



The Castro County News

81st year—No. 42

Dimmitt, Texas

Thursday, January 12, 2006

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75¢

County-wide burn-ban approved by Commissioners

Castro County Commissioners on Friday extended a temporary burn ban for the county that had been initiated on Dec. 31 by County Judge Bill Sava. The ban that Sava signed was good for only seven days, but it gave the Commissioners time to meet and agree that the ban needed to continue.

Violation of the ban is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500. Already, outdoor burning inside the city limits of Dimmitt is prohibited. Now, county and city personnel are on the outlook for anyone burning outside because of the extreme drought conditions and high winds that have been prevalent for the past few weeks.

As one commissioner pointed out, the burn ban includes outdoor barbecues. The ban approved by commissioners
See BAN, Page 12

FSA supports establishing fire-breaks on CRP

In response to the continued threat of grass fires statewide, Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds landowners of a provision in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) procedure allowing for the establishment of firebreaks as a preventive measure.

“Although disking CRP ground is not a typically authorized practice, the ben-

efit outweighs the cost in terms of fire protection of life and property,” said Rosie Kleman, County Executive Director for the Castro County FSA. Individuals who are interested in disking perimeter firebreaks on ground enrolled in CRP must first visit the USDA Service Center and work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to

modify CRP contracts to include firebreaks. NRCS will determine acceptable firebreak widths on a site-specific basis.

With nearly four million acres of CRP in the state, many of those acres bordering communities and residences, Texas FSA supports efforts to reduce combustible vegetation that may cause a fire to spread.

There is no cost-share for establishing firebreaks and rental payment penalties will not be assessed.

Kleman added, “Although fuel prices are high, a little fuel and some sweat equity may prove to be cheap insurance in the long run.”

For more information contact the Castro County FSA or NRCS at 806-647-2153.

A big blow



You don't have to tell people who live in the Panhandle that the winds blow hard and often out here. But if proof were needed, Rodney Hunter, manager at DeBruce Gain in Dimmitt, has it. Above, he looks

over one of the company's corn dryers, which was blown over by gusts of wind exceeding 65 mph on Sunday, Jan. 1. “We were awful lucky it happened on a Sunday,” Hunter said. “There was no one here, so no one got hurt.”

Board tables action on salaries for teachers

By DAVIE BROWDER
Managing Editor

DISD trustees on Monday night tabled an agenda item dealing with a revised Texas State Teacher pay scale until the next board meeting in two weeks.

Right now, DISD pays \$1,000 above the old state-mandated pay. The new pay scale increases pay for teachers by \$1,000, so Dimmitt is paying within that mandate. If the board does nothing, teachers will still be getting above the new pay scale - at varying amounts depending on length of service.

“We're already paying above what the state's new minimum pay scale is,” said superintendent Les Miller. “What the board may look at is the whole pay scale. They may want to stay \$1,000 above the state rate.”

“Basically, what we plan to do is discuss the situation. No state money has been appropriated to pay teachers an increase. And since our scale is already above the new mandate, we aren't pressured to do anything right now.”

Miller, however, said he had some thoughts about pay and getting and keeping teachers.

“Anytime you live in a rural area, you have to do something to attract teachers,” he said. “Right now Dimmitt ISD is well below most school districts in salary. If we don't do something, I don't know how we'll be able to keep or attract new teachers.”

“For instance, Amarillo's pay

See DISD, Page 12

Dimmitt native returns from mission trip to Germany

Odom used local paper to help teach English

By DAVIE ANN BROWDER
Managing Editor

It didn't take Rae Odom long to realize she wasn't in Kansas - make that Texas - anymore. Within hours of arriving in Magdeburg, East German, the capital of Saxon-Anhalt, she said she felt like she'd stepped into another time and era. Her trip was through the “Go Now Missions” in Arlington, for the Internal Baptist Missions.

Odom, a 2002 graduate of DHS and a 2005 graduate of Wayland Baptist University, said she had studied German and prepared for the trip.

“But nothing could really have prepared me for it,” she said. “I had to raise my own money, through my church here, First Baptist Church, and donations. We sent the money to Arlington and they got it to me in Euros in Germany.”

The best part of her trip, she said, was the beautiful scenery. “The views are something we can't fathom,” she said. “It's so beautiful - castles, scenery, historical places.”

“But in other ways, it's also different from here. I knew one person who had a clothes dryer. We had to wash our clothes and then hang them out to dry. With the humidity so high there, it sometimes took days.”

While she worked in a café that was part of a church/movie theater complex, Odom said she got to meet a lot of different kinds of people. Most people in East Germany, she said, were not naturally friendly, like we are in Texas.

However, the two girls she roomed with were great. “I loved them,” she said. “They took very good care of me. One was a medical student and the other was a

See ODOM, Page 12



Rae Odom

Are you dissatisfied with the poor reception/service relative to your television cable?

The Dimmitt City Council will hold a public meeting for those residents of Dimmitt who are frustrated with the service Cebridge Connections is providing (or not providing) relative to cable service. A representative from Cebridge will be in attendance.

Mark your calendar for Monday, January 16, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. This will be your opportunity to have your complaints heard. Please make plans to attend.

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NOMINATIONS DUE
Nominations for Citizen of the Year and Citizen Through the Year may be submitted to the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce. Forms may be obtained at the office. The deadline for entries is 5 p.m., Jan. 18. Awards will be announced at the Chamber Banquet, set for Feb. 4. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 647-2524.

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DHS band poised to win Sweepstakes

By JAMES HALEY
DISD Band Director

For the Dimmitt ISD bands, fall semester 2005 was one for the record books. In the fall, the Dimmitt High School Band received a "Superior" rating at the UIL Region Marching Contest and advanced to the area competition. Now the high-school band is poised to win its first UIL Sweepstakes Award in 20 years.

In addition, the bands and our students already have received several honors and accolades for their performances. We are very proud of our students' achievements.

The Dimmitt High School Band accomplished much during the fall semester.

The Bobcat Marching Band finished first runner-up at the Tumbleweed Marching Contest in Denver City, followed by an outstanding show for comments at the Fall Foliage Marching Classic in Canadian. The band next turned in a superior performance at the UIL Region Marching Contest in Amarillo, and was one of only four 2A bands to receive a "1" from all three judges.

The band then qualified for the UIL Area Marching Contest in Plainview with an opportunity to advance to the All-State Marching Contest. The band performed and finished well under adverse circumstances, marking an end to the 2005 marching contest season.

The high-school band also gave an outstanding performance for the students and faculty of Richardson Elementary and Dimmitt Middle School. Next, the band played to a packed house for a Veterans' Day celebration at Dimmitt High School. The fall semester concluded with a winter holiday concert in the high-school auditorium.

Three high-school students earned positions this fall in the TMEA All-Region Bands. Those students were Daniel Jackson, trumpet; Gabriel Mirales, euphonium; and Kathy Amador, flute.

The Dimmitt Middle School and beginning bands also did well during the fall semester. Both bands had their first concert of the year Dec. 15 at the Dimmitt High School auditorium, in which each group performed songs to celebrate the holiday season. In addition, six members of the middle-school band auditioned for the TMEA All-Region Band and placed well on their instruments.

The bands now will begin preparations for the UIL Solo & Ensemble competition this spring, and the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest in April. If the high-school band earns a "Superior" rating at the concert and sight reading contest, the band will receive its first UIL Sweepstakes Award in decades.

The middle-school and high-school bands also will present a winter concert Feb. 9 at the high-school auditorium. There are so many wonderful stories of heart, sacrifice and pride that it would take a book to tell them all. As Director of Bands, I couldn't be more proud of the students for all that they have achieved. For more information on the Dimmitt bands, please visit our Web site at

http://www.dimmittisd.net/dms/clubs/band/index.htm.

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Panhandle Regional Planning Commission is in the process of electing a minority representative to fill a position on its Board of Directors. The meeting is to be held on Monday, January 16, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at Hart City Hall, Hart, Texas. All minority citizens in Briscoe, Castro, Deaf Smith, Parmer and Swisher Counties are invited to attend the meeting. Information regarding this election may be obtained from Rebecca Rusk at PRPC, 806-382-3381

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WEATHER	High Low Prec. Snow	
	Tuesday	70 26
Wednesday	74 29	
Thursday	59 23	
Friday	52 22	
Saturday	69 27	
Sunday	78 35	
Monday	67 30	
	Jan. Rainfall	0.00
	2005 Rainfall	18.83
	2005 Snow	3.92 inches

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

ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "bought ___ in a poke"
- 5 UT's Dobie was expert on TX folk ___
- 6 Metroplex museum: Ripley's Believe ___ Not
- 7 western author Grey
- 8 TXism: "could walk under a turtle wearin' ___"
- 18 TXism: "ram ___" (boss)
- 19 Cowboys never have gone ___ in a season
- 21 Coleman has "Fiesta ___ la Paloma"
- 22 TXism: "got the ___ of it" (learned how)
- 23 Tom Landry had one in coaching
- 24 Galveston's historic Bishop's ___
- 29 TX film: "Bullet ___ Badman"
- 30 TXism: "let the cat out of the bag"
- 31 TXism: "nope"
- 32 TXism: "can't ___ dog new tricks"
- 34 former Galveston state rep. James
- 35 TXism: "beat the ___" (win in court)
- 36 head coach plan
- 37 TXism: "___ rode hard and put up wet"
- 38 features of Texas' Big Thicket

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "poor as ___ - ___ cat"
- 2 how TX Bush's VP spelled a spud
- 3 TXism: "we ___ out our differences"
- 4 this TX Pete is former U.S. Rep.
- 9 Cowboy Larry Allen position
- 10 Houston beat Santa ___ at San Jacinto
- 11 this TX George was Casey on "Mission Impossible" (init.)
- 12 TX Joan Crawford: Lucille ___ Sueur
- 13 TXism: "a lot ___ to shuck" (big chore)
- 14 Ft. Bliss' Melissa ___ was
- 15 TXism: "___ as nails"
- 16 TXism: "___ some gravel" (fell)
- 17 Houston's 1st wife was a ___
- 20 TXism: "could count the ___" (little rain)
- 29 morning mist
- 30 'tween Mon. & Wed.
- 33 TX Freddy Fender's "Before the ___ Teardrop Falls"
- 34 TXism: "lend a hand"
- 35 TX legend Howard ___ Hughes
- 37 TX Roy Orbison hit
- 38 the Permian ___
- 41 he won Davis Cup in Dallas ('65)
- 42 boyfriend
- 45 TXism: "___ your heels" (calm down)
- 48 current style
- 50 TX Sam Bass was killed at ___ Rock

The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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The Castro County News

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DEADLINES

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

George-O'Connor

Kellie Ranea George of Hart and Robert James O'Connor of Abilene were married Saturday, Dec. 17, 2005, at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Amarillo with Perry Hunsaker, associate pastor of the church officiating. The bride is the daughter Barry and Rhonda George of Hart and the granddaughter of James and Peggy Clay of Amistad, N.M., Marsha George of Hart and Jack and Bonnie George, also of Hart. Her great-grandparents are Harley and Wilda Redin of Plainview.

