

Bessie got to see a lot of our great state of Texas from different angles.

Butch was the guest speaker at the Independence Baptist Church in Independence. This is the oldest Baptist Church in Texas. It was founded in 1839 when Texas was only three years old as an independent country.

The original church building burned, but the pews, pulpit and organ were saved and are used in the newer building to this day. The church bell is a gift from Sam Houston's mother-in-law. She presented the bell in gratitude for Sam's conversion and baptism.

Sam Houston was the first presi-

dent of the Republic of Texas in 1836 after the hard-fought battle for Texas' independence against Santa Anna and Mexico.

Sam was very much the rebel. Even as a teenager, he left home to live with the Cherokee Indians. By the time Houston was 35 years old, he was governor of Tennessee. His political career there crashed when his first marriage went sour after he had served three months as governor.

He returned to the Cherokees and took on an Indian wife. While living with the Cherokees, he developed such a drinking problem that the Indians gave him the name "Big Drunk."

In 1832, Houston came to Texas and quickly became involved in politics and the brewing revolution against Santa Anna and Mexico. Santa Anna had taken away the rights of the Texas people that had been granted by their constitution.

Houston's place in history was secured at San Jacinto in 1836, where his ragtag, outnumbered army defeated Santa Anna in a battle that made Texas a Republic. He was the

general of the Army.

In May 1839, Sam Houston fell in love with Margaret Moffitte, a Baptist preacher's daughter, the first time he saw her. They married in 1840.

Margaret was aware of his bad habits and gently led him through his drinking problem to sobriety. After they'd been married 14 years, Sam Houston knelt before the altar at the Independence Church to be received into the church.

In November 1854 the convert waded the chilly waters of Rocky Creek and was baptized by Rev. Rufus C. Bursleson. As a tribute to its most distinguished member, the congregation of Independence has placed a Texas flag by the pew where Sam Houston sat.

The Strickland family visited the Gause Baptist Church on Wednesday, visited a local horse stable where Pam and her sister, Penny, rode horseback, and heard a professor from Texas A&M speak about the Bethlehem star referred to in the scriptures as the star that the wise men followed as they searched for the Christ Child.

The David Schaeffer family's Christmas celebration with Stanley and Geneva Schaeffer was postponed while they waited for the snow to melt. They had a late holiday celebration with the family at the Schaeffer country home near Happy.

Gordon and Louise Stanford were in Dimmitt soon after Christmas. They were visiting Johnny and Janet Stanford. Gordon and Louise live on Lake LBJ near Kingsland.

Jewel Connell and Joy Parsons flew to Grand Junction, Colo., for the holidays. They were the guests of Richard and Johnna Connell. Richard is Jewel's son.

Joy's daughter, Sandra, is the wife of Max Hastings. These are children of Odus and Emma Lou Hastings, who moved to Grand Junction a few years ago.

Jewel and Joy joined the Hastings-Connell clan for a 40-mile drive through the mountains to the Utah state line to the country home of Benny and Lara Hastings. Benny is a fire fighter, owns his own helicopter and has been quite busy this past year helping to extinguish the many fires around the state of Colorado.

Benny's wife, Lara, is busy remodeling and decorating an abandoned brick school building that the couple bought for their home. Jewel tells us that it has made a beautiful

house.

Richard and Johnna's sons are Corbin and Jayrin Connell. Corbin is a lawyer in St. Paul, Minn., and Jayrin is a building contractor in Grand Junction.

Jewel reports that she and Joy saw very little snow until they landed back in Amarillo.

Elois McMasters joined her daughter and son-in-law, Danny and Donna Cade of Lubbock, on a trip to Bozeman, Mont., to celebrate the Christmas holidays with Elois' grandson, Levi; his wife, Madison; and their six-week old baby girl, Hayden.

They enjoyed a white Christmas and had fun watching the children ice skate on a frozen pond and slide down the hills on sleds. It was a real old-fashioned family Christmas.

Deanne Clark and her mother, Elva Forrester, entertained a Dimmitt group on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

The guests enjoyed dinner and a gift exchange at Elva's home on New Year's Eve and brunch, games and dinner at Deanne's on New Year's Day.

I gleaned most of the information about Sam Houston from a book that quoted *The Raven*, a Houston biography, by Marquis James.

As I thought about this piece of Texas history and how independent Texans are, I felt compelled to share with you parts of an item from Deanne Clark's computer.

Should Texas declare its independence now, here is a list that describes how we could make it independently:

1. With N.A.S.A. in Houston, we control the space industry.
2. We refine over 85% of the gasoline in the United States.
3. We have 65% of this country's defense industry.
4. We can supply all of the oil Texas would need for the next 300 years.
5. We have all the natural gas we need (the northern states would have to find another supplier).
6. We currently lead the nation in computer chips.
7. Health care centers include the

largest cancer research conglomerate, the best burn centers and many other outstanding health centers.

8. We have enough colleges to keep us going—University of Texas, Texas A&M, Rice, SMU, Baylor, Texas Tech, West Texas A&M, etc.

9. Food—We have the best farmers and cattlemen in the world. I believe we wouldn't lack for anything.

*Don't Mess With Texas!*

Nelle DiCuffa and Edna Reinart joined others from Lubbock for a Christmas tour in early December. The first stop was in Carlsbad, N.M., where they visited the Living Desert Nature Park. It was a beautiful warm day and a perfect setting for the 1.3 mile trek through the park and the Cactus Garden.

Some of the native birds they saw were the broad winged hawk, golden eagle, owls, and the road runner, which is the state bird of New Mexico. They also saw elk, mule deer, bison, wolves, foxes, porcupines and black bears. The Living Desert has exhibits of the Gila monster and 14 species of snakes, including six species of rattlesnakes.

That night they enjoyed the four-mile boat ride on the Pecos River. The many Christmas lights impressively displayed by the homes cast a breath-taking reflection on the water. It was a cold night and they wrapped up in blankets and shielded their faces with their blankets.

The next day the group took a scenic drive to Cloudcroft, N.M., at an altitude over 9,000 feet, where they stopped to take pictures. A few miles down, the altitude dropped to 5,000 feet.

In Cloudcroft they visited Burro Avenue, which features shops and a beautiful gallery with working artists on-site. After lunch they visited White Sands National Park.

As they were nearing the turn to White Sands, they came upon the Kissmobile. It is an open trailer consisting of three individual sections, each holding a replica of Hershey kisses. It even sports its own license. After taking pictures, they went on to the White Sands visitors' center. It is an historic adobe building, which contains geology exhibits explaining the formation of the sand dunes. It

houses a book store and there is a gift shop nearby.

Driving through the sand dunes was an awe-inspiring experience. At one point, Tom, the bus driver, stopped to give everyone the chance to walk up a hill.

Tom's wife, Annette, Nelle and Edna were the only ones to venture up the sandy hill. They walked on the top of the hill, enjoying the scenery. According to Edna, the late afternoon light creates patterns of lines and shadows in the world's largest gypsum dunes field. One can see tracks of animals who only come out at night. Some vegetation has survived the sifting sands.

Edna said, "Going down was a different story. We either walked or slid to the bottom of the hill. Everyone enjoyed the beauty of the glistening sands of New Mexico, one of the world's great natural wonders."

On the way to the hotel, they passed Holloman Airforce Base. It has an interesting history.

The US entered World War II in 1941. In 1942 there became a need for gunnery ranges, and Alamogordo was one of the sites selected. Runways were laid to provide a training area for the British Royal Airforce. The new base was named the Alamogordo Bombing and Gunnery Base. Even today it is being used in that capacity.

The base is the home to the Stealth F117A aircraft, the German military and many US servicemen and their families.

The travelers saw the flight of a Stealth bomber over the airbase as they were on their way to a hotel in Alamogordo.

On Saturday, they had lunch in El Paso and traveled to Juarez, Mexico. Sunday they were on their way to Lubbock. Near Jal, they went past two horses ahead of 12 head of cattle followed by a man on horseback, which are life-sized and made of metal. They were created by an artist in Jal. They didn't detour to the scene, because of the weather.

"Annette said that on some future trip we will go to the scene. We did make it home in time for the out-of-town travelers to get home before the bad weather set in. This was an enjoyable and educational trip," Nelle said.

# Nazareth with Uirgie Gerber, 945-2669

A large group enjoyed the weekend skiing in beautiful Taos, N.M. Everyone had a really fun time.

Our basketball players had a fun weekend participating in the Lazbuddie Tournament.

The boys junior varsity team won third place, the junior varsity girls finished first, the combined girls team of seventh and eighth graders won consolation and the seventh grade boys and eighth grade boys teams each finished first.

Congratulations to Sammy and Tara Albracht of Bushland on the birth of boy, Hadley Jude, on Jan. 4. Grandparents are Billy and Mary

# Barbecue meal, raffle will benefit Roy Stotts family

A barbecue meal and raffle are being organized by employees at Texas Equipment Company in Dimmitt and proceeds from the two will go to benefit the Roy Stotts Kidney Fund.

Stotts, an employee at Texas Equipment, has been diagnosed with glomerulonephritis, a form of kidney disease. He is currently undergoing dialysis and he is on the waiting list for a donor kidney.

The barbecue supper has been planned for Super Bowl Sunday, Jan. 28, at Country Club of Dimmitt. The meal will begin at 5 p.m. and cost is \$5 per person for a "steaming plate of barbecue with all the trimmings."

A raffle for a new John Deere LT133 riding lawn mower is being held in conjunction with the meal and tickets are currently available from any Texas Equipment employee or at the Texas Equipment office in Dimmitt. Tickets for the raffle are \$5 each.

# Flu shots will be available at shot clinics

The Texas Dept. of Health (TDH) will conduct two children's immunization clinic this month, including one today (Thursday) from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Dimmitt City Hall and a second one on Jan. 22 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Nazareth School.

Flu shots also will be available at the clinics and will be administered to the general public.

The immunization clinics will offer protection against several childhood diseases.

Vaccines offered will give protection against polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, mumps, rubella, HIB (haemophilus influenza type B) and varicella (chicken pox).

The Texas Dept. of Health is charging money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount of money charged will be based on family income and size and the ability to pay. Also, the varicella vaccine is covered by Medicaid. Those who are should bring their card to the clinic.

Ruth Albracht of Bushland and Jeanette Johnson of Nazareth.

Mark Birkenfeld, Jason Birkenfeld and Craig Birkenfeld and Nazareth's band director, Fidelis Fetisch, traveled to Sundown early Saturday morning to participate in the area band tryouts. They all placed, but will not be going on to state. They learned from the experience and had a really fun time in being there.

The Ed Ramaekers family and Vincent Gerber family traveled to Pampa this weekend to attend a surprise 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Kenny Gerber.

The party was hosted by his wife, Doretta, and their children at the KofC Hall in Pampa.

On the way to Pampa they stopped in Groom, attended mass and visited with Father Neal Dee, former Nazareth pastor.

Prayers are asked for Brad Klein, Edith Huseman, Lori Huseman, Leonard Gerber, Eric Wilhelm, Margaret Brockman, Tammy Drerup, Ray Schmucker, Tinie Hoelting and Robert Fisher Sr.

## HYPNOSIS CLINIC

By Ralph Weber, CHT *Certified Hypnotherapist*

**WEIGHT** Your mental associations make you eat to feel better even when you are not hungry. **2 P.M.** Destroy them NOW!

**SMOKING** The car won't start without a cigarette. This has nothing to do with nicotine, only negative neuro-associations. Destroy them and create positive neuro-associations. **2 P.M.**

\$70.00 fee includes reinforcement tape. 110% money back guarantee at meeting only. Registration 15 minutes before. Cash, Visa/MC/Discover, no checks. Complete in one hour. Now is the time. Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity. Yes, I can hypnotize you, 25 years experience. [www.dchelp.com](http://www.dchelp.com) 218-385-3404

Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, 115 W. Bedford Friday, Jan. 19

# It's not too late to ...

## Give Yourself A Raise.



### There's still time to register for the Spring semester at Amarillo College.

Quality education conveniently offered at an affordable price. It's simply one of the soundest investments you can make. With flexible scheduling you can go to school while you work. And financial aid is readily available.

**Late Registration**  
**Wednesday, Jan. 17 • 6-7 p.m.**  
**Hereford ISD Administration Building**

So get with the program. There's never been a better way to prepare yourself for the future. For more information, call 371-5030.

**EDUCATION PAYS.**  
**Amarillo College**  
*An Equal Opportunity Community College*



### GRANDPARENTS:

Here's your chance to brag on **YOUR GRANDCHILD!**

Send or bring us a photo of your grandchild (we promise to return it unharmed), and we'll place it in a special display frame like the one at left, with your grandchild's name and yours, and on

**Thursday, Feb. 8**

your little Valentine will appear in the paper!