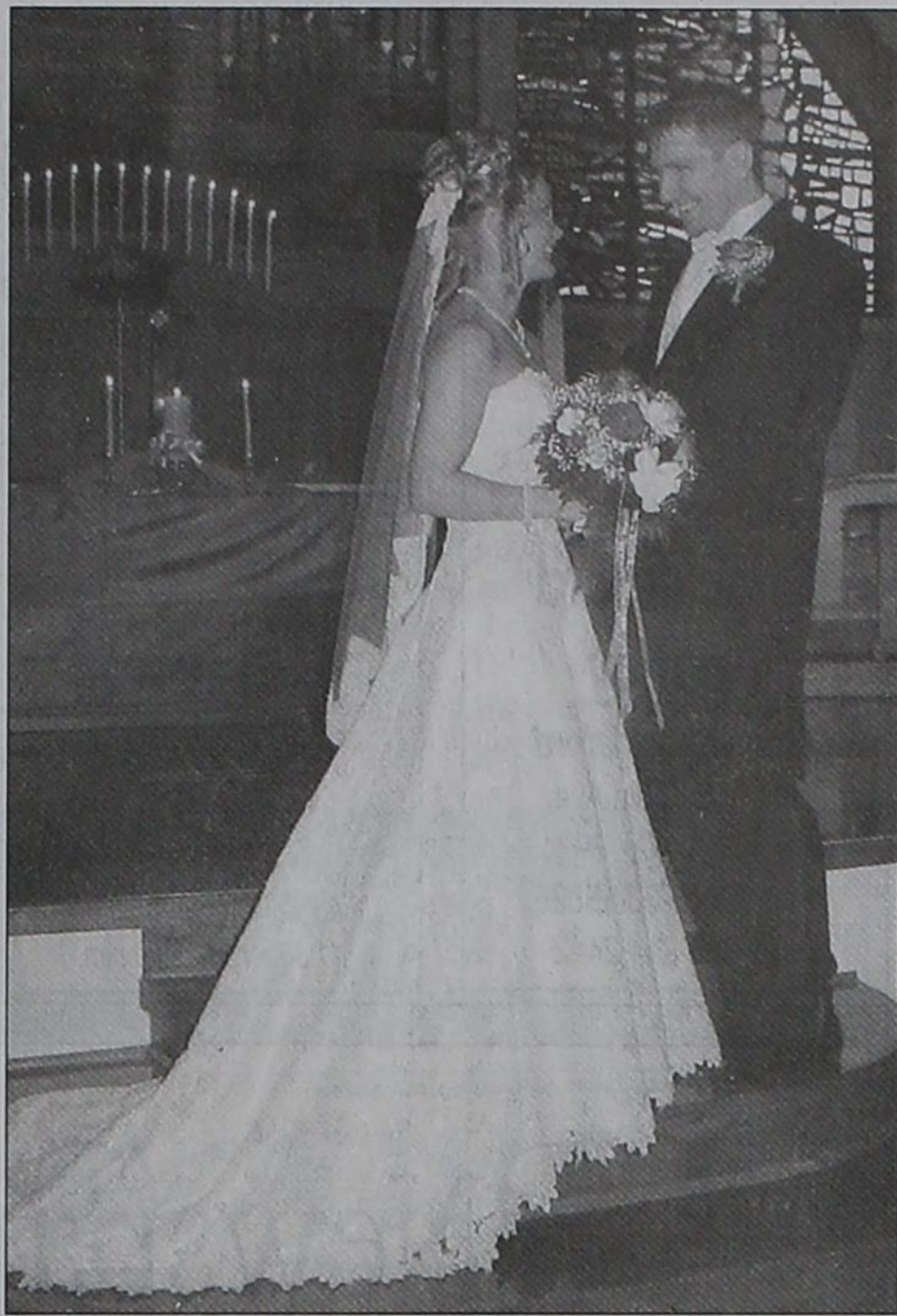
The groom is the son of Tom and Barbara O'Connor of Deer Park, N.Y.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Barry George. She wore a strapless floor-length satin gown covered in all over pearl beaded and sequined lace with a scallop edged lace full train. She wore a pearl necklace of the groom's grandmother and carried a handkerchief her grandmother Peggy Clay had at her wedding. Her veil was made of tulle and edged with pearl beaded and sequined lace hand sewn by her cousin Julia Podzemny. The bouquet was arranged by Jonalyn Jones in a nose gay style with Latin Lady red roses, stock and white gardenias, accented with red berries, baby's breath and satin ribbon. The maid of honor was Millie Longoria of Hart. Bridesmaids were: Lindsay George, cousin of the bride of Wichita Falls; Holly Ward, sister of groom from Abilene; Crystal Pope, cousin of bride from Amistad; Melissa Smith, of Chicago, Ill. Junior bridesmaid was Mackenzie Gerber, cousin of the bride of Hart. The attendants wore the "Colors of Christmas" satin gowns in gold, red, purple, green and blue. They carried vintage Christmas balls of frosted white with a snow flake imbedded on them instead of flowers. They were carried with ribbons to match each attendant's gown. The maid of honor carried one of red. Flower girl was Isabelle Ward, niece of the groom of Abilene. She wore a mid-length satin and tulle dress with lace neckline and elbow length satin gloves. She carried a flower basket of red velvet and satin.

Ring bearer was Jake Gerber, cousin of bride of Hart. Candle lighters were Kendall George, cousin of Wichita Falls and Christopher George, brother of bride of Austin.

Best man was Tom O'Connor, brother of groom of California. Groomsmen were: T.R. George, brother of bride from Madison, Wis.; Christopher George, brother of bride of Austin; Victor Trnka, of Deer Park, N.Y.; Ricky Smith of Chicago. Junior groomsman was Troy Gerber, cousin of bride of Hart. Ushers were Kendall George and grooms-

men.
Music provided by: Eric Clay, cousin of the bride from



Kellie Ranea George & Robert James O'Connor

Clayton, N.M. The reception was held at Corinthian Hall at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Amarillo.

Members of the house party were Nelda Ethridge and Rhonda Aven of Hart; and Tiffany Clay, cousin of the bride from Dalhart.

After a wedding trip to Ocho Rios, Jamaica, the couple will live in Abilene.

She bride is a graduate of Hart High School and attends college at Abilene Christian University.

The groom attended high school in Deer Park, N.Y. and received his masters degree in August from Abilene Christian University. He is currently employed at the Abilene Public Library.

The rehearsal dinner: was a catered meal hosted by the groom's parents, Tom and Barbara O'Connor at the Ashmore Inn & Suites hotel in Amarillo.

Hispanic Voice

with Angie Arguijo, 647-0106

Hola, todos. Hello, everyone. No puedo creer que no este pasando nada en Dimmitt. I can't believe that nothing is going on in Dimmitt. I have not gotten much info from my readers for the column. I hope that changes REAL soon.

Dora Ramirez would like to send out some very special birthday wishes. First of all she'd like to wish her mom, Ramona Ramirez a very Happy Birthday. Ramona will be celebrating her big day (she didn't say which one) on Jan. 13. She wishes her mom a very happy day. Dora would also like to wish her cousin, Gina Gonzalez, a Happy Birthday on Jan 14. She kind of got ahead of herself and also asked me to wish her dad, Jessie Ramirez, a Happy Birthday even though he won't be celebrating his big day until Jan. 30. She's smart, getting in good points with her dad.

Feliz Cumpleaños a Val Caballero from his wife Stella and his children. Val celebrated his birthday last week. Oh, before I forget, I heard Val and Tex-Mex Connection put on a show at the New Year's Eve Dance. They were excited to perform for their hometown fans after a long absence.

Get well wishes to Soila Reyes. She's was feeling a little under the weather for a few days. She is from Plainview, but she tries to read the Castro County News whenever she can.

Bueno, les dije que no recibe mucha informacion. I warned ya'll that I didn't get much info. I can't complain though because my year hasn't been all that exciting so far. But, sometimes it's nice to just have a calm stretch of time. Keeps us level headed. There's bound to be something stirring out there, so let me help spread the word in the community. Well, as always, send your info to angie79027@hotmail.com, 346-3882 or 647-0106. Hasta la proxima semana.

On the Go

with Dorothy Hopson, 647-4579

Mrs. Hopson has decided to lay down her pen and take a well-deserved rest from her work here. So we're looking for someone who'd like to submit a weekly column on the goings-on in Dimmitt. Please call 647-3123 for more information. NOTE: You need to be able to submit your columns via e-mail.

Naz News

with Vergie Gerber, 945-2669

Sunday mass in Holy Family Church was special for 11 CCD students as they received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Celebrants for the Mass were the Rev. John Yanta, Bishop of Amarillo; Father Ken Keller and Deacon Jerome Brockman. Those receiving were Alexis Bartrum, Courtney Bartram, Aubrie Durbin, Alexis Huseman, Dustin Kern, Sara Kleman, Tyler Ramsey, Madison Samford, Shania Schacher, Carly Wilhelm and Roxanne Wilhelm.

Thirty-five Senior Citizens gathered at the Center on Sunday evening for fellowship, dinner, meeting and cards of your choice. Happy Birthday was sung to Joan Backus, James and Jerry Wilhelm, Nellie Wilhelm, Leo Durbin and Elmer Schulte, who all have January birthdays. A short meeting was held during which Hubert Backus was voted in as our new President; Ed Ramaekers, Vice-President; and Betty Acker remains Secretary.

Congratulations to Casey and Jaime Schmucker of Amarillo on the birth of a boy, Ty James, Jan. 2, at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. Grandparents are Tom and Raelene Hoelting and Jim and Bobbie Schmucker of Nazareth. Great-grandparents are Joe and Amy Schmucker and Carl and Mary Kleman of Nazareth.