The cost is only **\$10** per picture.

**Hurry! DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEB. 2nd.**

# The Castro County News

647-3123 • PO Box 67, 108 W. Bedford, Dimmitt, TX 79027

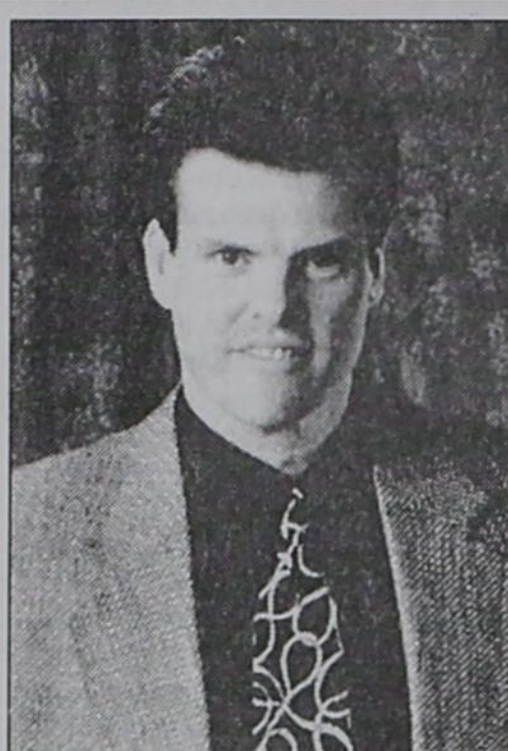
# People



## Financial aid workshop set

All parents and students are invited to attend a financial aid workshop today (Thursday) at 7 p.m. in the Dimmitt High School library. Representatives from West Texas A&M University will be presenting the program, with information that will be applicable to any college or university. Other presenters will be there from the Opportunity Plan, banks and other sources of financial aid.

Those in attendance will have a drawing for a scholarship. Federal aid for the coming school year is based on a family's 2000 tax return. The sooner the tax return is completed the better. New Federal Application for Federal Student aid (FAFSA) forms have arrived and all seniors will be given a copy. If help is needed in filling out the form, please set up an appointment with Debbie Underwood at DHS, or come to the meeting and visit with the representatives who will be present.



Greg Buchanan

## World class harpist to play at FBC Sunday

Greg Buchanan, a world-class harpist, will perform at the First Baptist Church in Dimmitt Sunday at 10:30 a.m. during the church's morning worship service. The public is invited to attend the concert and a love offering will be collected. "Buchanan's aggressive style of playing usually redefines the listener's concept of performance on the harp. His superb musicianship combined with an enthusiastic attitude toward the Christian life makes him one of the most sought after Christian performers in America," said a church spokesperson. "Greg readily gives God credit for everything he has today and for bringing him from the depths of worldly living to the triumphant live he now lives."

At age 9, Buchanan began playing the harp. Naturally gifted, he excelled and progressed quickly. As a young man, he spent four years in the United States Naval Band, stationed in Washington, D.C. He began playing in Christian circles after a troubled lifestyle drew him to friends who took him to a Christian music concert where a spiritual encounter changed his life. He has appeared with Billy Graham Crusades, on the 700 Club, Dr. Schuller and Hour of Power and has given many concerts in America and on the international scene. He has made many recordings, some of which have earned recognition from the Gospel Music Association for Instrumental Music.

*O God, thank You for the difference You are making in my life. Keep me strong in the belief that absolutely nothing can defeat Your love. Amen*

**Classifieds  
get results!**

## Cameron and Nelson exchange wedding vows

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Jon Cameron are home in Amarillo after enjoying a wedding trip to Maine.

The couple were married on Dec. 16 in an evening ceremony at First Baptist Church in Amarillo. Dr. Howard K. Batson officiated at the formal, double-ring nuptial service.

The bride is the former Jan D'Aun Nelson of Amarillo, daughter of Norman and Sandra Nelson of Dimmitt. The prospective groom is the son of Gary and Sara Cannon of Amarillo.

The altar area in the church was decorated with wild smilax and a pair of nine-branch candelabra with bouquets of white roses, spider mums and enchantment lilies entwined around the candles. The aisles were decorated with wild smilax vine.

Music was provided by organist David Lowe and pianist Janice Davis. Selections included *Oh God, You are My God, In This Very Room, Parent's Prayer, Shout to the Lord and As For Me and My House.*

*1 Corinthians 13* was recited by Jeff and Darcie Raines.

The bride, given in marriage by her parents, wore a simple sheath-style floor-length gown of ivory crepe. It featured a bodice and long flowing bell-shaped sleeves of princess chiffon. The detachable chapel-length train was also fashioned of princess chiffon.

Her elbow-length veil was accented with ivory satin streamers.

She wore a single strand of pearls, a gift from the groom.

The bride carried a conical-shaped bouquet of white roses and lemon leaves with white taffeta ribbon accented with gold.

Jill Rushing of Amarillo, the bride's twin sister, served as matron of honor. Bridesmaid was Nancy George of Amarillo, friend of the bride.

The bridal attendants were outfitted in floor-length black skirts with black sweaters and matching cardigans.

They carried hand-tied bouquets of white snapdragons and pitsaporium



MRS. GARY JON CAMERON  
... see Jan D'Aun Nelson

leaves accented with sheer angel ribbon.

Ring bearer was Buck Rushing, nephew of the bride.

Flower girl was Emily Rushing, the bride's niece.

Guests were seated by Jay Nelson of Dimmitt and Jim Nelson of Fort Collins, Colo., brothers of the bride.

The groom's sons, Ian and Ethan, presented roses to the bride's mother and the groom's mother.

Following the wedding, a reception honoring the newlyweds was held in the Grande Room of the Family Life Center. Members of the house party were

Lisel Austin, Ann Marie Mason and McKay Sharp, friends of the bride.

The bride is a graduate of Dimmitt High School and she attended Hardin-Simmons University and West Texas A&M University. She is employed by Amarillo College as an instructor of nursing, and she also works for BSA Health System in Amarillo.

The groom is a graduate of Caprock High School and he served eight years in the United States Marine Corps. He is currently employed by Mason-Hanger Corp.

## Country Peddler Show

Visit Peddler's Perfect Street of Shops

The Peddler's Perfect Street of Shops is coming soon to  
**AMARILLO, TEXAS**  
**January 12-14, 2001**

Amarillo Civic Center ♥ 401 South Buchanan  
From I-27, take Buchanan Street Exit  
From I-40 East or West, take Downtown exit to Buchanan

Folk Art ♥ Pottery ♥ Gourmet Foods ♥ Candles

Show Hours		Admission	
Friday	4 p.m.-9 p.m.	Adults	\$4.00
Saturday	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	Seniors (65+)	\$2.00
Sunday	11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Children under 12	Free

For the safety of all, strollers are not recommended.

P.O. Box 1129 • Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 • 800/775-2774  
FAX 830/997-0453 • www.peddlershow.com • peddler@ktc.com

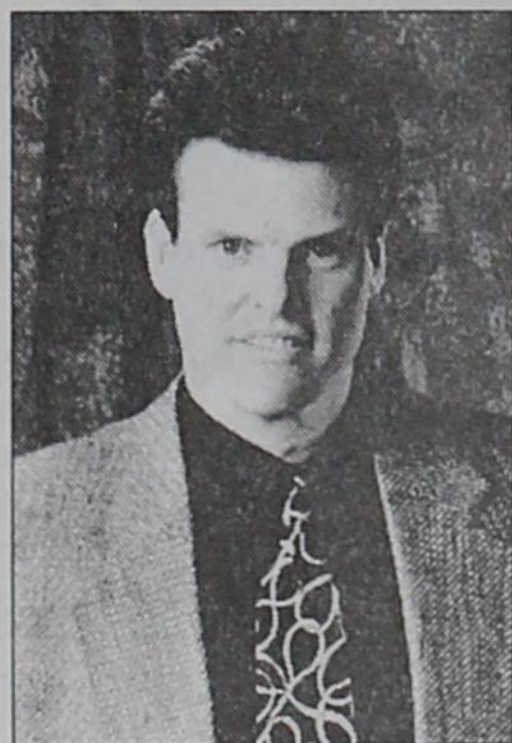
You are invited to a  
**Bridal Shower**  
honoring  
**Karen Curl**  
bride-elect of  
**Britt Boozer**  
Saturday, Jan. 13  
from 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
in the home of  
**Barbara Bain**  
1802 Buller Drive, Dimmitt

Selections at Coleman Pharmacy, Hays Company,  
Running M Bath Shop, Seale Florist  
and The Village Shop.

## Witness the Unique, Enthusiastic Style of Greg Buchanan, Harpist

during the morning worship service  
**Sunday, Jan. 13 — 10:30 a.m.**

Mr. Buchanan has appeared with the Billy Graham Crusades, the 700 Club, Dr. Robert Schuller's Hour of Power, and before international audiences.



You're always welcome at the  
**First Baptist Church**  
of Dimmitt  
1201 Western Circle Drive

## Dimmitt, Nazareth band students will perform in all-region concerts

Several musicians from Dimmitt and Nazareth schools will be featured in all-region band concerts Saturday at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

The afternoon's musical performances will be at Mary Moody Northern Hall on the WTAMU Campus, and entertainment will begin with the director's band concert at 1:45 p.m. The Class A Junior High concert will start at 3 p.m., followed by the Class AA Junior High concert at 3:30 p.m. and the Class AAA Junior High performance at 4 p.m.

The All-Region High School Concert, featuring students from Class A, AA and AAA schools, will begin at 4:30 p.m. The final performance of the afternoon will be by the High School Symphonic Band.

The public is invited to attend the concerts and admission is \$2 per person. Proceeds from the concert will go to the Don Baird Memorial Scholarship Fund at WTAMU, which benefits music students from this region.

Orders for recordings of the performances and all-region t-shirts may be placed at the concert.

Dimmitt Middle School band members who earned chairs on the Class AAA Junior High All-Region Band are Maribel Montiel, second chair clarinet; Daniel Jackson, third chair trumpet; Robin Beames, ninth chair clarinet; Kayla Acker, 13<sup>th</sup> chair flute; Kelly Reyes, 22<sup>nd</sup> chair clarinet; Vanessa Caballero, first

alternate clarinet; and Fabian Diaz, first alternate tuba.

Nazareth Junior High band students who qualified for the Class A concert are Lacey Acker, first chair trombone; Candace Birkenfeld, fourth chair trumpet; Orin Schulte, third chair snare drum; Jeremy Acker, ninth chair trumpet; Garrett Kleman, second chair baritone saxophone; Jamie Black, sixth chair French horn; Keli Schulte, fourth chair bass clarinet; Jake Hoelting, 10<sup>th</sup> chair trumpet; Nathan Huseman, fifth chair tuba; Dustin Schulte, third chair French horn; Matthew Birkenfeld, second chair mallets; and Adam Thiel, first alternate tympani.

Band members from Dimmitt and Nazareth qualifying for the High School Concert Band are Dimmitt's Melanie Walls, second chair alto saxophone; and Nazareth's Brett Hoelting and Rebecca Olvera.

Those qualifying for the High School Symphonic Band include Nazareth's Mark Birkenfeld, Craig Birkenfeld, Jason Birkenfeld and Quentin Jones; and Dimmitt's L.J. Soler, first chair trumpet; Stephanie Hazel, second chair alto clarinet; Todd Jansa, second chair euphonium; and Rachal Harman, third chair clarinet.

## For Walt and Virginia Hansen

Your children and their families wish you both a  
**Very Happy 50th  
Wedding Anniversary**

We all love you both very much!  
We appreciate all you have done for us and for your community.

Barb, Russ, Kirk, Grace, Jenny, Zach,  
Philip, Deb, Judd, Dane

## Leaders meet today

The Castro County 4-H club managers and parent leaders will meet today (Thursday) to discuss the upcoming fashion show, stock show, judging teams, method demonstrations and more.

Other 4-H spring activities will be discussed as well.

The club managers will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension office while the parent-leaders will gather at 7 p.m.

For more information contact the Castro County Extension Office at 647-4115.

## Girl Scout Cookie sales start Saturday

Girl Scouts from Castro County and other counties across the Texas Panhandle and South Plains will kick off the organization's annual cookie sale this week, and Saturday is the first day that cookies will be available to the public.

Over 4,000 Girl Scouts for the Caprock Council's 18-county area will sell cookies from Saturday through March 4. All cookies are priced at \$3 per package with all proceeds benefitting local Girl Scouts.

Cookies may be ordered via fax at (806) 748-0769 or by calling (806) 745-2855. For more information call

(806) 745-2855.

Inside one of the new packages, consumers will also find a brand new cookie called "Aloha Chips with Macadamia Nuts." This new cookie has a distinctive and exotic taste with its creamy white fudge chips and crunchy macadamia nuts.

This year's selection also includes the return of seven Girl Scout Cookie favorites including the popular Thin Mint, Original Samoa (caramel and toasted coconut), the Tagalong (layered peanut butter and chocolate), the Do-Si-Do (oatmeal peanut butter cremes), Trefoil Short-

bread, Apple Cinnamon and Lemon Drops (crispy cookie with cream lemon chips).

Hear  
The First United  
Methodist Church  
Morning Worship Service  
Sundays, 10:45 a.m.  
On KDHN 1470



## Need a ride to church?

We at **Abundant Life Family Church**, a spirit-filled Christian community, will gladly pick you up and bring you to our 10:30 a.m. or 6 p.m. Sunday services and 7 p.m. Wednesday services.

Call 647-5288 for arrangements.

Youth Nights Monday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m.



MRS. ERIC BENJAMIN SAMMANN  
... nee Rebecca Elizabeth Fox

## Sammann and Fox wed in December

Rebecca Elizabeth Fox of Amarillo became the bride of Eric Benjamin Sammann of Lubbock on Dec. 30 when the pair recited vows at Amarillo South Church.

Greg Harper officiated at the nuptial service.

Sammann is the son of Alfred and Mira Sammann of Lubbock and Jeannie and Scott Amman of Colorado. He is the grandson of Marie and Ernest Sammann of Dimmitt. Parents of the bride are Michael and Janis Bristow and Kerry and Nealann Williams of Amarillo.

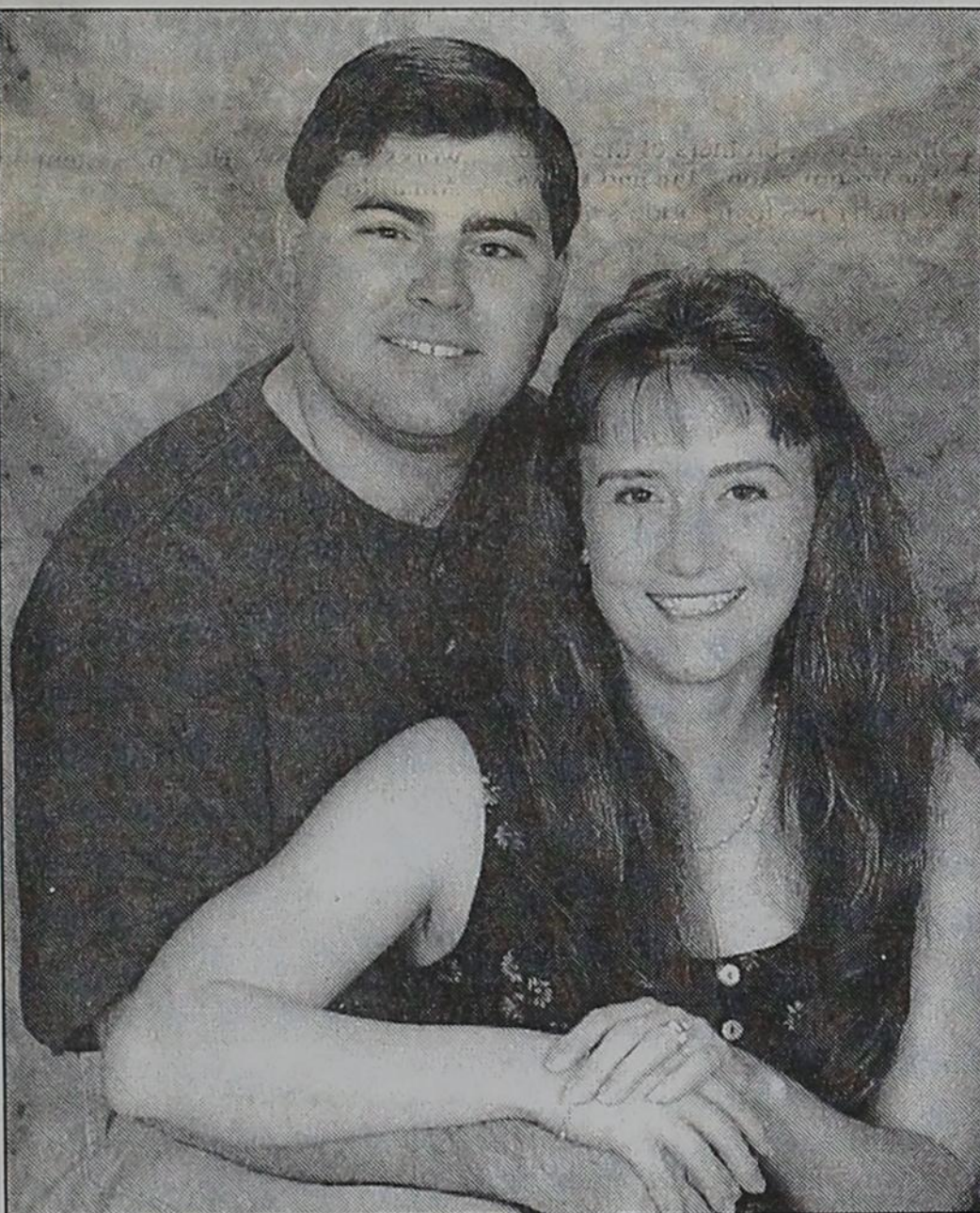
Kandi Bristo, sister-in-law of the bride, served as maid of honor.

Best man was Royce Wood, brother of the groom.

The bride attended Amarillo College and plans to attend Texas Tech University and work at Children's Home of Lubbock.

The groom will graduate in December 2001 from Texas Tech University with a double major in MIS and marketing. He currently works at KayBee Toys.

The couple enjoyed a wedding trip to Disney World, then returned to establish their home in Lubbock.



Bradley Ian Grinstead and Sabrina Anne Acker

## May wedding planned

Mr. and Mrs. Luke Acker of Nazareth announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Sabrina Anne, to Bradley Ian Grinstead, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Grinstead Jr., of Arlington.

The couple are planning to exchange wedding vows on May 12 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Bryan.

The bride-elect is currently attending Texas A&M University, and will graduate with her doctorate in veterinary medicine in May.

The prospective groom will receive his master's degree in electrical engineering in May from Texas Tech University.

## College Information Hotline will be open this weekend

Prospective college students can have many of their questions answered this weekend by calling the College Information Hotline, which will be open to the public Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Students and/or their parents may access the toll-free hotline by calling 1-877-782-7322.

Sponsored by the Texas Association for College Admission Counseling and the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the College Information Hotline is the largest project of its type in the nation, and it provides information about post-secondary educational opportunities to students and their families.

The College Information Hotline is available to anyone in the state who has questions about any aspect of college admission, financial aid, degree programs, housing, student life and activities, or special programs. Callers may also request information from specific colleges

and universities or information about any college in the United States.

Spanish-speaking counselors and admission representatives from more than 25 public and private colleges and universities in Texas will be on duty.

## Band Boosters to meet Jan. 18

The Dimmitt Band Boosters will meet Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Dimmitt High School band hall and the parents of all band students are invited to attend.

The club members will discuss the guidelines for the senior band scholarships, senior blankets, and funds for the band trip.

"Parents of all band students in grades 5 to 12 are invited to attend," said club president Carolyn Harman. "But it is imperative for the parents of senior band members and high school band members to attend."

# Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**  
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Bobby Starlings.....647-2889
- Sunnyside Baptist**  
Sunnyside  
Bennie Wright.....647-5712
- First United Methodist**  
Hart  
Tom Long.....938-2462
- La Asamblea Cristiana**  
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt  
Manuel Rodriguez
- First United Methodist**  
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt  
Rusty Dickerson.....647-4106
- Iglesia De Cristo**  
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt  
Pedro A. Gonzalez
- Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt  
Fern Couture.....647-4219, 647-0105
- Jesus and the Love of God Church**  
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668

*Praise to thee,  
my Lord, for all  
thy creatures.*

—St. Francis of Assisi

*Attend the  
Church of  
Your Choice*

- Church of God of the First Born**  
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt
- St. John's Catholic**  
Hart  
Fern Couture.....647-0105
- Church of Christ**  
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-4435
- Immanuel Baptist**  
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt
- Rosa De Saron**  
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt  
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598
- Rose of Sharon Temple**  
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt
- First Baptist**  
302 Ave. G, Hart  
Aaron Reed.....938-2316
- Primeria Iglesia Bautista**  
9th and Eter, Dimmitt  
Antonio Rocha
- Abundant Life Family Church**  
113 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Tom and Kay Mullins
- First Assembly of God**  
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Leonard A. Broseker.....647-5662
- First Baptist**  
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
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# Sports



## Bobcats rip Tulia

# Bobbies edge Littlefield in district opener

It appeared that the Bobbies had their first district game in the bag here Friday night when they led the Littlefield Lady Cats 47-38 with half a minute left.

But Littlefield's Stephanie Webb had other ideas.

The speedy little sharpshooter nailed a three-pointer with 25 seconds left to make it 47-41.

Then the Lady Cats forced a tie for possession, the inbound pass went straight to Webb outside the arc, and she was fouled as she went for another trey.

With the clock showing 0:19, Webb, a 5-6 junior, stepped to the free-throw line and swished three nothing-but-net shots to cut Dimmitt's lead to 47-44.

Dimmitt's Rachel Fabela took a foul one second after the inbounds

pass and sank both ends of a 1-and-1 to give the Bobbies a little more breathing room at 49-44.

Then Dimmitt's defense laid back and let Littlefield's second-high scorer, Tawanami Mitchell, sink a 17-footer to make it 49-46 with 10 ticks remaining.

The Lady Cats sent Fabela to the line again and this time she missed, giving Littlefield one last chance to score a trey and throw the game into overtime.

Mitchell, a 5-8 freshman, pushed the ball up the court and almost sent her coach into orbit when she drove past the three-point line and jacked up a 10-footer. But the shot rimmed out and, after a battle for possession, Littlefield got it out of bounds with just a couple of ticks left.

As expected, the inbound pass

again went to Webb outside the arc, and she got away a hurried shot that fell just short as the buzzer sounded on a 49-46 Dimmitt win.

Only then did Dimmitt Coach Tim Gilliland start breathing again.

"That was 'way too close," he said afterward.

The Bobbies had trouble all night getting their close-in shots to fall, but they hit enough more free throws (10 of 14, vs. Littlefield's 6 of 8) to seal the win. Defensive rebounding was a major factor, too, as the Bobbies dominated Littlefield's backboard most of the night.

Fabela and Tamara Robertson each had a pair of three-pointers for Dimmitt, and Audrey Saenz racked up 10 points—mostly on rebounds and put-backs—in her best game yet.

Fabela finished with 13, Robertson and Heather Black 11 each, and Sharla Kenworthy and Stacy Saenz 2 each.

For Littlefield, Webb had 21 and Mitchell 12.

The Bobbies fell behind by 14-17 in the first quarter, but appeared to find the key during the second when they racked up 13 points while holding the Lady Cats to just 5 to take a

27-22 halftime lead.

The third quarter started like gangbusters with Webb, Fabela and Black all nailing treys and Mitchell scoring a put-back within the first two minutes. But after that the third stretched into a 10-10 draw with those four doing all the scoring.

The Bobbies extended their five-point lead to nine early in the fourth on baskets by Black and Audrey Saenz and a pair of free throws by Stacy Saenz. The Lady Cats closed it to five again, but Audrey Saenz sank another basket and Robertson netted an eight-foot baseline jumper with 45 seconds left to push Dimmitt's lead back to nine at 47-38.

They needed every bit of that pad to withstand Webb's long-range assault in the waning seconds.

### Bobcats 73, Tulia 48

It wasn't like any other Dimmitt-Tulia boys' game in recent years.

With all-stater Mikey Marshall now playing for Texas Tech and with senior guard Isaiah Subealdea probably out for the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament, this year's Hornets were no match for the Bobcats here Friday night.

The Bobcats rang up 24 points in the first quarter while holding the Hornets to 8 and not allowing them a single second shot.

Dimmitt continued to dominate the rest of the way with a 45-22 lead at halftime and a 62-31 margin after three before finishing with a 73-48 victory.

Dee Norman had another big night with 27 points and 12 rebounds, while Daniel Proffitt came through with 11 and Matthew Wright with 10. Six other guys in purple contributed 3 to 6 points each.

Dimmitt's second-high rebounder was Julian Velo with 10. Leading in floor play were Marcus Larra and Austin Sherman with 12 credits each, Proffitt with 11 and Brent Josselet

with 10.