Congratulations to Trevor and Tracie Peterson on the birth of a girl, Tatum Rae, on Dec. 25, 2005. She has two sisters, Tylar and Tobie. Her grandparents are Jerry and Dixie Peterson of Hart and Jean Ross and Mackie Ross.

Jim, Sandee, Whitney and Jake Hoelting enjoyed a trip to Liberal, Kan., during the Christmas break. They watched a ball game and mostly renewed acquaintances made during the two years that Whitney played basketball for Seward Co. College in Liberal.

Nazareth Hall Committee members enjoyed Saturday evening at the Western Bowl in Amarillo. Members retiring are Keith Gerber and

Mick and Jane Gerber. New members serving are Jim and Sandee Hoelting and Kirk and Sandy Farris.

Congratulations to Dennis and Kayla Birkenfeld of Nazareth on the birth of a girl, Jordan Rennae, Dec. 25, 2005, in the Plainview hospital. She has one brother,

See NAZ NEWS, Page 8

Card of Thanks

The family of Arlon Ewing wishes to thank everyone for the visits, prayers, cards, food and flowers that was brought to the home during our time of loss. A special thanks you to Dr. Bizzell, the nurses at the hospital and the hospice nurses for the care given to Arlon.

The Arlon Ewing family

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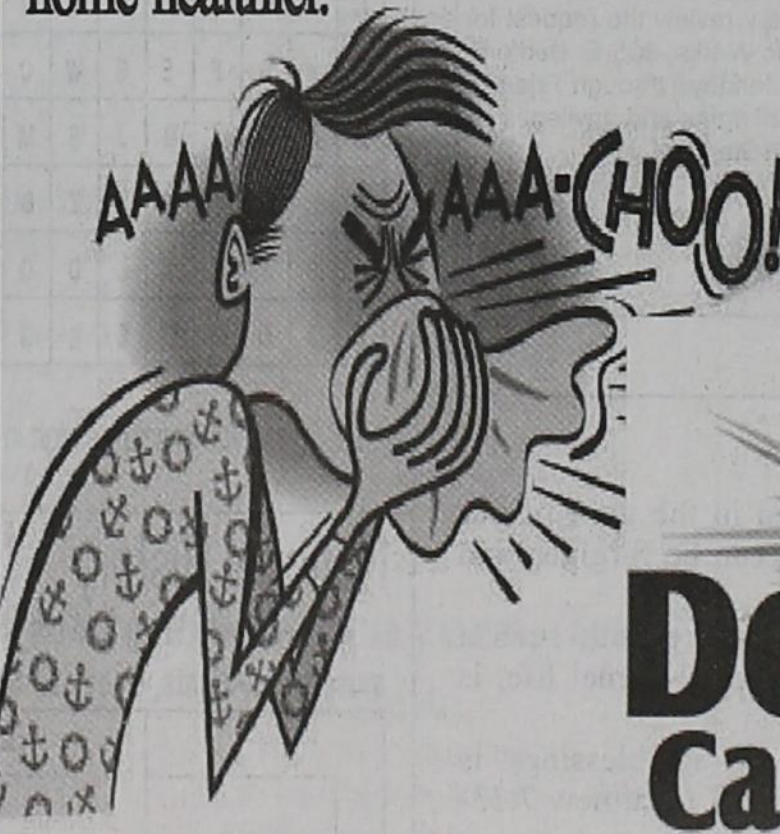
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School Menus Dimmitt ISD. Friday: Breakfast - Hot pocket egg and cheese, Rice Krispy treats. Lunch - Turkey and dressing, hot dog on a bun with chili, fajitas with onions and peppers...

Monday: Breakfast - Breakfast burrito, cereal, Honey Bun. Lunch - Vegetable lasagna, poor boy steak, chicken taco, broccoli with cheese sauce...

Tuesday: Breakfast - Peanut butter sandwich, Cocoa Puff Cereal Bar, orange wedges, blueberry muffin. Lunch - Steak fingers, cheese enchilada with sauce, chicken and noodles...

Wednesday: Breakfast - Strawberry Pop Tarts, Danish. Lunch - Hot link on a bun, chicken fillet strips, meat loaf with creole sauce, pork and beans...

Thursday: Breakfast - Cinnamon rolls, peaches, Cinnamon Toast Crunch Cereal Bar, bananas. Lunch - Nachos with cheese, bologna and cheese sandwich...

Nazareth ISD. Friday: Breakfast - Sausage patty on roll, cereal. Lunch - Beef fingers, rolls, sausage pizza, peach cobbler, mashed potatoes, country-style gravy...

Monday: Breakfast - Banana mini-loaf, cereal. Lunch - Chicken nuggets, beef fingers, bread, Rice Krispie treats, fruit salad, scalloped potatoes...

Tuesday: Breakfast - Cinnamon French toast, sausage patty, cereal. Lunch - Chili dogs, chili, baked potatoes, lemon pudding, pineapple chunks, corn...

Wednesday: Breakfast - Breakfast pockets, cereal. Lunch - Barbecue sandwich, hamburger, crispy potato cubes, cookies, apricots, pinto beans...

Thursday: Breakfast - Breakfast pizza, cereal. Lunch - Chicken spaghetti, rolls, chef salad, gelatin, green peas, peaches, tossed salad.

LEGAL NOTICE. The Dimmitt Board of Adjustment is scheduled to conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 at 6 p.m. in the Public Works Office, 905 W. Bedford, to discuss and consider a variance of section 14-21 of the City Code...

CHURCH. Continued from Page 5. Without forgiveness, we're doomed in the guilt of our sin (Romans 6:23). Through Christ, we can be forgiven and look forward to eternal salvation.

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

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Have a Dream! Soar as high as you can! Have you ever heard of Dr. Carter G. Woodson? In 1926, he started highlighting the important role of black people in American history and it grew into 'Black History Month.'

'I have a dream today.' Match the names of the people below to their achievements and contributions. 1. Lt. Col. Bluford, Jr. (reached for the stars) 2. Rosa Parks (arrested for not giving up her seat on this)...

Word search puzzle grid with letters and a search path for 'WING'.

Who is soaring high in the sky? To find out, visit our website: www.newspaperfun.com. Write to tell me at Wing@newspaperfun.com.

National History. Can you help Wing find his way to the Martin Luther King, Jr. museum in Atlanta, Georgia? Start at the star. Includes a maze and a photo of the MLK National Historic Site.



CHURCH NEWS



The most wonderful blessing

It's easy to recognize that God has blessed us. Even those facing serious difficulties in their lives would still, most all of them, quickly admit to being blessed by God. Some are slower to identify God's blessings in their lives, while others readily see them and continually thank God for them.

But, few would deny that they have been blessed by God.

If we asked people what blessings they were most thankful for, we might get a wide variety of answers. Some might say they're thankful for their husband or wife, others might speak in glowing terms of their

children. Still others might have recently been employed after having gone without work for a time, and they're thankful to have a job. Some might have just moved into a new home or bought a new car or some other material possession, and they're thankful for those blessings. Many who

have recovered from serious illness or come through successful surgery, and others who are in the twilight years of their lives, are just thankful to be alive. Every day is a blessing for them. Many people are praying for any



Brett Page

number of specific blessings right now. A lot of students are praying, or soon will be, for good grades as the school year draws to a close.

The most wonderful blessing of all, though, stands alone. None of the things mentioned above even comes close. The most wonderful blessing of all is the opportunity for eternal salvation. God loves us so much that He sent His Son to

the cross specifically to die to pay the debt for the guilt for our sins (John 3:16; Romans 5:8). There was no way that we could pay that debt for ourselves and it is a

See CHURCH, Page 4



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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

700 LEFTIES!

ALTHOUGH MODERN BASEBALL HAS PRODUCED SOME AMAZING LEFT HANDED PITCHERS WHO THREW WITH EXTREME ACCURACY, SUCH AS LEFTY GROVE, WHITEY FORD, CARL HUBBEL, JOHNNY VANDER MEER, SANDY KOUFAX, IT CAN'T MATCH THE BIBLE'S SEVEN HUNDRED "LEFTY" SLING SHOOTERS!

THE SLING SHOOTER WAS THE COUNTERPART OF A MODERN ARMY'S RIFLE MAN AND THE TRIBE OF BENJAMIN HAD "SEVEN HUNDRED CHOSEN MEN LEFT HANDED" (JUDGES 20:16) ALL OF THEM COULD "SLING STONES AT A HAIR'S BREADTH AND NOT MISS." ALL THE SHEPHERD BOYS USED SLINGS TO PROTECT THEIR HERDS FROM BEASTS OF PREY AND THIS CONSTANT PRACTICE AS THE YOUTHS GREW UP TO MANHOOD ASSURED ISRAEL OF A CONSTANT SUPPLY OF SHARP-SHOOTERS IN TIME OF WAR.

NEXT WEEK: MONEY IN THE MOUTH OF A FISH?!

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Obituaries

Gola Grace Buel

Memorial services for Gola Grace Buel, 84, of Amarillo, were Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006, at Polk Street United Methodist Church in the chapel.

Mrs. Buel died Saturday, Jan. 7, 2006. Gola Grace Buel was born Sept. 12, 1921 in Floydada, to Harry and Grace Laughter.

The family moved to Lubbock and remained there until Mrs. Buel graduated from Lubbock High School.

She continued her education at Texas Tech University and received her bachelor's degree in home economics.

She married Claude Theodore Buel on Oct. 19,

1943. She taught school for 20 years in Corpus Christi, Aledo and Amarillo.

Mrs. Buel was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Naomi Sealy of Brownfield.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Julia Turner of Dimmitt and Barbara Minton of Corpus Christi; a grandson, Daniel Minton of Frisco; a granddaughter, Miranda Harvey of Seminole; a niece Sandra Pendergrass of Lubbock; two nephews, Wayland Sealy and Kenneth Sealy both of Brownfield; and a great-niece, Keely Geishel of Sundown. The family request memorials be made to a favorite charity or church.

Jaydon Nathaniel Duran

Services for Jaydon Nathaniel Duran, 1 month, will be at 10 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 12, 2006, at Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home Ivey Chapel with the Rev. Abel Vargas Jr., pastor of Rosa De Sharon Church, Dimmitt, officiating.

Burial will be at Castro Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Dimmitt. Jaydon died Jan. 7, 2006, in Dimmitt. He was born Dec. 5, 2005, in Odessa.