In the boys' junior varsity game,

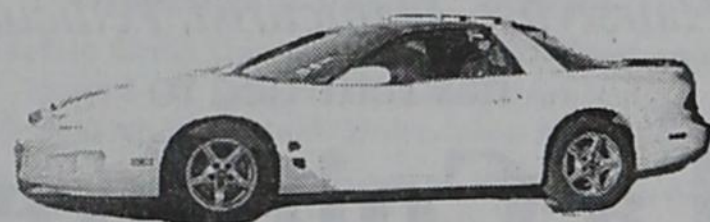
Dimmitt won a 42-39 thriller with Patrick Hunter scoring 12 and Colby Williams 10 for the JV Bobcats.



**CROSSING SHOT**—Dimmitt's Rachel Fabela (40) gets off a crossing jumper against the Littlefield Lady Cats in the second quarter of the girls' District 2-AAA opener here Friday night. Trying to hinder Fabela are Tulia's Analisha Marquez (24) and D'Lynn West (10). Fabela was Dimmitt's top scorer with 13 points. The Bobbies withstood an 8-2 run by the Lady Cats in the final 25 seconds to preserve a 49-46 win.

Photo by Carter Townsend

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### Seven Bobcats named All-District honorable mention

Seven members of the Dimmitt High School varsity Bobcat Football Team earned honorable mention status in the All-District listing released recently, according to Dimmitt Head Football Coach Wade Wilson.

Three seniors were honored. They are B.J. Hill, linebacker; Bobby Hill, linebacker; and Julian Velo, offensive line.

Four juniors also were listed. They are Albert Campos, linebacker; Matthew Wright, defensive back; Tanner Self, offensive line; and Juan Gonzales, defensive line.

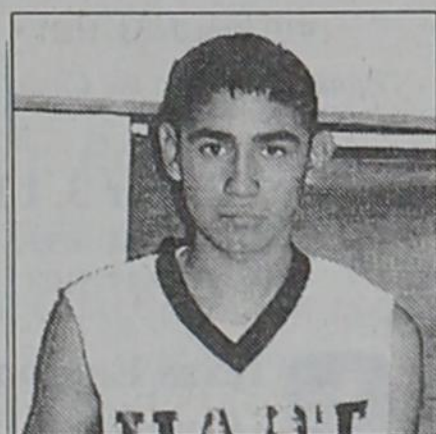
**Good Luck,  
Ladyhorns  
and  
Longhorns!**



**FRIDAY: Ladyhorns & Longhorns vs. Bovina, There**

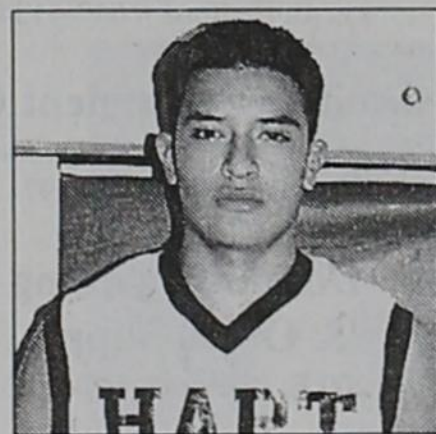
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**TUESDAY: Ladyhorns & Longhorns vs. Kress, Here**



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**UH-OH!**—Tulia guard Tyrell Bebout (10) is in big trouble as he tries to go between Dimmitt's Adam Wright (14) and Austin Sherman Friday night in

Cleveland Memorial Gym. The Bobcats dominated the Hornets throughout in a 73-48 win.

Photo by Carter Townsend

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**Daily, M-F:**

8:15 a.m. .... Dallas Cowboys Report  
7:05 a.m. .... Texas State Network Sports  
7:05 and 8:05 a.m. .... Sports Texas

**Friday:**

6:30 p.m. .... **Bobbies vs. Shallowater**  
8:00 p.m. .... **Bobcats vs. Shallowater**

**Tuesday:**

6:30 p.m. .... **Bobbies vs. Muleshoe**  
8:00 p.m. .... **Bobcats vs. Muleshoe**



**1470** A.M.



**BRENDA DIEGO (14)** of Hart handles the ball after chasing down a rebound Friday night in the Lady Horns' District 3-A opener with Farwell. The Lady Horns played well in the game, but Farwell prevailed in the end, 57-35.

*Photo by Neoma Williams*

## Big third quarter boosts Farwell over Hart, 57-35

Hart's Lady Horns gave Farwell everything it could handle for two quarters Friday night, but the Lady Blue took charge in the second half and pulled away for a 57-35 win in District 3-A action at Farwell.

The teams battled to a 13-point stalemate in the first quarter, and Hart trailed by just a point, 22-21, at halftime.

The second half belonged to Farwell, though.

After exploding with a big 13-3 run in the third quarter, Farwell guaranteed itself the victory by holding Hart to 11 points in the fourth quarter.

Hart's pressure defense flustered Farwell, especially in the first half.

A full-court press applied by the Lady Horns early forced numerous turnovers by the Lady Blue. Hart later switched to a half-court trap and that also worked well.

"In the first half we played super. We forced a lot of turnovers and we shot the ball well," said Hart Coach John Curry.

Things rimmed out for Hart in the third quarter. Although the steals and defensive play was still working in Hart's favor, the Lady Horns couldn't buy a bucket.

Hart hit 49% of its shots from the field in the first half, but only finished with 38% shooting for the game.

"I think we were one-for-11 from

the field in the third quarter and we had some turnovers. Those two things really hurt us," Curry said. "Then in the fourth quarter we had to foul them to try and make up the lost ground and they hit eight-of-eight free throws.

"We were able to trade baskets with them in the fourth quarter, but those eight extra free throws hurt. Then they had a girl hit a three just before the buzzer."

Leading the first half charge was Crystal Diego, who scored eight of her team-high 16 during the first 16 minutes of action.

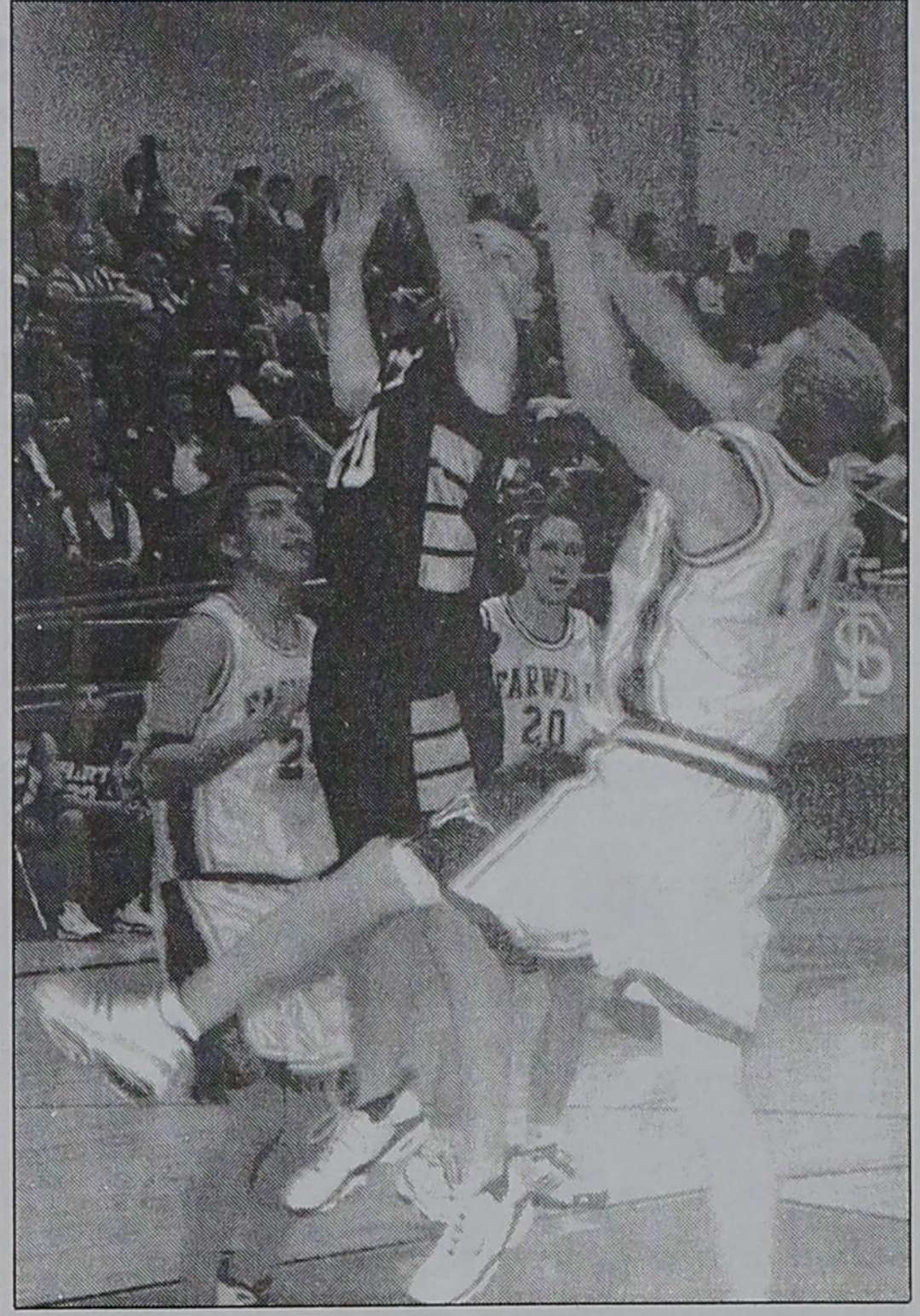
Lacie Curry was one of Hart's defensive leaders, dominating inside the paint with six blocked shots and 14 rebounds, 11 of which came on the defensive end.

Farwell's girls added 22 over the final eight-minute period to claim the district opening win.

Diego was Hart's lone player to finish in double figures, and she tallied 15 for her team.

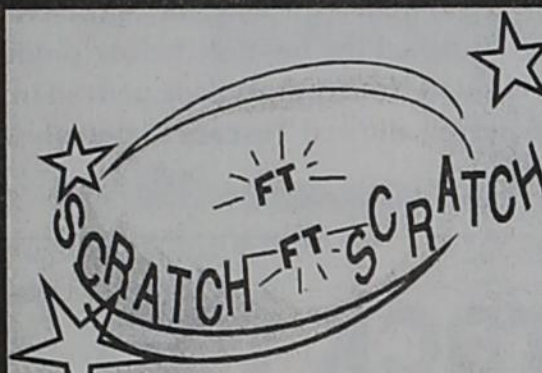
Farwell was paced by double-digit scoring from Jessica Chandler and Kacey Gast, who had 16 apiece.

Hart opened district play without three regular starters, Vanessa Carrasco, Ruby Rodriguez and Kellie George. All three are out with knee injuries. The injuries suffered by Carrasco and George are season-ending, but there is a chance that Rodriguez may return near the end of the season.



**SPLITTING THE DEFENSE**—Hart's Jeff Bennett squares up and finds room between two Farwell defenders and he picks up a short jumper Friday as the two teams squared off in a District 3-A game at Farwell. A Hart rally in the fourth quarter came up just short as Farwell claimed the 54-47 win.

*Photo by Neoma Williams*


**Good Luck,**  
**Bobbies and Bobcats!**

**FRIDAY: Bobbies & Bobcats vs. Shallowater, There**  
 Starting at 6:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY: Bobbies & Bobcats vs. Muleshoe, Here**  
 Starting at 6:30 p.m.

### Schedule and Scores

Jan. 12—\*Shallowater, There  
 Jan. 16—\*Muleshoe, Here  
 Jan. 19—\*Cooper, There  
 Jan. 23—\*Littlefield, There  
 Jan. 26—\*Roosevelt, There  
 Jan. 30—\*Shallowater, Here  
 Feb. 2—\*Muleshoe, There  
 Feb. 6—\*Cooper, Here  
 Feb. 9—\*Littlefield (Boys), Here  
 Feb. 12—\*Roosevelt (Boys), Here

#### Bobbies

42, Randall 54  
 39, Levelland 58  
 44, Borger 62  
**Queen's Classic**  
 41, Randall 55  
 57, Muleshoe 44  
 68, Vega 70 (OT)  
 59 Hereford 55

#### Canyon Classic

36, Tascosa 71  
 51, Panhandle 63  
 65, Godley 35  
 41, Tulia 44  
 57, Abernathy 52  
 49, River Road 65  
 43, Amarillo High 81

#### Caprock Tournament

68, Amarillo Caprock 43  
 51, Lubbock Coronado 61  
 51, Andrews 46  
 49, El Paso Franklin 33  
 47, Stephenville 39  
 49, Littlefield 46  
 42, Roosevelt 45  
**Season Record: 9-12**  
**District Record: 1-1**

#### Bobcats

49, Randall 68  
 60, Levelland 67  
 69, Borger 62  
 43, Hereford 52

#### Plainview Tournament

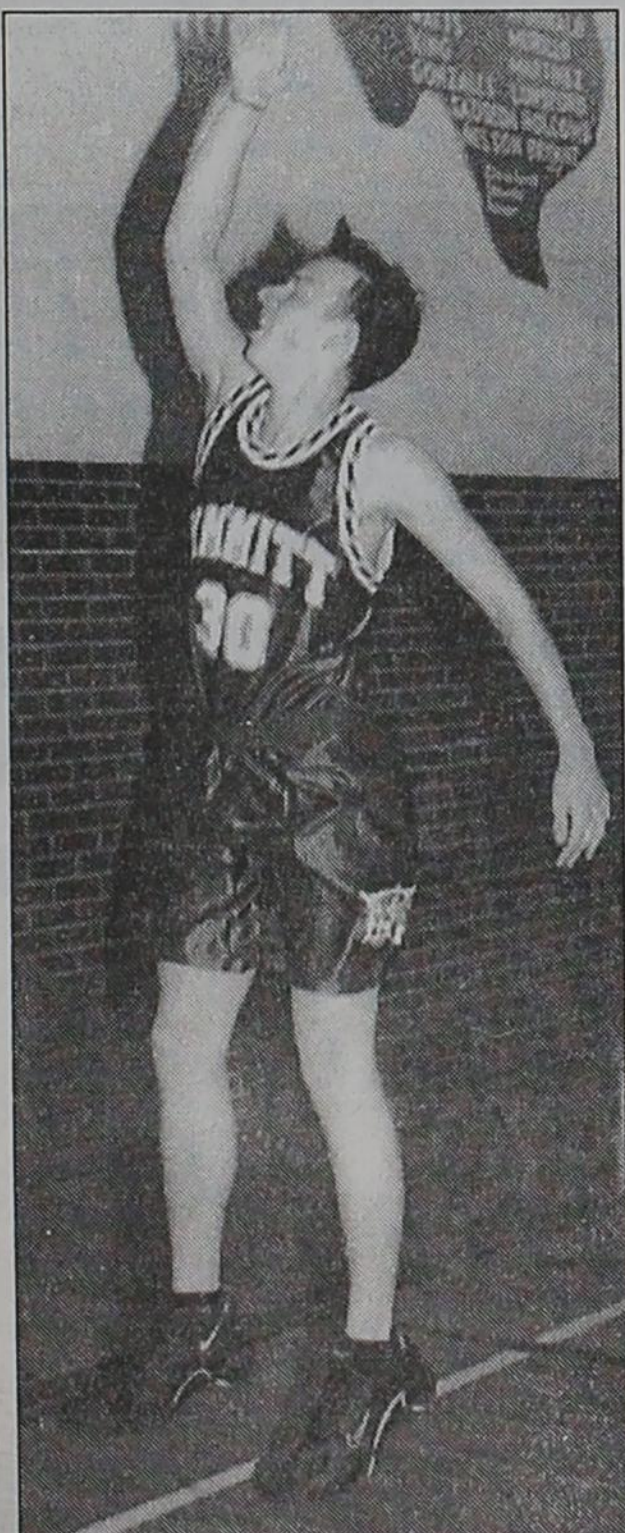
63, Plainview 53  
 56 Paducah 40  
 70, Hale Center 40  
 75, Tulia 55

#### Big Spring Tournament

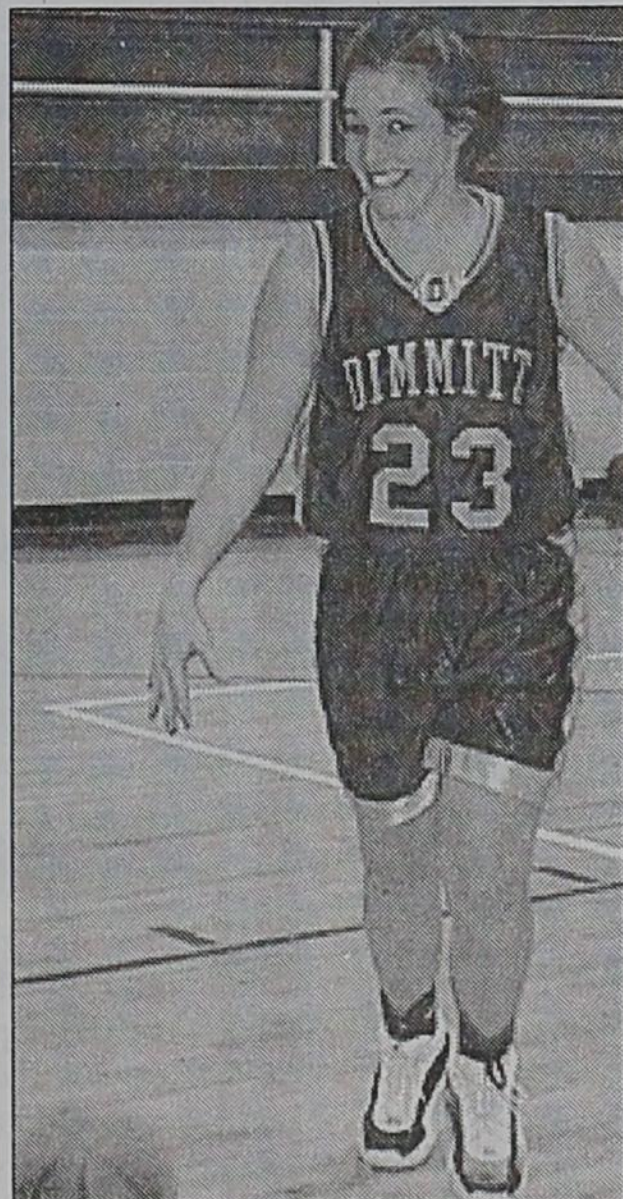
81, Sweetwater 55  
 66, Clyde 48  
 54, Merkel 41  
 70, Abernathy 61  
 71, River Road 39  
 73, Amarillo High 79

#### Caprock Tournament

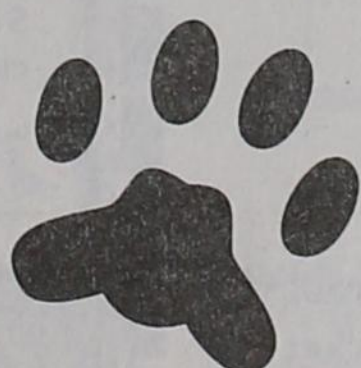
62, Lubbock Estacado 60  
 45, El Paso Montwood 46  
 63, Lubbock Coronado 66  
 73, Tulia 48  
 55, Amarillo 52  
**Season Record: 13-6**



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# Naz splits games with Tascosa

The Nazareth Swiftettes were red hot from the field and free throw line Tuesday night and that, coupled with a solid defensive effort, lifted them to a 78-71 win over Amarillo Tascosa.

The Swifts weren't quite as fortunate in their meeting with the Rebels, though, losing a seven-point lead in the third quarter before falling to the Class AAAAA Rebs, 67-56.

The Swiftettes hit 11 three-pointers and made 23-of-29 free throws as they topped the Lady Rebels in Nazareth.

Nazareth opened a 10-0 lead in the

first quarter, using threes by Wendy Black and Mandy Hoelting and a pair of easy jumpers by Stephanie Thiel and Black.

Tascosa's Catherine Bankhead killed the Swiftette run and the Lady Rebel drought with a bucket at the 4:52 mark, then added a fast-break layup seconds later. She would finish with 22 points, but couldn't make up the lost ground.

By the end of the first quarter, Nazareth controlled the game with a 20-9 lead.

Tascosa cut the lead to eight early in the second period, but Nazareth gradually pulled away for a 15-point advantage with 1:21 left when Thiel

drained a three.

Over the final 37 seconds, the Lady Rebels battled back with a three by Bankhead and another jumper and it was a 37-27 halftime score.

Black, Thiel and Mandy Hoelting opened the third quarter on fire, hitting four three-pointers between them over the first five minutes. With just three minutes gone in the quarter, Nazareth jumped out to a 50-33 lead on one of those threes by Thiel, but the Lady Rebels didn't let up.

Using Bankhead's penetration and dead-eye shooting and the inside play of 6-3 post Sarah Podzemny, they pulled within 11 of Nazareth by the end of the period.

Nazareth's 58-47 lead was cut to six in the fourth quarter, but that was as close as Tascosa would come.

Over the final eight minutes, Black had nine of her game-high 24 points and she made seven-of-eight free throws. During crunch time in the fourth as Tascosa was making its run, the Swiftettes sank 11-of-13 charity tosses.

Four Swiftettes finished in double figures, paced by Black's 24 points. Mandy Hoelting added 18, Thiel finished with 16 and Whitney Hoelting chipped in 12.

The Swifts held a seven-point lead in the third quarter, but that's when the momentum shifted to the Rebels, led by Steve Jackson and Twain Gilbreath.

When Nazareth took that seven-point lead on a three-pointer by Blake Birkenfeld with 3:30 left in the third, Jackson and Gilbreath took control.

The two penetrated the Swift defense for layup after layup after layup in the third quarter and had turned that seven-point deficit into a 50-41 Tascosa lead with 1:06 left in the stanza.

The first half was a see-saw battle, with the lead changing hands several times.

Three-pointers by Kade Wilcox and Eric Schilling and inside buckets by Daryl Pohlmeier and Schilling boosted the Swifts to a 15-11 lead with 1:44 left in the first quarter. The Swifts were clinging to a 17-16 lead at the end of the period.

Tascosa looked to its inside game in the second quarter and was able to hold the Swifts at bay for most of the stanza as the Rebs claimed a 28-23 lead.

Before the halftime buzzer sounded, Nazareth had pulled within three of the Rebs, 30-27.

The Swifts scored the first seven points of the second half on shots by Trey Robb and Wilcox, and a three by Wilcox. Tascosa took an immediate time out.

After Birkenfeld's trey gave the Swifts their biggest lead of the game, Jackson went to work. He drove the length of the court for an uncontested layup, then Gilbreath repeated the effort, taking the ball inside for back-to-back shots. Two straight layups by Jackson put the Rebs up by nine.

Nazareth pulled within four with 6:30 left in the game when Schilling sank a three, but Tascosa held off the rally for the 67-56 win.

Schilling finished with 18 points while Wilcox chipped in 15 for Nazareth and Tyler Ehly had 12.



NAZARETH'S MARSHA BLACK (20) scrambles for a loose ball after Tascosa loses the handle Tuesday night in a matchup at Nazareth. The Swiftettes used a balanced attack enroute to a 78-71 victory at home. Nazareth jumped out to a 10-0 lead early, then held off a late Tascosa rally by hitting free throws down the stretch to preserve the lead and claim the win.

Digital Photo by Anne Acker

## Longhorns nipped by Farwell in district debut

A slow start doomed the Hart Longhorns in their District 3-A opener with Farwell Friday night, but they battled back and started the Steers with a second half rally.

Farwell claimed the game at home with a 54-47 lead, holding the Longhorns at bay in the fourth quarter after relinquishing a big early lead.

Hart dropped to 7-10 overall and 0-1 in district while Farwell improved to 14-5, 1-0.