Survivors include his mother, Annaliado Marmolejo of Dimmitt; his father, Israel Duran Jr. of Dimmitt; two brothers, Julian and Mark Duran; one sister, Abigail Duran; paternal grandparents, Israel Duran Sr. of Lubbock and Rita and Ed Franks of Temple; and his maternal grandparents, Juan Marmolejo of Floydada and Lupe Marmolejo of Seminole.

A prayer vigil will be held at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2006, at the Ivey Chapel of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home in Dimmitt.

CARD OF THANKS

Reynaldo Garcia

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, Or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a funeral spray, if so we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much for whatever the part.

Paul and Ortensia Garcia
Rey and Josie Garcia

Dimmitt Dollar winners

Nine people won Dimmitt dollars worth \$50 each in the drawings held by the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce. They were: Christina Rodriguez, Maria Powers, Linda Jo Ramaekers, Brian Simpson, S.D. Steffy, Mario Sanchez, Cindy Odom, Gloria Hinojosa and Kevin Acker.

We have selections for the following shower:

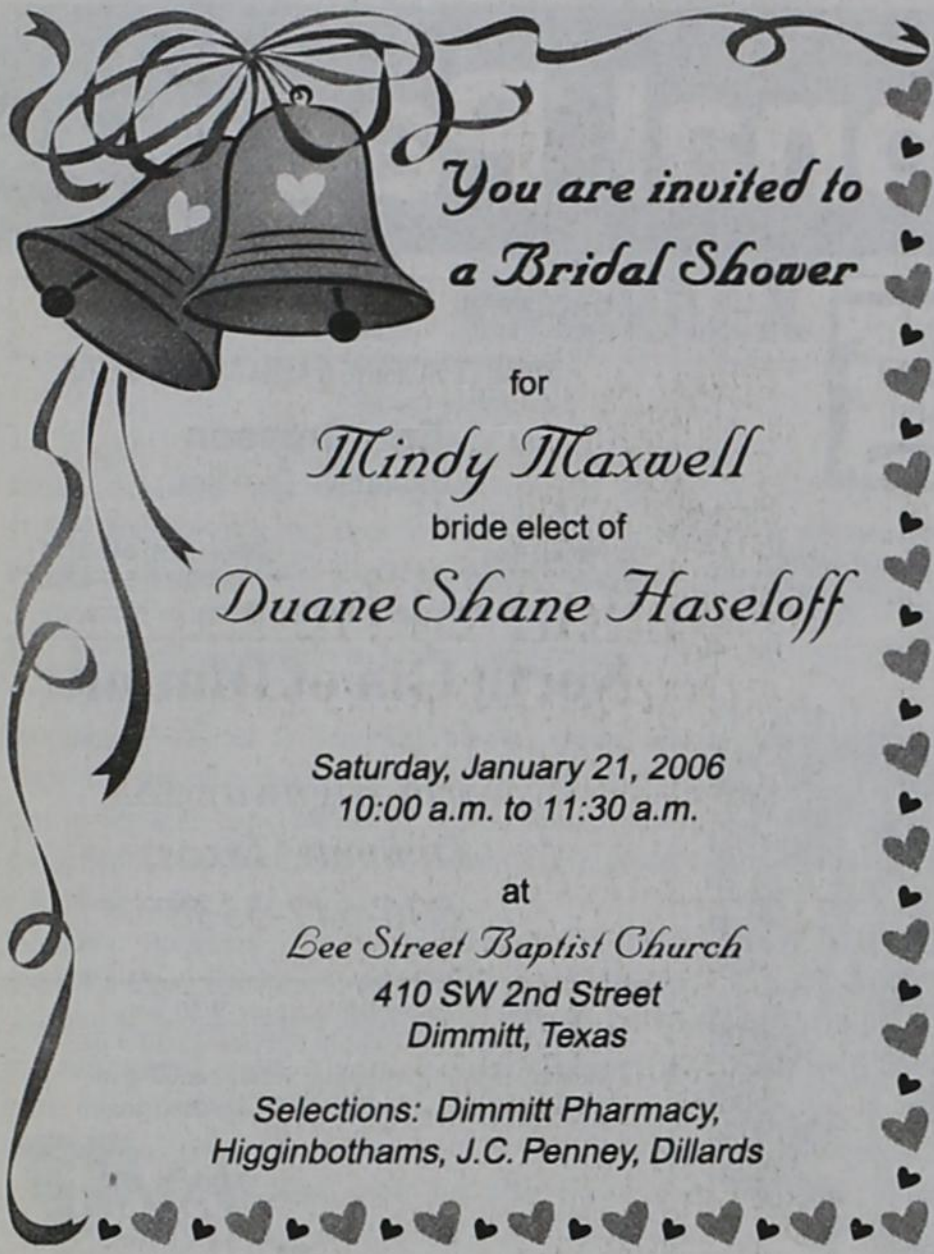
Mindy Maxwell

bride elect of Duane Haselhoff
January 21, 2006

Taryn Hayes

bride elect of Jeff Owen
February 18, 2006

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You are invited to a Bridal Shower for Mindy Maxwell bride elect of Duane Shane Haselhoff

Saturday, January 21, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

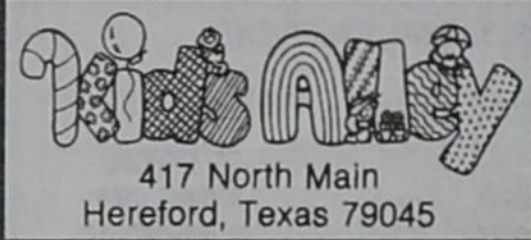
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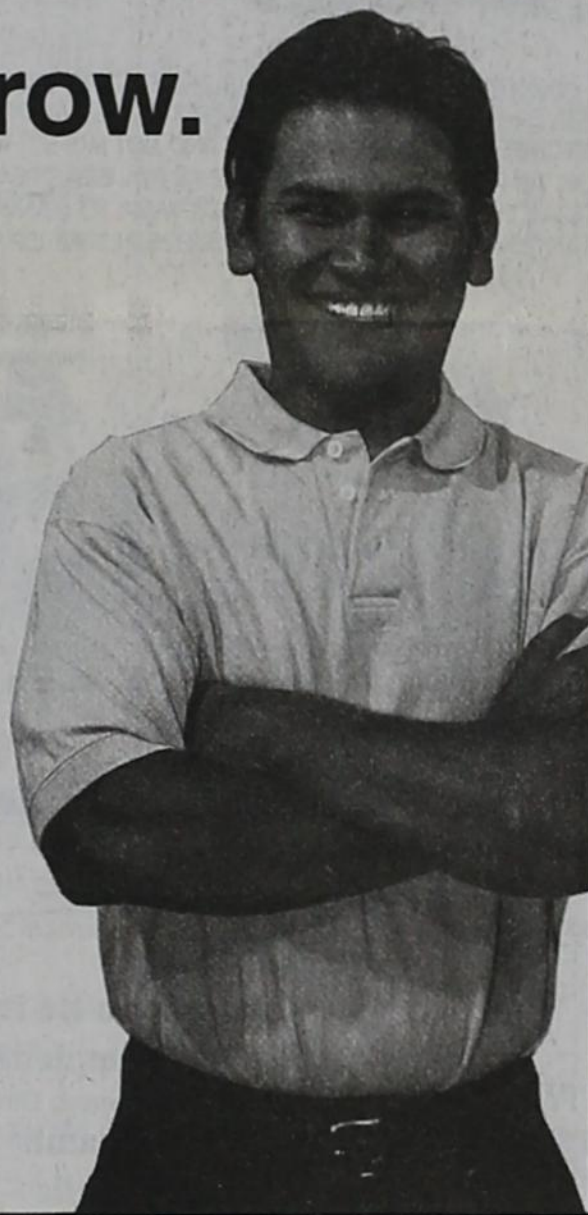
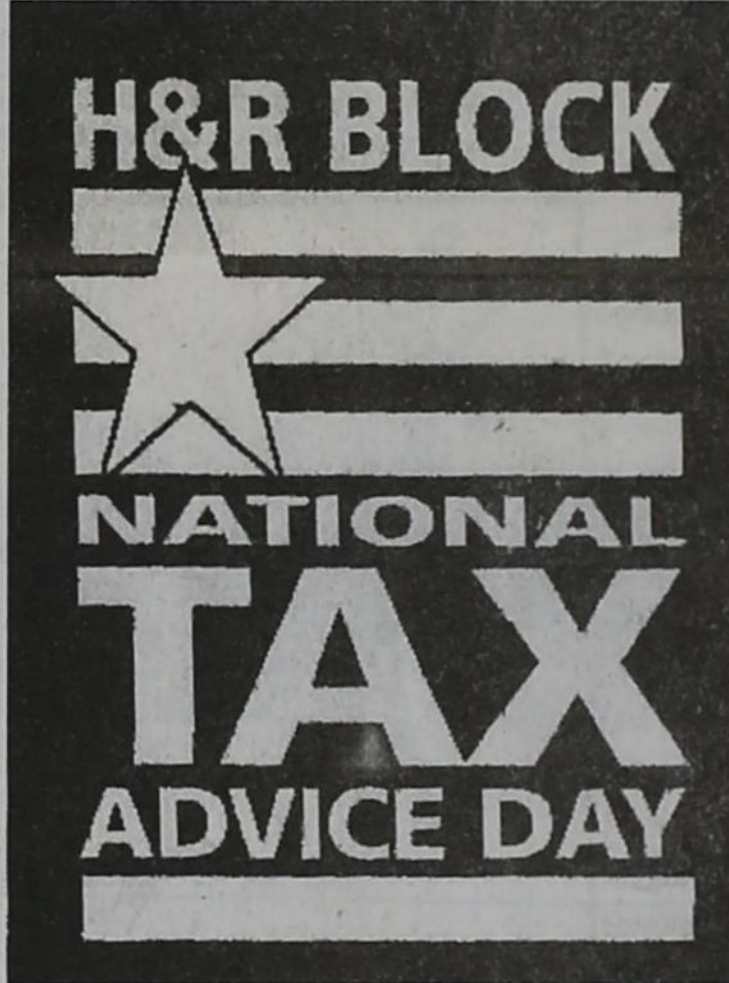
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Smart Tax Advice

This week marks the start of tax season. We're celebrating with H&R Block's National Tax Advice Day. Join our tax pros who will be out in your neighborhood with answers to your tax questions. Then, when you decide to have your taxes prepared, go to an H&R Block office where you'll get the Maximum Refund Guarantee-or your tax preparation is free.*