In the first quarter, Farwell couldn't miss and Hart couldn't score as the Steers jumped out to an early 19-

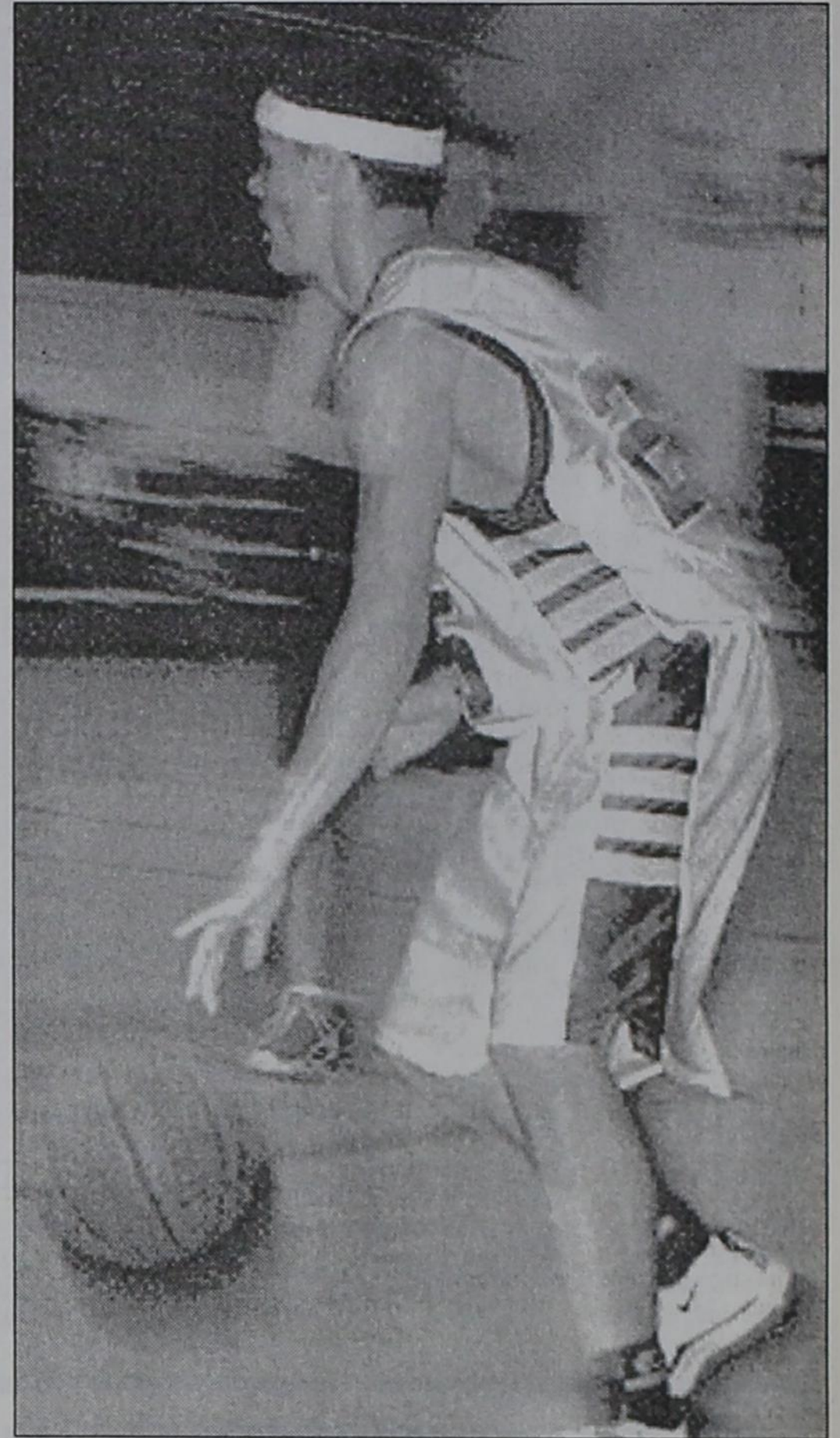
5 lead.

Hart battled back over the next two periods, and pulled within seven of the Steers at halftime (17-24) and within three by the end of the third quarter (37-40).

Farwell was able to ice the game in the fourth, outscoring Hart 14-10 to claim the victory.

Keith Finch and Isaias Garcia finished with nine points each to lead Hart.

Farwell was paced by Gage Gregory, who had 23 points. Derek Goetsch added 11 for the Steers.



DRIVING TO THE BUCKET—Kade Wilcox of Nazareth eyes the Tascosa defense, then drives toward the baseline before pulling up and popping the shot Tuesday night at Nazareth. Wilcox poured in 15 points, but a cold spell in the third period allowed Tascosa to pull ahead and the Rebels held on for the 67-56 win.

Digital Photo by Anne Acker

## Cats crack top 20 in latest TABC poll

The Dimmitt Bobcats earned a spot in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) poll this week, nabbing the No. 11 spot after being absent from the Class AAA pre-season rankings.

The Nazareth Swiftettes continued to claim the top spot in the Class A Division I girls' poll while the Swifts are ranked No. 2 among the Class A boys in Division I.

Here are the latest rankings for Class A in each division, and in Class AAA.

**Class A Boys, Division I:** 1. Goodrich, 2. Nazareth, 3. Laneville, 4. Round Top-Carmine, 5. Fort Elliott, 6. Waelder, 7. Jayton, 8. Leggett, 9. Calvert, 10. D'Hanis, 11. Gary, 12. Huckabay, 13. Chillicothe, 14. Coolidge, 15. Grady.

**Class A Boys, Division II:** 1. Brock, 2. Lorenzo, 3. Tenaha, 4. Lipan, 5. Kennard, 6. Sudan, 7. Paducah, 8. Evadale, 9. LaPoynor, 10. Crosbyton, 11. Farwell, 12. Quinlan Boles, 13. Frost, 14. Crowell, 15. Harper, 16. Rankin.

**Class AAA Boys:** 1. Kountze, 2. Mexia, 3. Hearne, 4. Waco LaVega, 5. Everman, 6. Graham, 7. Redwater, 8.

Wharton, 9. Columbus, 10. Hardin-Jefferson, 11. Dimmitt, 12. Mabank, 13. Crockett, 14. Clarksville, 14. Seminole, 15. Burnet, 16. Bridge City, 17. Dallas Pinkston, 18. Pittsburg, 19. Glen Rose, 20. Quinlan-Ford, 21. West Oso, 22. Emory Rains, 23. Ballinger, 23. Hempstead, 24. Wimberley, 25. Hamshire-Fannett, 25. Buna.

**Class A Girls, Division I:** 1. Nazareth, 2. Brookesmith, 3. Throckmorton, 4. Huckabay, 5. Strawn, 6. Guthrie, 7. Saltillo, 8. Zephyr, 9. Rochelle, 10. Whitharral, 11. Dodd City, 12. Jonesboro, 13. Walnut Springs, 14. Jayton, 15. Fort Elliott.

**Class A Girls, Division II:** 1. Brock, 2. Moulton, 3. Windthorst, 4. Merit Bland, 5. Kennard, 6. Sudan, 7. LaPoynor, 8. Wortham, 9. Quinlan Boles, 10. Ivanhoe Sam Rayburn, 11. Smyer, 12. Roby, 13. Evadale, 14. Stratford, 14. Gruver, 15. Menard, 15. Lovelady, 15. Martin's Mill, 15. Era.

**Class AAA Girls:** 1. Barbers Hill, 2. Winstonsboro, 3. Perryton, 4. Shallowater, 5. Luling, 6. Crandall, 7. Groesbeck, 8. Abilene Wylie, 9. Liberty-Eylau, 10. Quinlan-Ford, 11. Slaton, 11. Seminole, 12. Hearne, 13. Waco LaVega, 14. Whitney, 15. West Oso, 16. Llano, 17. Troy, 18. Whitesboro, 19. Bowie, 20. Jefferson.

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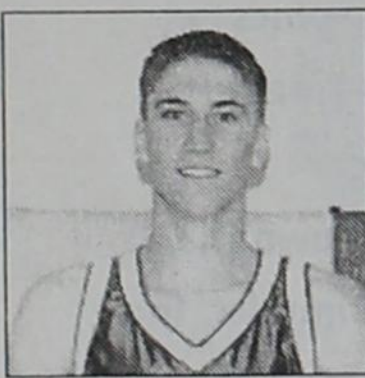
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**FRIDAY: Swiftettes & Swifts vs. Lockney, Here**  
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**TUESDAY: Swiftettes & Swifts vs. Vega, There**

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# ABI Agriculture, Business & Industry



## 242<sup>nd</sup> District court explains use of new jury questionnaires

By JUDGE ED SELF  
242<sup>nd</sup> District Court

(This article only applies to jury service in the 242<sup>nd</sup> District Court. There may be other procedures for other courts.)

There is some good news and some not so good news regarding jury service this year.

First, there is a new jury summons and questionnaire required to be used by all counties in Texas. The good news is that the new questionnaire has fewer questions. It should be easier and quicker to fill out.

Questionnaires are very important in order to save time during "voir dire." Voir dire is when the lawyers question jurors about their experiences and feelings about the type of case on trial. When the lawyers have copies of the completed questionnaires before the trial begins, they need not take up the time of the panel getting the information set out in the questionnaires. Our jury surveys show that jurors dislike the time spent during voir dire. Thus, if all jurors will complete the questionnaire, the time needed for voir dire can be reduced.

Next, the new summons instructs jurors to bring the completed questionnaire with them when they report for service, the practice followed in most larger counties with a jury pool

system. However, because of the diverse times courts in Castro County conduct jury trials and lack of personnel, it is impracticable to use a pool system in Castro County.

Accordingly, until this year, the practice has been for jurors to mail their completed questionnaires to the clerk before they report for service. That practice allowed the clerk time to make copies of the questionnaires and distribute the copies to the lawyers before the trial began. The lawyers then had time to review the questionnaires before trial, thereby shortening the time for voir dire. I'm sure many jurors remember having to sit and listen while jurors who did not return their questionnaire were asked the basic questions.

Another bit of good news is that even under the new law, our local practice can continue with some minor changes. Jurors can still voluntarily mail or take their completed questionnaires to the clerk before the date to report. That is, even though the summons states that jurors are to bring the questionnaire with them when they come to court, jurors will be encouraged to complete the questionnaire and mail or take it back to the clerk before reporting.

Because of the change in procedures, the summons will now state that jurors are to report at 8:30 a.m.

on the first day of jury service. However, jurors who have returned their completed questionnaire before the day for reporting, will not be required to report until 9 a.m. The 30 minutes between the two times will be used to collect, copy and distribute the questionnaires that have not been turned in previously. Again, the purpose is to save time during voir dire to reduce inconvenience to as many jurors as possible.

With one exception, the qualifications for and exemptions from jury service have not changed. They are listed on the summons. The one exception (Exemption No. 7) does not apply to Castro County and should be ignored.

However, a disqualification or exemption must be claimed before the time to report. A prospective juror can claim a disqualification or exemption only by (1) circling the disqualification or exemption on the summons, signing the summons, and returning it to the clerk before the time to report, or (2) by appearing in court at the proper time and bringing the disqualification or exemption to the attention of the court.

If the prospective juror does not follow one of those methods and does not appear at the proper time for service, a fine may be assessed.

In summary, a person who re-

ceives a summons to appear for jury service should follow six simple steps:

1. Carefully make note of the time, date and place to report. (Write it down!)
2. Complete and sign the questionnaire, answering all questions.
3. If you have an exemption or disqualification that you wish to claim, circle the reason, then date and sign in the space provided.
4. Mail or take the completed questionnaire to the clerk, making sure you have written down the time, date and place to report.
5. Call the jury telephone line the night before reporting for an updated recorded message.
6. Report for jury service at the proper time, date and place. (8:30 a.m. if you have not returned the questionnaire, and 9 a.m. if you have.)

Prospective jurors are chosen at random by a computer program from voter registration, driver license, and personal ID card lists. Because the program is entirely random, some persons are called often and some not at all. The most frequent problem we encounter is that addresses are not current and the summons goes to an old address. To help eliminate that

problem, jurors should check their voter registration cards, driver's licenses and/or ID cards to make sure the correct address is listed. Also, if a juror moves, it is in their interest to turn in a mail forwarding notice at the post office.

Prospective jurors may contact the court if there are questions regarding jury service.

### Farm Service Agency notes

By TRISH ELLIOTT  
FSA County Executive Director

The Castro County Farm Service Agency (FSA) committee election for LAA-3 was tabulated on Dec. 11 and Weldon Davis was re-elected for a three-year term.

We would like to congratulate Davis and we thank him for his dedication and concern for the farmers of Castro County.

Others elected were Charles Axtell, first alternate; Lance Loudder, second alternate; and H.M. Boozer, third alternate.

#### Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program

The application for Year 2 of the Lamb meat adjustment assistance program started on Aug. 1, 2000, and will continue through July 31.

This program is designed to provide direct cash payments to sheep and lamb producers based on quality incentives for both slaughter and feeder lambs. These lambs must meet the AMS slaughter and feed lamb certification guidelines.

#### 2000 Crop Year Disaster Program

Funds will be made available to producers who have been affected by crop disaster.

The basic program criteria is the same as the 1999 Crop Disaster Program which covers a loss of crop production.

The sign-up period will start next Thursday, Jan. 18, but our training won't be held until the week of Jan. 22.

If you think you will be eligible for this program, please call the FSA office at 647-2153 to schedule an appointment for signing up.

There will be a disaster payment for 2000 quality losses, but this program is still being developed. Sign-up will be held at a later date.

#### Livestock Assistance Program

Castro County FSA has applied for the 2000 Livestock Assistance Program (LAP) and hope to be declared eligible for this program.