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NAZARETH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2005

	10 General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 464,963	\$ 162,227	\$ 627,190
State Program Revenues	1,199,447	116,432	1,315,879
Federal Program Revenues	-	113,958	113,958
Total Revenues	1,664,410	392,617	2,057,027
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
Instruction	955,340	95,830	1,053,170
Instructional Resources & Media Services	20,112	48,037	68,149
Curriculum & Media Services	578	-	578
Instructional Leadership	-	7,329	7,329
School Leadership	82,674	188	82,862
Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	22,076	253	22,329
Student (Pupil) Transportation	47,390	461	47,851
Food Services	-	110,952	110,952
Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	119,288	355	119,643
General Admission	153,806	507	154,313
Plant Maintenance and Operations	228,511	1,168	229,679
Debt Service:			
Debt Service-Principal on long-term debt	12,000	55,000	67,000
Debt Service-Interest on long-term debt	-	64,374	64,374
Debt Service-Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	1,300	1,300
Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	25,408	-	25,408
Total Expenditures	1,667,183	387,754	2,054,937
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(2,773)	4,863	2,090
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Transfers In			
Transfers Out (Use)	(1,396)	(520)	(1,916)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,396)	1,396	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	(4,169)	6,259	2,090
Fund Balance-September 1 (Beginning)	229,062	15,621	244,683
Fund Balance-August 31 (Ending)	\$ 224,893	\$ 21,880	\$ 246,773

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Bobbies edged by Hereford

The Dimmitt Bobbies put up a tough fight on Tuesday night, leaving Hereford happy to get out of town with a 54-52 win after going into overtime.

Dimmitt led 11-7 at the end of the first quarter, but the score was tied at 17-all by the half. Dimmitt regained the lead by the end of the third quarter, 33-31, but a 15-point fourth quarter left the teams tied at 46-all and into overtime, where Hereford outscored Dimmitt, 8-6.

Leading scorers for the Bobbies were Darcy Fisher with 15 points, followed by Brittany Williams with 13 and Kendra Smith with 11.



CHELSEY BUCKLEY shoots against Hereford.

Dimmitt girls head coach Chris Edwards said he was pleased with his team's performance.

"We really transitioned a whole lot better, we ran the floor a whole lot better in this game," he said. "We made some big-time free throws there at the end. It was the first time all year I've felt like we've dug down and done what we're supposed to do. It ended up paying off and getting us into overtime."

Edwards said the team's transition game, running the floor is much improved.

"The things we have to work on most are trying to get better at the little things - not having turnovers at critical times, being able to

put in some shots. We're going to have to come out and have stronger third quarters. That's been our Achilles heel - third quarters."

Edwards said he's excited about the way both of the post players, Darcy Fisher and Kendra Smith, have

See **BOBBIES**, Page 11

Bobcats rally, beat Colorado City

The Dimmitt varsity defeated Colorado City, 60-50, on Friday night.

Colorado City pulled out to a 16-10 first-quarter lead, but the Bobcats came back and scored in double digits the other three periods. At the end of the half, Dimmitt led, 29-15; and by the end of three periods, it was Dimmitt 45, Colorado City 34.

"It was one of those games that started out kind of slow for us," said head coach Alan Steinle. "We didn't have a real good first quarter. They came out a little more intent on playing well and they sure did. Finally in the second quarter, we had a good run. I was a little disappointed with the way we started the game, but certainly pleased after that that we got it going. The completion of the game changed more than any we've had this year. We've really been doing an adequate job on defense, offensively we've not been as efficient as I hoped we'd be. Hopefully, we'll be getting better, because it's time for that. It's district



ALEX CHIVIRA drives the lane against Hereford.

time. It's a new season. It doesn't make any difference what your record is, starting 0-0. Everyone has a shot, starting for us Friday at Tulia."

Bobcats was Junior Limas with 27 points, followed by Omar Catano and Isaac Aguilar with eight points, Alex Chavira with seven and Nick Ortiz with six.

The leading scorer for the See **BOBCATS**, Page 11

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Jan. 17	*Lockney H	4 p.m.	4 teams
Jan. 20	*Floydada T	4 p.m.	4 teams
Jan. 24	*Friona H	4 p.m.	4 teams
Jan. 27	*Olton T	4 p.m.	4 teams
Jan. 31	*Tulia H	4 p.m.	4 teams
Feb. 3	*Lockney T	4 p.m.	4 teams
Feb. 7	*Floydada H	4 p.m.	4 teams
Feb. 10	*Friona T	6 p.m.	JVB/VB
Feb. 14	*Olton H	6 p.m.	JVB/VB
Feb. 24-25	Regional	Midland	VG
Mar. 2-4	State	Austin	VG

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KDHN 1470 AM

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Swifts go 3-0 in district



NAZARETH'S CHARLIE RUNDSELL lays the ball up for two points against Kress.

The Nazareth Swifts easily handled Kress, 74-16, in district play at home on Friday.

The win gives the Swifts a 3-0 district record and an overall 15-4 record.

The Swifts got off to an early 20-4 first-quarter lead and never looked back.

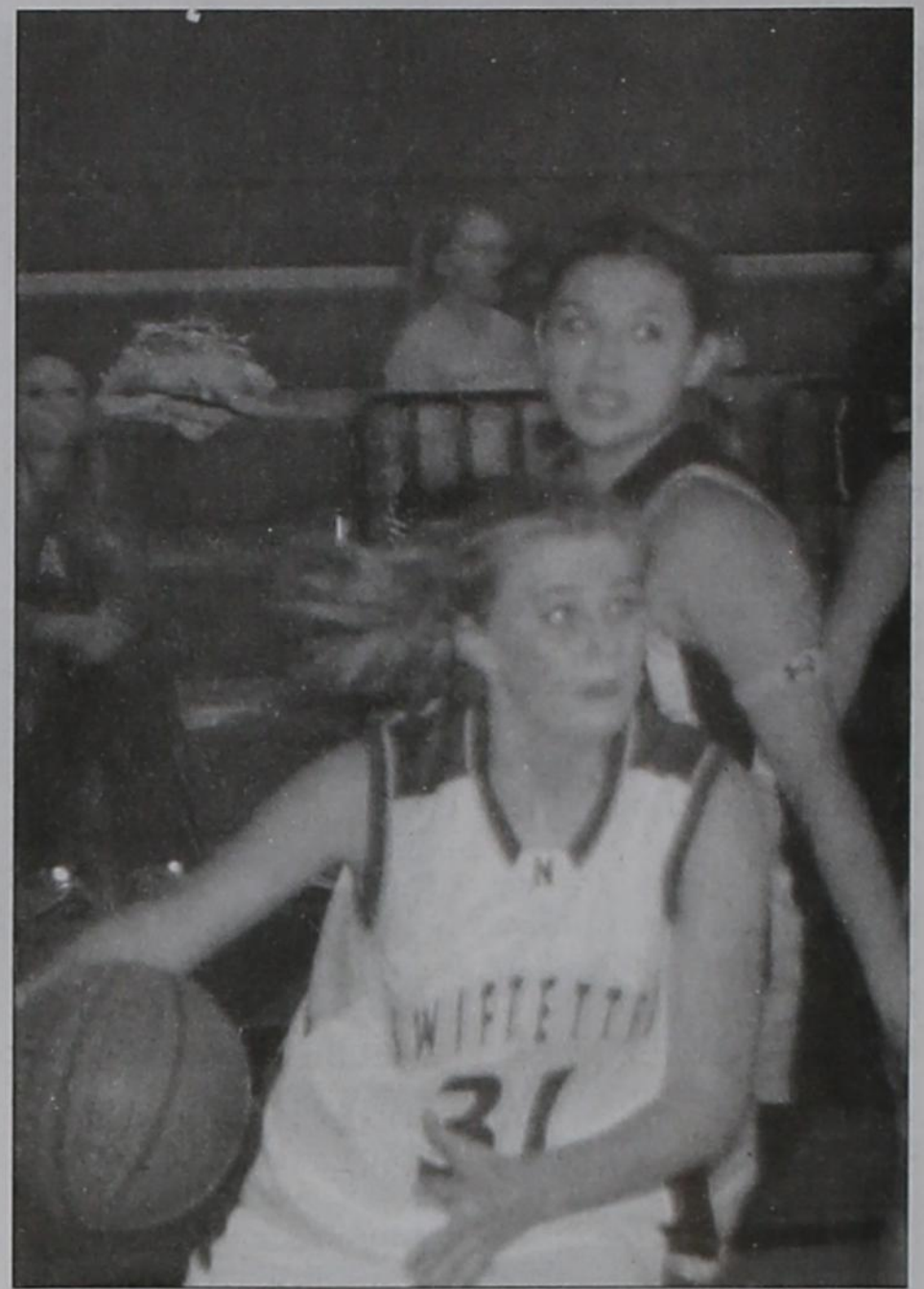
By the half, Nazareth led 40-12 and 58-16 at the end of the third period.

Leading scorers for Nazareth were Charlie Rundell with 22 points, followed by Jake Hoelting with 11 and Berry Clinton with 10.

Their next home game is Friday night with JV and varsity boys and girls games with Springlake-Earth.

The first game starts at 4 p.m.

Swiftettes defeat Kress



KELCY ALBRACHT DRIVES the lane for the Swiftettes

The Swiftettes ran their perfect district record to 5-0 on Friday as they overwhelmed Kress, 78-22.

Nazareth jumped out to a 22-7 first-quarter lead and held Kress scoreless in the second period, to lead 48-7 at the half.

By the end of the third quarter, Nazareth led 67-12.

Leading scorers were Lacey Acker with 16 points, followed by Kembra Albracht and Heidi Ramaekers with 14 points each.

Nazareth is 16-5 this season.

Their next home game is Friday night with JV and varsity boys and girls games with Springlake-Earth.

The first game starts at 4 p.m.

NAZ NEWS

Continued from Page 3

Kyler. Grandparents are Joe Lynn and Mary Lou Birkenfeld of Nazareth and Danny and Martha Clark of Dimmitt. Great-grandparents are Rose Birkenfeld, Pat and Wayne Clark and Eugene and Louise Grey. Great-great-grandmother is Irma Templar.

Robbie Albracht Gerber, Nick and Jessica and Jessica's friend, Russ of Austin, spent a couple of days with Robbie's dad, W.J. Albracht in Hereford as he celebrated his 97th birthday with Virgie Gerber in Nazareth. Jessica, Russ and Nick also attended a friend's wedding in Lubbock on Friday evening. Jessica will now return to Baylor Medical School in Houston.

Lindsie Marie Gerber has returned to Houston Medical School after a two-week vacation for Christmas.

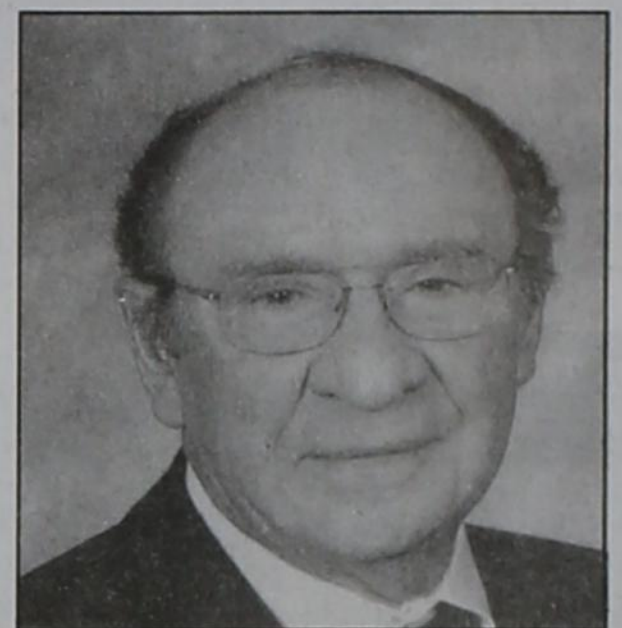
Tyler Ramsey was the guest of honor for brunch at his grandparents, Joe and Imogene Drerup in honor of his confirmation on Sunday. Also attending were his parents, Bryan and Tracy; Treva and Tyler Ramsey; grandmother,

Anita Ramsey; Bishop Yanta; Father Ken Keller; Arnold Schwartzner; Kim Drerup; Amy and Shelly Truston.

Nazareth's Darryl Birkenfeld, recently attended the CHS New Leader Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., to learn how involvement in the community can help advance agriculture and strengthen rural America. Birkenfeld was among more than 100 participants from 15 states and one Canadian province who attended the four-day CHS New Leader Institute.

Please, pray for all of our sick people and those serving in our Armed Forces, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan. Betty Wilhelm is home to recuperate; Norma Schacher has been transferred to the Dimmitt hospital and Janette Brockman is still in Northwest Hospital in Amarillo.

Curtis Birkenfeld and Ida Gibson, his mother, visited Tony and Erlene Fritz in Belton at the new home over the weekend. Gerald and Sheila Brockman of Edmond, Okla., also came down and visited at the Fritz home as did Bo and Roxanne Richardson of Livingston and family. Sheila, Erlene and Roxane are the daughters of Ida Gibson



Greg Matos, MD is certified by the American Board of Surgery and performs general and gynecological surgery, i.e. uterine prolapse, hysterectomies. He completed his training at the Puerto Rico School of Medicine and received a general surgery residency at Winthrop Hospital in New York. Dr. Matos has been an assistant professor of surgery at the University of Puerto Rico and Texas Tech Department of Surgery. His interest include family practice, abdominal surgery, gynecological surgery and cancer of the breast, head and neck. He was Chief of Surgery for the Veteran's Administration of Amarillo for 11 years. He has been with Castro County Healthcare since October 2001. Dr. Matos and his wife, Liz, have two children.

The professionals at the medical Center of Dimmitt staff want to put their skills to work for you right here at home. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, call **806-647-2194**.

Medical Center of Dimmitt
112 W. Jones
Dimmitt, TX 79027
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KDHN 1470 AM

Agricultural News

Monday through Friday: 6 a.m. to 7 a.m.

Morning Show

Daily: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Good Neighbor

Spotlight On Local Talent

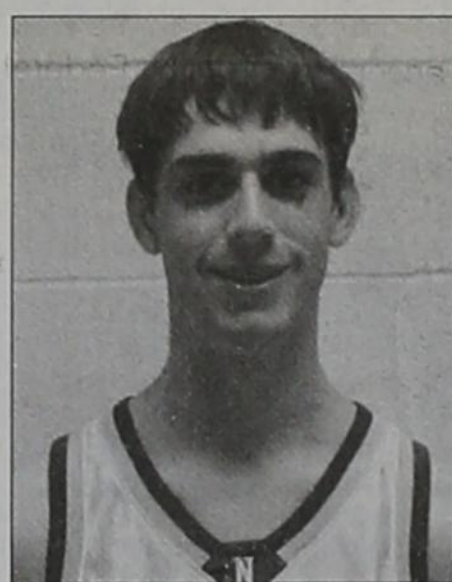
Daily: 8 a.m.

Market Reports

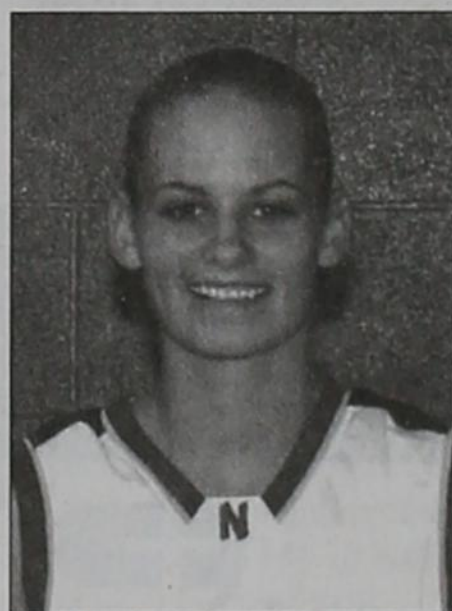
:40 past the hour

Tune in

and hear what's happening in your neighborhood!



Charlie Rundell
No. 25



Lacey Acker
No. 32

Date	Opponent	Time	Location
Jan. 13	*S-Earth	4 p.m.	Home
14	Nazareth JV Boys Tournament		
17	*Amherst	5 p.m.	Home
20	*Cotton Cen. Away	6:30	VBG
20	Happy	5 p.m.	Away
24	*Lazbuddie Home	6:30	VBG
27	*Spade	6:30	Home
27	Dalhart	5 p.m.	Away
31	*Kress	4 p.m.	Away
Feb. 3	*Happy	4 p.m.	Home
7	*S-Earth	4 p.m.	Away
10	*Amherst	5 p.m.	Away

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806-945-2535

First priority in New Orleans should be infrastructure

"Should we build businesses back first, houses for people to return, or schools for children to get educated," said Scot Bini, vice president of education markets for URS, a New Orleans planning and architectural design firm.

People of New Orleans must have jobs to return to. If not, there will be no need to replace housing and schools. I say rebuild infrastructure first because jobs must come first.

Louisiana has 126 schools that are still standing but unusable. Flooding has literally made all 126 unusable. Hurricanes leave things in a mess not by wind but by flooding. Louisiana Department of Education plans to rebuild only 30 schools for now because most of the students of New Orleans ISD currently reside in Texas. Most of these families plan to stay in Texas.

Alabama only has to replace two schools and Mississippi has to replace just a few schools. Both of the states came through Hurricane Katrina in pretty good shape.



Digger Elam

How should the schools in New Orleans be rebuilt? If you build these new schools in areas that are prone to floods, basement parking lots should be built under each school.

This will reduce the chance of the school being put out of commission by flooding waters.

One great thing about replacing schools in New Orleans is that the new schools will be built to facilitate learning. Most of the schools in New Orleans were over 40 years old. Outdated schools are not structured for the new technology of the 21st century.

Hang in there New Orleans-you'll make it!

Ladyhorns fall to Morton

The Ladyhorns hosted a tough Morton team on Friday night, falling 55-41. Morton jumped out to a 17-10 first-quarter lead, which expanded to 34-22 by the half. However, a 13-point

third quarter brought Hart closer, 43-35, but not close enough for the win.

Leading scorers for Hart were Amber Guzman with 15 points and Corrie Rincon with 11.

Earlier in the week, the Ladyhorns fell to Vega, 95-25. Vega grabbed a large lead early, to be ahead 56-13 at the half. For Hart, Guzman and Rincon had six points each.

In the matchup between the Hart boys varsity and Vega, both teams started slow, but Vega led 9-4 at the end of the first quarter before Vega went on to win 57-20.

What's the Law?

Q. I sold my car a few months ago. The buyer never registered it in his name and now I am getting parking tickets. What can I do?

A. If the car was sold, you should not owe the fines for the parking tickets. Contact whomever issued the tickets and tell them when the car was sold and to whom. To avoid the problem in the future, be sure title is transferred into the buyer's name. If you are not certain this has been done, contact the county tax office and fill

out a Vehicle Transfer Notification Form. There will be a \$5 fee for filing this notice.

Q. I took my son's letterman jacket to the cleaners. I asked the man if they clean letterman jackets and he said yes. When I picked it up, the blue on the jacket had bled into the white patch. The cleaner says it is not his fault. What are my legal rights? The cleaner now refuses to talk to me.

A. This sounds like a good case for small claims court. In my opinion, however, the cleaner will be liable only if he did something wrong. That is, you will have to show that he was negligent and did not clean the jacket as a reasonable cleaner would.

If he cleaned the jacket exactly the way it should have been cleaned, and the color still ran, he probably

has no liability. On the other hand, if he should have taken additional precautions, or used a different solvent, not doing so would be considered negligence, and he could be liable. I suggest you take the jacket to another cleaner and see if there was a different way the jacket could have been cleaned to avoid the problem.

Q. My father died. In his will he left me a small percentage of his estate.

A. Basically, the will determines how property is divided after death. If the will leaves you a small percentage of the estate that is what you are entitled to. It doesn't matter if other siblings receive more or less than you do. There is no law that says brothers and sisters must receive equal shares of the estate. The only additional property you might be entitled to would be property left to you in a joint

account or an account on which you were the beneficiary. For example, your father might have a life insurance policy which names you as the beneficiary. The proceeds of that policy would go directly to you and would not be part of the estate, distributed in accordance with the terms of the will.

Q. I have been making monthly payments on a hospital bill. The hospital has now sent the account to a collection agency. If I am making payments, is it legal for the hospital to give the account to a collection agency?