LAP provides assistance for native pasture and dryland haygrazer losses.

If Castro County is approved for the program, sign-up will begin on Jan. 18.

#### 2000 Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments

The final date to request a loan or loan deficiency payment on wheat, barley or oats is March 31.

The final date to request for a loan or loan deficiency payment for corn, sorghum, sunflowers, soybeans or cotton is May 31.

#### Farm Changes

Producers should report any changes in their farming operations to the FSA office.

This includes purchasing of land, selling of land, address changes, changes in operator, etc.

Please keep in mind that reconstitutions cannot be completed on farms after the PFC payments are issued. Please report changes timely so we can keep our records updated.

#### CRP grazing

Livestock grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres in Castro County has been extended through Feb. 28. All livestock must be removed from CRP land by March 1.

Producers are asked to stop by the FSA office and certify the actual acres on which they grazed livestock and the number of head that were grazed when grazing is completed.

#### Foreign Investors

Foreign investors who have bought or sold agricultural land must report any transaction to the FSA office within 90 days of the transaction. Failure to report during this time could result in a penalty of up to 25% of the fair market value of the interest held in the agricultural land.

#### Loan Information

The USDA-FSA makes and guarantees loans and provides credit

counseling and supervision to farmers and ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

FSA lends money and provides credit counseling and supervision to eligible applicants who operate family-sized farms.

FSA will work with you to analyze your situation, provide technical assistance, and tailor loans to meet your needs.

Under the Guaranteed Loan Program, FSA guarantees loans made by conventional agriculture lenders for up to 90% of any loss and in some cases the guarantee could be up to 95%.

Farmers interested in the Guaranteed Loan Program apply directly with a conventional lender. For those unable to qualify for a guaranteed loan, FSA offers direct loans.

FSA loan applications are often beginning farmers who do not qualify for conventional loans because of insufficient net worth, or established farmers who have suffered financial setbacks from natural disasters or economic downturns. FSA loans are tailored to producer's needs and may be used to buy farmland and finance agricultural production.

FSA also reserves direct and guaranteed loan funds each year to help socially disadvantaged applicants buy and operate family-size farms and ranches.

To find out how our loan programs can work for you, call Ed Luebken at 647-2153, Extension 110.

#### Breaking Out New Land

Before you break out any new land, you need to notify the local Natural Resource Conservation Service office. Serious penalties could apply if highly erodible land is put into agricultural production.

### Texas 4-H will accept scholarship applications now

Senior 4-H'ers have until Feb. 16 to apply for the Texas 4-H Foundation scholarship and applications can be picked up at the Extension office in Dimmitt.

The Extension office also has applications for the Golden Spread Electric Cooperative scholarship.

### KC benefit steak dinner set Jan. 21

The Nazareth Knights of Columbus will hold a benefit steak dinner Jan. 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Nazareth Community Hall.

Sponsored by the KC's and the Nazareth Christian Mothers, the meal will benefit the Brad Klein medical expense fund.

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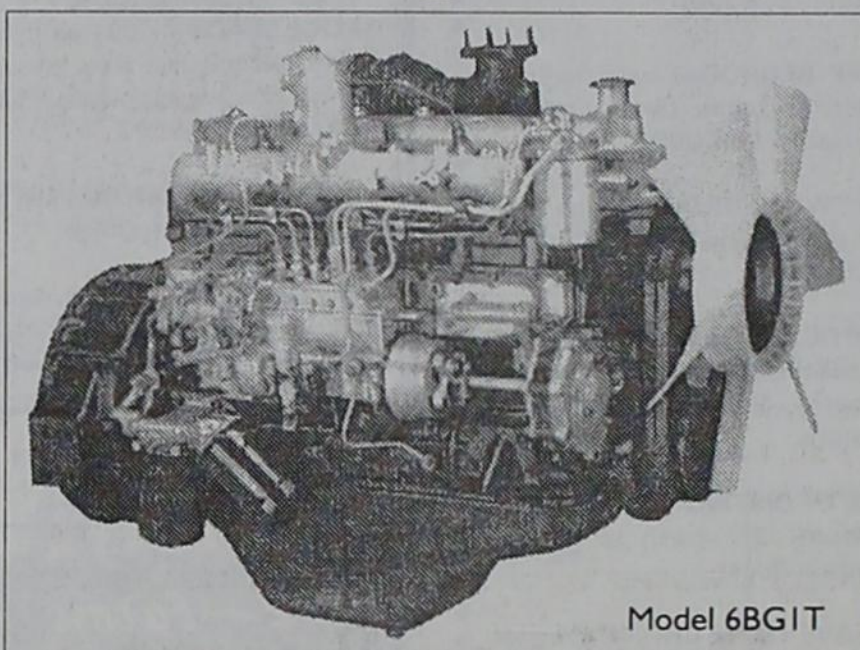
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\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) Interest cannot remain on deposit, periodic payout of interest is required. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Names of current insurers are available on request. As of 1/9/01.

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# Police Calls

An incident of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon was reported to sheriff's deputies on Saturday at about 11:25 a.m. in the southwest area of the county. A woman reported that an 18-year-old man assaulted her, using bodily force.

Jan. 2 at 6:21 p.m., police arrested an adult and a juvenile in the 400 block of East Jones in Dimmitt. They were charged with public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 4 at 6:10 p.m. a 23-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed for possession of marijuana over two ounces, driving with license suspended or revoked, failure to maintain financial responsibility, display of a suspended driver license, and violation of a driver license restriction.

Saturday evening, Joe Franco, manager of the Azteca Complex, told police that someone had broken four glass windows, nine window screens,

six frames for windows and screens, and one screen door glass at the complex. He estimated the damages at \$400.

An employee of the Fast Stop convenience store told police last Thursday afternoon that someone drove off without paying for \$5-worth of gas.

Those arrested in incidents involving alcohol during the past week:

—Saturday at 10:50 p.m., a 40-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed for DWI; at 11:40 p.m., a suspect was arrested for consuming alcohol while being under age; and at 11:56 p.m., an 18-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed for driving under the influence, first offense.

—Sunday at 1:49 a.m. a Clovis, N.M., man, 32, was jailed for public intoxication.

Jailed on warrants during the past week:

—On Jan. 3, a Friona man, 23, was jailed on three warrants for theft by check, one warrant for issuance of a bad check, one warrant for resisting arrest (bond surrender), and one for

## Game night set Friday at Senior Center

The Dimmitt Senior Citizens Center will host a game night on Friday, starting at 6 p.m.

All members of the center are encouraged to attend, and those interested in joining the Senior Citizens also are invited.

Membership is open to all who are age 55 or older, and the membership fee is only \$15 per year.

For more information, call the center at 647-2654, or Rayphard Smithson at 647-4519 or Joyce Davis at 647-5362.

theft of service.

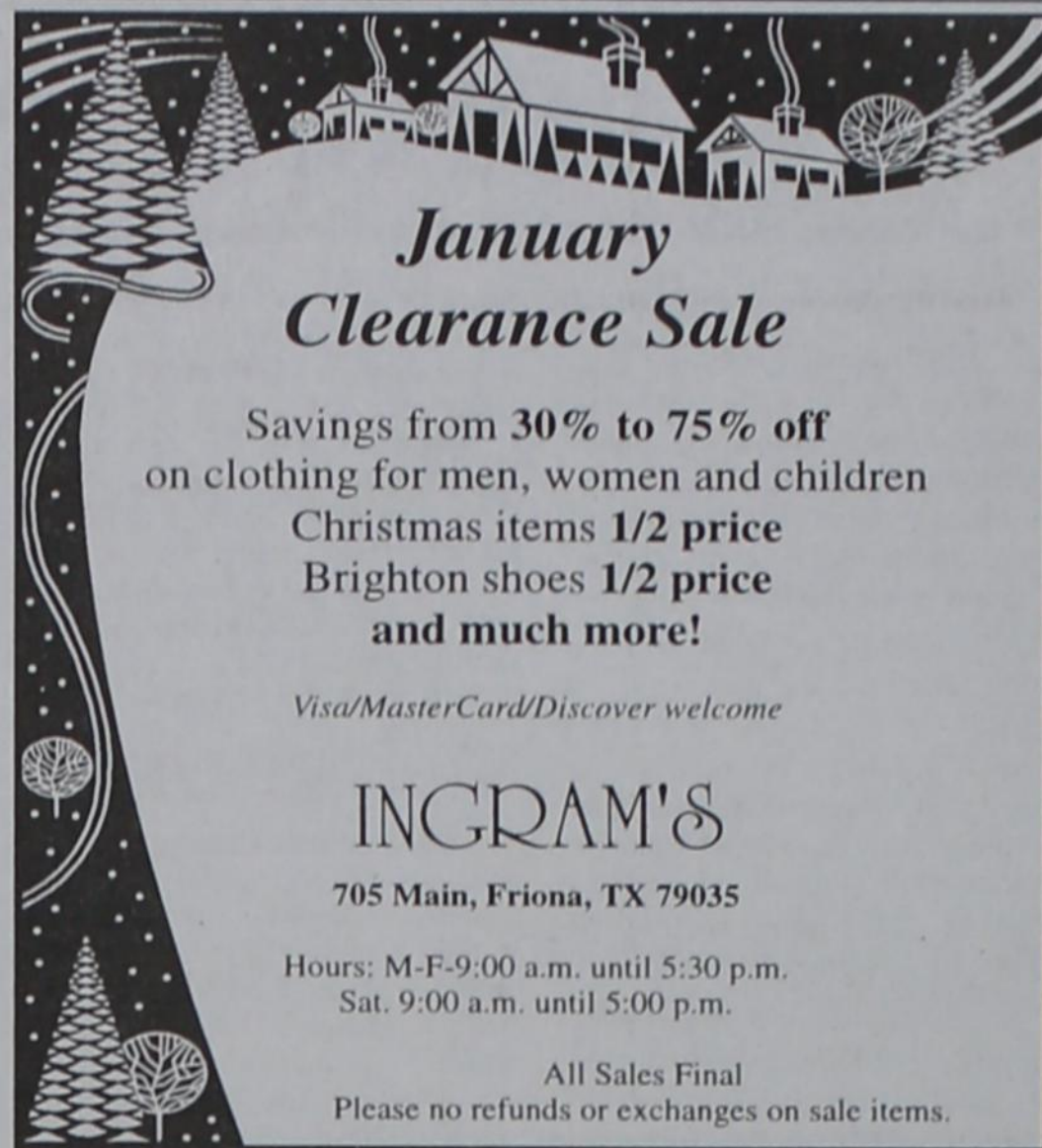
Last Thursday, a Dimmitt man, 24, was jailed on warrants for motion to revoke probation. His probation was on charges of burglary of a building and delivery of marijuana to a minor.

—Sunday, a 28-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed on a warrant for motion to revoke, with probation stemming from charges of display of a fictitious inspection sticker.

### Jail Count

There were nine inmates in the county jail as of Tuesday morning.

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## What's Cooking

In the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Schools

Here are the breakfast and lunch menus for the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth schools for Jan. 11-19.

### DIMMITT Breakfast to go

THURSDAY: Corn Pops cereal, peaches and milk.

FRIDAY: Breakfast burrito, grape juice and milk.

MONDAY: Honey bun, orange juice and milk.

TUESDAY: Apple Jacks cereal, pears and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Sausage and biscuit, apple juice and milk.

THURSDAY: Fresh donuts, fresh fruit snack and milk.

### Preschool-First Grade Lunch

THURSDAY: Chicken strips, French fries, tossed salad, hot rolls and milk.

FRIDAY: Cheeseburger on a bun, tater tots, hamburger salad and milk.

MONDAY: Grilled cheese sandwich with a bowl of soup, Mexicali corn, applesauce and milk.

TUESDAY: Fish nuggets, Mexipinto beans, watermelon and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Corn dogs, hash brown potatoes, tossed salad and milk.

THURSDAY: Nachos with cheese, mixed vegetables, peaches, jalapeno peppers and milk.

FRIDAY: Red Baron Pepperoni Pizza, potato wedges, apple slices and milk.

### Second-12th Grade Lunch

THURSDAY: Choice of chicken strips, chicken pot pie or green enchilada casserole; French fries, baked sweet potato and apple or refried beans; tossed salad, pineapple sunset salad or cucumber and tomato salad; hot rolls, Arroz Mexicano or tortilla chips; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

FRIDAY: Choice of cheeseburger on a bun, cheese enchilada with sauce or chicken stir fry; tater tots, peaches or mixed vegetables; tossed salad, hamburger salad or pears; assorted muffins, hot cheese rolls or Spanish rice; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

MONDAY: Choice of grilled cheese with a bowl of soup, bean chaluapas or beef taco; Mexicali corn, southern collard greens or seasoned blackeyed peas; tossed salad, taco condiment salad or applesauce; Fideo Mexicano, corn tortilla or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

TUESDAY: Choice of fish nuggets, Chili Fritos or beef tamale pie; broccoli with cheese sauce, savory green beans or Mexipinto

beans; tossed salad, coleslaw or pears; garlic bread, hot rolls or Arroz Mexicano; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

WEDNESDAY: Choice of corn dogs, southern fried chicken or Chinese plate; hash brown potatoes, summer squash or refried beans; tossed salad, potato salad or pasta salad; assorted muffins, hot cheese rolls or tortilla chips; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

THURSDAY: Choice of nachos with cheese, salmon patties or barbecued beef on a bun; vegetable medley, potato salad or mixed vegetables; tossed salad, haystack finger salad or peaches; hot wheat rolls, Fideo Mexicano or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

FRIDAY: Choice of Red Baron Pepperoni Pizza, red beans and rice or enchiladas; potato wedges, corn on the cob or refried beans; tossed salad, fresh spinach salad or apple slices; cornbread, tortilla chips or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

### HART Breakfast

THURSDAY: Breakfast burrito with salsa, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.

FRIDAY: Biscuits, ham, variety of cereal, graham crackers, raisins and milk.

MONDAY: Sausage, biscuits, variety of cereal, graham crackers, assorted fruit juice and milk.

TUESDAY: Pancakes with syrup, sausage, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers, variety of cereal and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Breakfast sausage pizza, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.

THURSDAY: Cinnamon rolls, assorted fruit juice, variety of cereal, graham crackers and milk.

FRIDAY: Biscuits, ham, variety of cereal, graham crackers, raisins and milk.

### Lunch

THURSDAY: Choice of hamburger basket, chef's salad or barbecued rib sandwich with chips; pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, pickles, peaches, gelatin dessert, sweetened applesauce, ginger cookies, ice cream, raisins and milk, punch or tea.

FRIDAY: Choice of chef's salad, chicken sandwich with chips or burrito; sliced cheese, dill pickles, corn on the cob, peaches, salad, brownie, and milk, punch or tea.

MONDAY: Choice of chicken sandwich with chips, burrito or nachos with ground beef; dill pickles, pinto beans, salad, gelatin dessert, pears, jalapeno peppers and milk, punch or tea.

TUESDAY: Choice of burrito, chicken

sandwich with chips or chicken fajitas; salad, refried beans or gelatin dessert; ice cream, royal brownies, pineapple, and milk, punch or tea.

WEDNESDAY: Choice of chicken sandwich with chips, burrito or steak fingers; gravy, mashed potatoes, sliced pickles, broccoli with cheese, cherry cobbler, gelatin dessert, salad, and milk, punch or tea.

THURSDAY: Choice of hamburger with potato chips, chicken sandwich with chips or chicken enchilada casserole; tortilla chips, salad, corn, carrot sticks, gelatin dessert, ginger cookies and milk, punch or tea.

FRIDAY: Choice of hamburger and potato chips, chicken sandwich with chips or barbecued rib sandwich with chips; pinto beans, sliced pickles, lettuce, tomato, pickles, peaches, gelatin dessert, ice cream and milk, punch or tea.

### NAZARETH Breakfast

THURSDAY: Breakfast pockets, cereal, orange juice and milk.

FRIDAY: Canadian bacon on a roll, cereal, orange juice and milk.

MONDAY: Cinnamon roll, cereal, orange juice and milk.

TUESDAY: French toast and sausage, cereal, orange juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Sausage and roll, cereal, orange juice and milk.

THURSDAY: Breakfast pockets, cereal, orange juice and milk.

FRIDAY: Pancake and sausage on a stick, cereal, orange juice and milk.

### Lunch

THURSDAY: \* Fish and hushpuppies or steak fingers, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, apple, orange cake and milk or juice.

FRIDAY: \* Chicken spaghetti and roll or hamburger and French fries, tossed salad, corn, pears, pudding and milk or juice.

MONDAY: \* Enchilada or pizza, tossed salad, Spanish rice, applesauce, spice cake and milk or juice.

TUESDAY: \* Chili or baked potato, peanut butter, crackers, carrot and celery sticks, peaches, cinnamon rolls, and milk or juice.

WEDNESDAY: \* Chicken fried steak and roll or pizza, tossed salad, potatoes and gravy, fruit cocktail, pudding and milk or juice.

THURSDAY: \* Beef and bean chaluapa, chef's salad, lettuce, green beans, pears, brownies and milk or juice.

FRIDAY: \* Hamburger or chicken sandwich, French fries, lettuce, beans, pineapple, cookies and milk or juice.

\* Items designated with an asterisk (\*) will be served to elementary school students.

# It's better if you call ahead

When you need to see a physician, if you call ahead and make an appointment at the Medical Center of Dimmitt, you will be given priority over patients who "walk in" without appointments.

When calling for an appointment, you will be offered the next available time slot for your physician.

If you come into the Medical Center without an appointment, you may still see any physician who happens to be available.

If you walk in and ask to see a specific physician, you may make an appointment at the clinic office to see him or her at the next available time.

This policy applies if your clinic visit is not an emergency. Of course, if you are in an emergency situation, service will be provided to you immediately.

The Medical Center of Dimmitt is open from 9 to 12 and 1 to 5 Mondays through Fridays, and from 9 to 12 Saturdays. (Closed from 12 to 1 p.m. daily.)

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# Obituaries

## Mary Derryberry

Funeral services for Mary Derryberry, 69, of Dimmitt, were held Friday morning in Fry-Gibbs Funeral Home Chapel in Paris, Texas, with Rev. Ernest McCool, pastor of Free Gospel Church of Paris, officiating.

Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery of Paris.

Mrs. Derryberry died Jan. 1 at 7 p.m. in Covenant Medical Center of Lubbock.

She was born April 28, 1931, in Lamar County. A graduate of Delmar High School, she married Billy M. Derryberry Sr. on Oct. 17, 1949 in Paris. He preceded her in death in 1984. They moved to Dimmitt in 1974 from Grand Prairie.

She is survived by a son, Billy Derryberry of Lubbock; two daughters, Linda Tucker of Muleshoe and Sharon Womack of Amarillo; two brothers, A.J. McCool of Terre Haute, Ind., and J.S. "Happy" McCool of San Leandro, Calif.; a sister, Dessie McCool of Paris; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Leukemia Foundation or the American Heart Association.

## H.W. Edwards

Funeral services for H.W. "Sam" Edwards, 79, of Lubbock, father of Jack Edwards of Dimmitt, were held Monday morning in the First United Methodist Church at Post with the Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor, officiating, assisted by the Rev. Marvin Gregory of First United Methodist Church in Tahoka. Burial with military honors followed in Terrace Cemetery under the direction of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Mr. Edwards died Friday in Lubbock.

He was born in Grassland and graduated from Tahoka High School. He married Maxine Lindley in 1946 at O'Donnell. She died in 1993. He married Jeanette Bell in 1999 at Roswell, N.M.

He attended Howard Payne College. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the US Navy. He later attended Metropolitan Business College in Dallas.

He moved to Tahoka and was a farmer in the Grassland area. After retiring, he served as Lynn County Justice of the Peace. He moved to Post in 1998 and served as a temporary justice of the peace for Garza County.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Post and the John Miller Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6797.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanette; two sons, Jack Edwards of Dimmitt and Jody Edwards of Lubbock; a daughter, Jill Baker of Canadian; two sisters, Laura Hoover of Tennessee and Louise Sewell of Houma, La.; and six grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Garza County Trail Blazers Building Fund, Post, Texas 79356.

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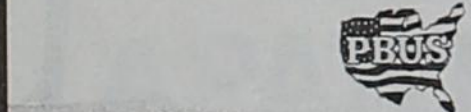
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## Roy J. Jackson

Funeral services for Roy J. Jackson, 73, of Spartanburg, S.C., the brother of Lucille Dollar of Dimmitt, were held Dec. 26 at Cudd Memorial Baptist Church in Spartanburg, with Rev. Danny Garrett and Rev. Gideon M. Long Jr. officiating.

Burial was in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens of Spartanburg, with arrangements by Floyd's North Church St. Chapel of Spartanburg.

Mr. Jackson died Dec. 23 at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.

A native of Polk County, N.C., he was the son of the late Clarence Lonzo and Solena Giles Jackson. He married Beatrice Graves. He retired from Arrow Automotive. A member of Cudd Memorial Baptist Church, he was a former deacon, Sunday school teacher and RA leader. He was a US Navy veteran who served in World War II.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Lonnie G. Jackson of Spartanburg; two daughters, June J. Whitmire and Maria J. Jordan, both of Spartanburg; a brother, Troy L. Jackson of Green Creek, N.C.; two sisters, Mable Willard of Charleston, S.C., and Lucille Dollar of Dimmitt; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, 555 Reidville Road, Spartanburg, S.C. 29306; or to the Cudd Memorial Baptist Church building fund, 101 Boiling Springs Road, Spartanburg, S.C. 29303.

## Lester Richburg

Funeral services for Lester Richburg, 95, of Hart, were held Tuesday afternoon at the First Baptist Church of Hart with Rev. Aaron Lee Reed, pastor, and Rev. Tom Long, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Hart, officiating.

Burial followed in Hart Cemetery under the direction of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home.

Mr. Richburg died Jan. 6 at 6:45 a.m. in Runningwater Draw Care Center in Olton.

He was born Feb. 13, 1905, in Kaufman County. He married Ora Mearse on April 4, 1936. She preceded him in death in 1976. They moved to Hart in 1961 from Earth. He was a farmer at Earth and Kress, and worked for the City of Hart for 15 years. Mr. Richburg was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Hart.

He also was preceded in death by a grandson, Dennis Smith.

He is survived by a son, Gene Richburg of Waxahachie; a daughter, Pat Smith of Hart; four sisters, Blanche Pendergrass of Tempe City, Calif., Oma Herm of Ackery, Nola Taylor of Loraine, and Marie Adrian of Petersburg; four grandchildren, Shelley Schulte of Nazareth, Zachary Smith of Hart, and Todd Richburg and Tana Buck, both of Lubbock; three step-grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; eight step-great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

## PPW to meet on Jan. 20

The Panhandle Professional Writers will hold their bimonthly meeting Jan. 20 starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Amarillo Senior Citizens Center at 1217 S. Tyler in Amarillo.

There will be a luncheon served at a cost of \$7 per person. Reservations are required for the meal. Reservations may be made by calling Ginger Porter at 371-8114 or e-mailing her at [signtag@netzero.net](mailto:signtag@netzero.net) by Jan. 17.

The PPW meeting will start with registration at 9:30 a.m., followed by a 10 a.m. session led by Kimberly Willis Holt, who will speak on "The Joy of Rewriting."

After the luncheon, a brief business meeting will be held for members of the PPW. Then at 1 p.m., Karen D. Smith and Kim Campbell of Author Helper will speak on "First

Impressions do Make a Difference with Contest Judges and Publishing Editors."

The focus of the program will be helping writers prepare and present their manuscripts for submission to editors or to enter in contests, in particular the PPW's annual writers contest, which has a March 15 entry deadline.

Holt is the winner of the 1999 National Book Award for Young Peoples Literature for her book *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*. Smith writes features and edits for *The Amarillo Globe-News*, and Campbell teaches screenplay writing at Amarillo College.

For more information, call Nan Rinella at 359-6181.

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# County sets holidays, approves phone lines

The Castro County Commissioners gave approval Friday for each courthouse office to have its own phone line, and set the calendar of holidays for 2001.

Justice of the Peace Tana Young requested that she and Constable James Dobbs be assigned separate phone lines when the new phone system is installed.

"There's not any question that each one needs to be on their own phone line," said Pct. 1 Commissioner Newlon Rowland.

The holidays set for the coming year will include Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day; Feb. 19, President's Day; April 13, Good Friday; May 28, Memorial Day; July 4, Independence Day; Sept. 3, Labor Day; Nov. 9, Veterans Day; Nov. 22-23, Thanksgiving Day; Dec. 24-25, Christmas; and Dec. 31-Jan. 1, 2002, New Year's.

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, falls on a Sunday, so the commissioners voted to observe it on Nov. 9, rather than on Nov. 12, which falls on a Monday and would have interfered with the court's meeting date.

In other business, the commissioners approved appointment of Martha Ibarra and Karen Smith to the Castro County Child Protective Board.

Approval also was given for the renewal of an interagency agreement between the county and the Panhandle Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force.

Action was tabled on removal of

part of the fence around the extension office parking area until commissioners could look at the structure and consider what would be best.

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