A. Many people seem to think there are special debt collection rules regarding hospitals. There are not. Basically, any creditor, including a hospital, may give an account to a collection agency any time you are not paying the full amount that is due.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION JANUARY 2005

"West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended. In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Jimmy Bell, Assistant Manager. Any individual or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statues and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice of TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

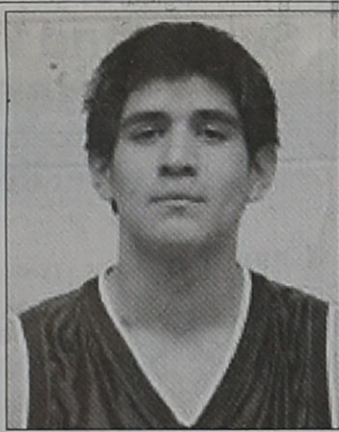
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Sara Reyna
No. 14



Eric Menchaca
No. 10

Hart Basketball Schedule

Jan. 13	Bovina	There	4 p.m.
Jan. 17	Farwell	Here	4 p.m.
Jan. 20	Sudan	There	5 p.m.
Jan. 24	Morton	There	4 p.m.
Jan. 27	Bushland	Here	5 p.m.
Jan. 31	Bovina	Here	4 p.m.
Feb. 3	Farwell	There	5 p.m.
Feb. 7	Sudan	Here	4 p.m.
Feb. 10	Morton	Here	5 p.m. Boys only

Go Longhorns, Ladyhorns!!

Card of Thanks

The family of Xelle Dicuffa would like to thank the community of Dimmitt for their thoughtfulness and prayers during this difficult time. Her passing has left an empty place in our hearts. We are forever appreciative for the kind gifts of food and the compassion shown by this community.

We would like to thank Foskey-Billey-McSill Funeral Home for their professional assistance with our many needs and concerns. We were very impressed with how our needs were managed with such dignity and caring.

We would like to give a special thanks to Castro County Hospice Care and especially the Hospice Nurses who were Mom's Guardian Angels during the last months of her life. We are profoundly grateful to God for you and your kind expressions of love and caring.

The Family

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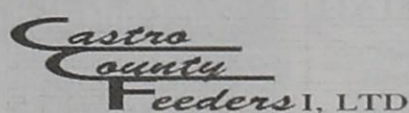
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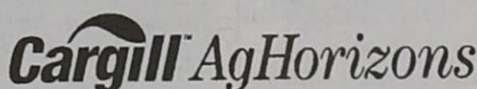
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EDGE OF TOWN-2 acres, 14 X 70 trailer, water well, storage bldg., barn, boxcar, fenced.

NICE-3/1 living, kitchen, utility, single garage. Two lots.

3/2/2 living, kitchen, utility, storage building, cellar, fenced yard. 20' X 30' shop. Nice.

BEAUTIFUL HOME-3/2.75/2, den, living room, remodeled kitchen with new appliances, utility, storage building, basement, circle drive.

2 acres-3/2 den, living, kitchen, sun room, basement, single garage, two storage bldgs.. Building two rooms with bath.

BUSINESS FOR SALE-Springlake convenience store with coolers and equipment, gas station, deli, large shop on corner lot.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY-Mobile home trailer park-27 lots. Own 8 mobile homes and leases 9 spaces. Owner financing available.

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LAND:

Two lots- great location to build home. Sunset Circle.

EDGE OF TOWN-106 acres with two electric irrigation wells...4" pumps.

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HART-314 Ave B-Nice 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath home, double car garage, central air, lots of storage, good condition.

205 NW 11th-Attractive 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath home, single car garage, central heat, new fence.

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Make offer-4/2.75/2-One of the nicest homes in Dimmitt, too many extras to list. Call today for details.
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\$89,900-REDUCED-3/2/2-Owner has moved, fireplace, great location, hot tub, nice shop. Seller helps with closing.
\$80,000-Great home-3/2/2-lots of new paint and carpet, fireplace, corner lot, nice shop, close to schools.
\$69,900-3/2/2-Great home, lots of new paint, full basement, large corner lot.
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\$55,000-4/3/2-Lots of house for the money. This house has lots of room, basement, large garage.
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\$37,000-3/2/2carport.-excellent starter home-fenced yard and trees.
\$45,000-3/1/0 Two lots for the price of one. Corner lot. Rented unit rents for \$400.
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\$80,000-Price reduced! Mobile Home Park with large shop includes five permanent mobile home lots and two mobile homes, all rented. 18 overnight spaces. Lots of depreciation and income.
\$60,000- Fully equipped Dental office, call today for details.
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NICE LOCATION-4 bedroom/2 bath or 3 bedroom/2 bath and an office. \$82,500
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BOBBIES

Continued from Page 7

stepped up.
 "They both had big-time defensive rebounds the other night," he said.
 "That was one of the things that helped us most. Another thing is we're getting where we can run the floor, now we need to know when to run it or not.
 "Our guard play has kind of stepped up - Brittany Williams is knocking down some threes and penetrating better.
 "Defensively, our guards are getting better."
 He said the team has a chance to get into the playoffs, but there's one crucial element.
 "It's going to be more of a mental thing as a group," Edwards said.
 "They've got to believe they can do it. It's just getting them to believe.
 "I've felt that way all year. We've got to take care of our home games and then win some on the road in hostile environments."

Friona 55-Dimmitt 39

In their first district matchup, the Bobbies fell to Friona. Friona grabbed the first-quarter lead, 11-8, and led 22-16 at the half.

A 21-point third quarter pretty much put the game away for Friona.

Leading scorers for the Bobbies were Kendra Smith with 12 and Darcy Fisher with eight. Dimmitt is 5-16 overall and 0-1 in district.

"We played a tough one at Friona," he said. "Had we made about five more free throws and got it down to single digits, it would have helped.

"Our kids did a lot to neutralize their height. There were several points in the game where we did that. We've just got to alleviate some errors.

"This group has been thumped on the head so many years, it's become more of a mental thing.

"We're overcoming it, but it's trying to get them to completely overcome it. I'm pretty pleased with where we're at."

JV Girls

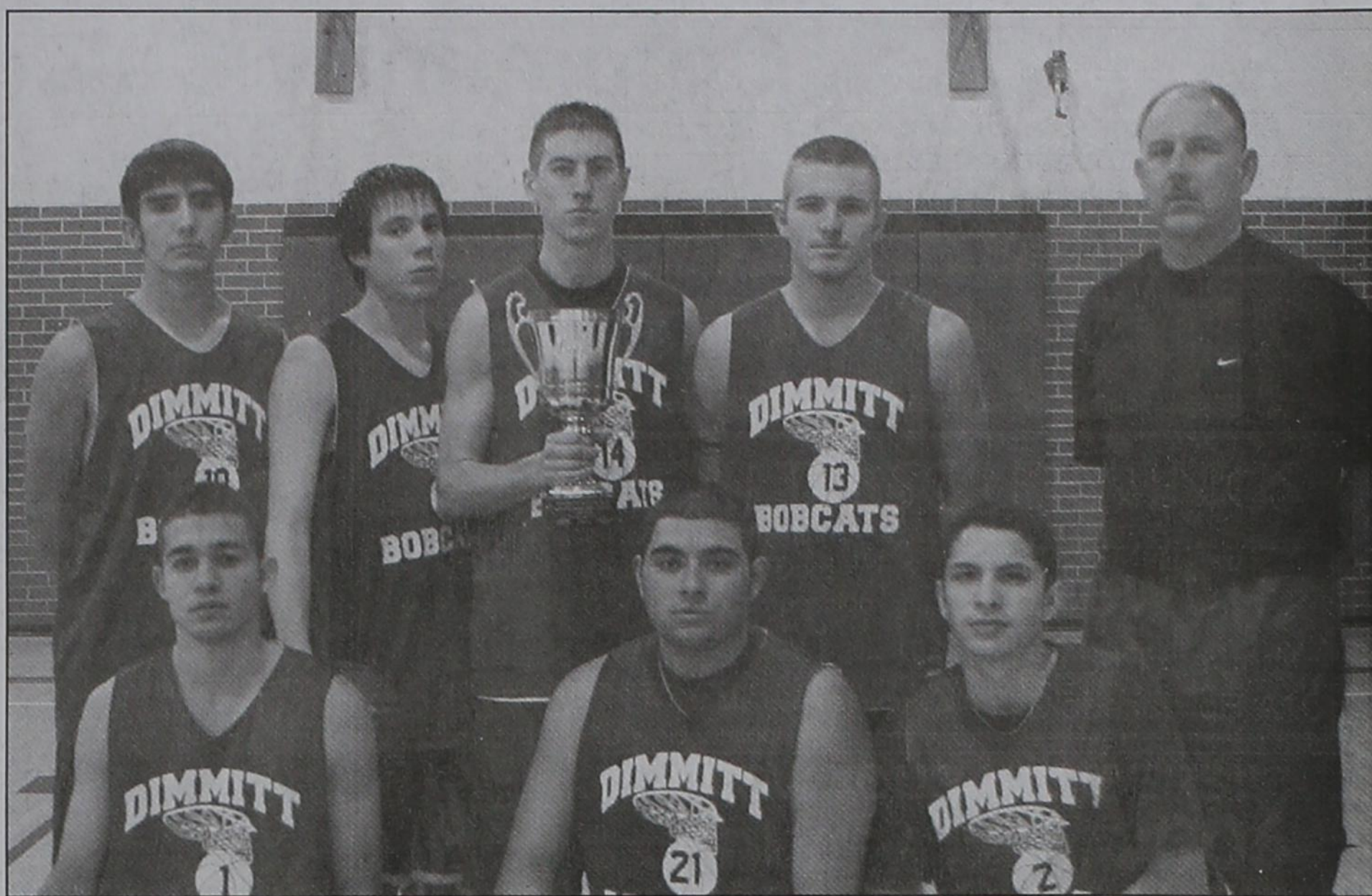
Earlier on Friday, the Dimmitt JV girls fell to Friona 45-33.

7th Grade Girls

The seventh-grade Bobbies defeated Friona, 32-19, to run their record to 7-1.

Dimmitt took the lead in the first quarter, 8-5, and led 16-5 at the half after holding Friona scoreless in the second period.

By the end of three quarters, Dimmitt led, 27-13. Leading scorers for the Bobbies were Torie Hinojosa with 12 points and Heloise Cillie with 11.



Kenneth Cleveland Sportsmanship Trophy

THE BOBCATS POSE with the trophy they won at the Caprock Tournament over the holidays. The trophy, named for former Dimmitt Coach Kenneth Cleveland, was awarded to the Bobcats for showing the most sportsmanship.

BOBCATS

Continued from Page 7

Dimmitt is 10-13 on the season.

Earlier in the week, Dimmitt was edged by Hereford, 60-56. Hereford led 14-13 at the end of the first quarter and 29-26 at the half. Hereford surged ahead in the third quarter to take a 48-35 lead, but a 21-point fourth quarter from Dimmitt was almost enough to catchup to Hereford.

"We just played pretty good," Steinle said. "But toward the end of the game, we had our chances, we had the ball and were down by two at the end of the game and it didn't work out for us. They ended up getting the easy bucket. Our kids played hard, well enough to be close, not quite well enough to get over the hump. Hereford is a good team, but one we're capable of beating. We've played them twice and lost by just a few points - I feel like we could have beat them - and not just at the end of the game. It's good to know if you're down, our team kept playing and plugging away. There were some good things that came out of the game. The best thing that could have come out was for us to have won.

"I personally think the district race is wide open. Certainly the top three spots can go to any of the six teams. It's as close over all as its been in some time. It ought to be exciting. We're going to have our work cut out for us."

Leading scorers for Dimmitt against Hereford include Junior Limas with 24 points and Omar Catano with 10.

Junior Varsity

The Bobcats JV led started out with a 12-8 first-quarter lead on Tuesday against Hereford. However, Hereford came back and was ahead, 22-20 at the half. A 12-point third period, gave the Bobcats the lead again, 32-29, as they went on to win, 41-37. Leading scorers for Dimmitt included Kaden Griffitt with 10 points, followed by Houston Sutton and Kalan Steinle with eight points each.

On Friday, Jan. 6, the Dimmitt JV defeated the Colorado City JV, 51-27, running their record to 11-6.

Dimmitt led 9-5 at the end of the first period and 24-16 at the half. By the second quarter, the Bobcats had more than doubled Colorado City's score by the end of the third quarter, 37-18.

Leading scorers for Dimmitt were Landon Porsch with 13 points, followed by Michael Rasor with 11, Houston Sutton with eight, Kalan Steinle with six and Ross Myatt with five.

8th Grade

The Dimmitt eighth-grade Bobcats fell to Friona, 33-30. Leading scorer for the Bobcats was Marty Puga with nine points.

7th Grade

The Dimmitt seventh-grade Bobcats edged Friona, 45-44. Leading scorer for the Bobcats was Kade Riddle with 14 points.

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Community Calendar

CEU opportunities for private applicators

Each Wednesday, starting Jan. 18, through Feb. 15, private pesticide applicators can get CEUs at the Castro County Extension office. We will start at 1:30 p.m. and the meetings will last 2-3 hours. CEUs in all areas will be offered. For more information, contact the Castro County Extension Office at (806) 647-4115.

Plains Auxiliary workshops start Jan. 18

The Plains Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will begin their weekly workshops beginning Wednesday Jan. 18. The workshops will be held every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the workshop at the Medical Center of Dimmitt, 112 W. Jones.

Fund set up for accident victims

We have recently experienced an overwhelming incident here in Castro Council involving local friends and families from this community. The Dyksterhaus and Sides families experienced an event that no family should have to endure - that of seeing five children involved in an accident. A local medical assistance fund has been established at First United Bank in Dimmitt. Any amount of donations will be accepted and appreciated. This money will go to assist the families with medical expenses and travel back and forth to Lubbock.

We have seen the community come together in times of need and we are now reaching out once more. Donations may be made at First United Bank in Dimmitt or mailed to P.O. Box 929, Attn: Jan; Dimmitt, TX. 79027.

For more information, contact Terry Timms or Danny Rice at 240-0720 or troopertimms5284@yahoo.com.

Richardson Elementary working to make afternoon student pick-up safer for everyone

Starting January 16th the bus will be released in front of Richardson by the flagpole and the orange barrels. Students will not be allowed to exit from the west doors (back doors). The west doors will be locked. Parents should travel in the lane closest to the school on Stinson to pick-up students. All students are required to stay behind the orange barrels until they see their ride. Richardson Elementary is trying to make a safer environment for all students.

Kindergarten and Grade 1 will be released at 3:30. Grades 2, 3, 4 will be released at 3:45.

All bus students will stay until 3:45.

All students not riding

Art exhibit in Nazareth

An art exhibit by Darryl Ball, a Nazareth native, is on display at the Home Mercantile Building. The Mercantile is located at the corner of Second and Leo Streets in Nazareth.

Looking back at the beginnings of his artistic career, Ball recalls a "not so funny at the time" incident. "My mother had just wall-papered her bedroom with flowered wallpaper. I thought the flowers would be prettier if they had red centers. I took my mother's lipstick and colored the centers red. Boy, was she surprised when she saw what I had done!" She went to Warren's Grocery (now Home Merc) and bought me a drawing pad, hoping I would not color her walls again.

Though having never received formal art training, Mr. Ball loves to draw pencil sketches and paint...he has even painted murals in two homes. His working career as a county roads maintainer, and a horse trainer in spare time have given him some wonderful inspiration. His exhibit consists of 22 of his favorite pieces, and will continue until Jan. 20. To see the exhibit Monday-Friday, contact Tom Hoelting at 945-2211.

Bobcat flags for sale

The Dimmitt Athletic Boosters are taking orders to sell additional Bobcat flags. They are \$25 for the flag only; \$35 for a flag and pole. If interested, please call Donna Reinart at 647-2243.

Community Prayer Gathering

There will be a community prayer gathering the first Wednesday of every month at 6 a.m. at Dimmitt Methodist Church, 110 SW 3rd St. There will be fellowship, a free meal, prayer and a devotional guest speaker. Everyone is welcome. Come and bring a friend. Help lift the whole community in prayer. The dates are Feb. 1, March 1, April 5, May 3 and June 7.

Save receipts, boxtops

The Dimmitt PTO wants the public to know that we have a chance to participate in two programs that allow the PTO to earn free educational equipment and money for our schools.

From Sept. 1 through March 31, 2006, the PTO will be able to turn cash register tapes collected from any Lowe's Supermarkets (Dimmitt, Hereford, Hart, Canyon, etc.) into valuable and important educational equipment we otherwise would only dream of getting. Also, all year long you can save all your Box Tops 4 Education found on many Betty Crocker, General Mills, Pillsbury and Old El Paso products.

To get our program started, you can help by shopping at Lowe's Supermarkets. Then give your Lowe's register tapes and Box Tops 4 Education to your child, or a child you know, to bring to school for deposit.

TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED

Truck Driver needed with two years experience. Must be 25 years of age or older. Call 806-276-5617

42-5tp

Too late to classify

DISD

Continued from Page 1

scale starts at \$33,000 where Dimmitt starts at \$25,000. The state's minimum pay scale - that's all it is. Most districts don't abide by the minimum pay scale.

In other business, the board:

- * Extended the contract for Miller through 2009.
- * Accepted the resignation of Belinda Rhodes, who was an eighth-grade English teacher.
- * Received its audit report for 2004-05. The report praised business Manager Vicki Eaton and her staff for the job they've done for the district.

ODOM

Continued from Page 1

psychology student."

While in Magdeburg, Odom received the Castro County News. She used it, she said, to help teach

people who had a smattering of English to become more fluent.

"At first I tried the Bible and the dictionary," Odom said. "But neither of those use everyday speech like I found in the newspaper. Using it just made it a lot easier to teach, because most of them had just a bit of English and I had just a bit of German."

One condition Odom never adjusted to, she said, was the harshness of the people.

"They're very cold," she said. "I like to smile at people. But the people you do get to know, they love you forever and would do anything for you."

Now that her visa has expired and she's returned to Dimmitt, Odom is looking for a job and considering returning to college, maybe to get a degree in law.

"When I left the states I was sure law was the direction I'd go when I got back," she said.

"Now, I'd like to stay in government and try to help people more."

Odom, 22, is the daughter of Mike and Cindy Odom of Dimmitt.

One thing she learned while away, she said, was the strength of the community she left behind.

"It was amazing," she said. "I never felt the power of prayer like I did through this experience. The support I got from my church family was phenomenal. I never knew how much it could help."

BAN

Continued from Page 1

will continue until terminated by order of the Castro County Commissioners Court.

"It was necessary to pass this ban because of the drought conditions," said commissioner Bay Baldrige. In Castro County, we have 69,500 acres of grasslands and CRP has 111,065 more of grassland, giving us more than 180,000 acres of grassland that is subject to burn. All it takes is a careless moment - throwing a cigarette out of a window, someone welding (which is prohibited under the ban) outside and a spark setting off a fire."

Copies of the proclamation have been sent to county law enforcement, as well as to the cities of Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth.

Commissioner Tom McLain of Hart said there has been one fire reported in his precinct.

"It was near the railroad tracks," he said. "We think a cigarette caused it. But we're taking precautions, even grounding our propane bottles to fill them. Electric fences could also cause a spark. It pays for everyone to take extra precautions."

Under the original ban, the proclamation read that the county is "under imminent threat of severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from the threat of wildfires due to drought and other weather-related conditions."

Prohibited in the ban is the sale of "restricted fireworks." It also prohibits the use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment. "Combustible materials" includes all fireworks, materials used in activities such as welding and any other activity that could result in a fire."

State reports stats on wildfires

The Texas Forest Service responded to 17 new fires burning 925 acres during a 24 hour period ending Jan. 7 at 6:30 p.m.. Twenty-nine homes were threatened, three homes were lost and 26 homes saved. In Hood County, a welder was arrested and charged with reckless endangerment.

Strategically pre-positioning wildfire suppression resources based on the weather forecast proved most successful. Response time was timely and effective.

Fire conditions continue to remain extreme with Red Flag warnings posted over most of the state. Humidities will continue to be low ranging from 5-15 percent. Winds 15-25 mph will begin to decrease today over West Texas with gusts up to 30 miles per hour. Fire spread may be 100-300 feet per minute.

Total acres burned to date since Jan. 1, in West Texas are 205,059 acres. Fire suppression costs are \$5,272,719 dating to Nov. 28.

There are four incident management teams in West Texas. The Texas Lone Star Team is in unified command with the Southern Area Inter-agency Incident Command Blue Team at Granbury. The Southern Area Interagency Incident Command Red Team is assigned to Abilene to assist local fire departments. The State of Florida Gold Team is staged in Granbury for initial attack to assist local firefighters.



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