The Castro County News

82nd year-No. 23

Dimmitt, Texas

Thursday, August 31, 2006

www.castrocountynews.com

City hears Blue Moon proposal for WIFI

The Dimmitt City Council on Monday heard a presentation from Blue Moon, a WIFI company that wants to partner with the city to bring broad-band communications into Dimmitt.

"We just discussed it, the representative from Blue Moon, Marty Hale, talked about the technology and the capability and reliability," said Mayor Wayne Collins. "A number of council members had questions for Blue Moon."

The mayor said the capability of broad-band is tremendous and "would serve our needs for many years into the future."

"It has so much capacity," Collins said. "You can put television with it as well as telephone and Internet and have

good speed. We think it's a good opportunity to partner with them, save the citizens some money as well as generate some money for the city.

"They discussed how this would be beneficial to emergency services, allow them to communicate faster.

"With a laptop and police car, for instance, they could search the Internet and find any available information."

Although the last time a Blue Moon representative talked with the Council, they estimated it would cost \$99 per family, Collins said no prices were discussed on Monday.

"One thing he did say was the for television, the technology is there, but right now it's too expensive," Collins said.

"However, he anticipates that within a year the costs will be to the point that it was accessible for the public."

On Tuesday, several members of the Council were scheduled to go to Lubbock to get a look at exactly what Hale was describing.

Collins said he planned Monday's meeting so that council members would go to Lubbock with some idea of what Blue Moon and WIFI was about.

In other action, nothing was done on the budget.

"We'll probably work further on it at the next meeting," Collins said. "Right now, we don't have a raise for city workers.

"We're looking at capital expenditures."

It's that time of year



Photo by Carter Townsend

This is a familiar site throughout Castro County as silage is being harvested throughout the county and across the High Plains.

Patton named **Grand Marshall** of Harvest Days

Will lead the Harvest Days Parade set for Saturday, Sept. 9

Jack Patton has been selected to be the 2006 Grand Marshal of the Harvest Days Parade, set for Saturday, Sept. 9, according to the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce.

According to Patton, he was overwhelmed.

"I really didn't have any idea I was nominated, so it feels wonderful to have this honor," Patton said.

Patton has lived in the Dimmitt area for 40 years and although he's retired, he still stays busy delivering Meals on Wheels.

Currently he is the oldest active charter member of the Kiwanis Club and was the first sponsor of the Key Club for Dimmitt High School.

He managed the Carlile Theater from 1966 to 1988. He also worked at Vardell Fuels for 20 years and spent the last 20 years driving a school bus. As a youth, he spent World War II in the Navy as a pilot.

He and his wife Clara have five children: Rodney, Jim, Tim, Vera and Bill.

They are members of First United Methodist Church. Asked if his wife was pleased, Patton was noncommittal. "Well, she has been smiling more," he said.

Recent rains help irrigated cotton Too little, too late to help dryland crop

BY SHAWN WADE

High Plains cotton producers have welcomed a recent breakin the year's predominantly dry weather pattern and many have seized the opportunity to take a much needed break in what had become a non-stop effort to keep irrigation water flowing to a thirsty crop.

The area is benefiting from over a week of cooler temperatures and varying amounts of rainfall.

While the rainfall was a far cry from the general rain that most had hoped to see move through the region, the storms have provided some significant rainfall totals in many areas of the Plains. It is unfortunate that the change in the weather didn't happen a few weeks earlier. If it had more of the area's dryland producers could have reaped some benefit from the rain as well. As it stands, however, the rain was just "Too Little; Too Late" to help improve the prospects of most dryland acres.

Dryland crops that received the highest levels of rainfall could even take a step backward if the plants begin to regrow, which would make harvest even more difficult, or shed bolls.

On a brighter note, the rainfall was a boon to irrigated producers across the board.

While not likely to significantly increase current yield prospects since the crop is for the most part well past "cut-out," the rains have allowed many growers to rest irrigation wells that have been the crop's only source of water for most of the growing season.

Based on the calendar and the advanced maturity of the crop overall, some growers may opt to terminate their irrigation activity altogether if they received enough rain to finish the crop out.

For those that are still on the outside looking in, or who have been on the fringes of the recent storms, another round of storms in the next week could see them take similar action. Yield prospects for the area are unchanged with most irrigated crops expected to produce near average yields.

Dryland crop yields are expected to be well

below average as well and many fields could be abandoned before harvest due to extremely poor yield prospects.

No Decision On Changes To **Boll Count Appraisal Process**

Earlier this month, Plains Cotton Growers officials requested a change in the boll count appraisal process as it applies to dryland cotton in an effort to address the significant impact this year's drought is having on that potion of the crop.

Extreme drought stress causes cotton plants to be abnormally short (making them harder to harvest efficiently because what few bolls the plants are able to set are generally very close to ground level) and undergo a restricted reproductive growth period due to the plants inability to produce additional fruiting branches.

This often translates directly into dryland plants that are only able to sustain 1-3 small bolls, of which a high percentage will fail to

See RAIN, Page 11

Labor Day Parade set for Sunday

The traditional Labor Day Weekend Picnic in Nazareth is set for this weekend with the parade kicking off at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 3.

After the parade there will be children's barrel rides and a roast beef dinner with all the trimmings from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Community Hall. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for those 12 and younger.

There will be cow patty bingo at 1 a.m. with the children's games and water events set to start at noon. There will be arts and crafts, bingo and a raffle.

At 2 p.m., there will be an auction, featuring livestock and goods donated by parishioners and area businesses.

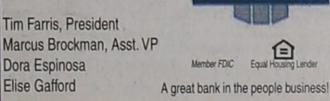
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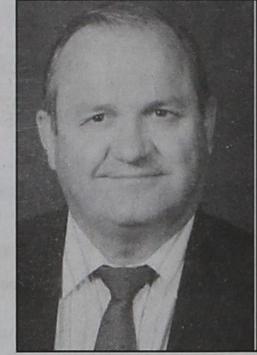
Congress fails students

By DIGGER ELAM

Educators in our nation felt like last December 2005 was a black day for education and for the students of our nation. Members of Congress hurried and scurried all through the House and Senate to wrap up business for the

This scurrying around is usual business just before going home for the Christmas holidays, but at the end of this scurrying, education got a Christmas present in the form of a lump of coal-several lumps, in fact.

In the series of votes that followed, Congress cut federal spending on



in a decade and established the first ever nationwide voucher system.

My question to the members of Congress is how can education successfully meet education to fund private counterparts. schools.

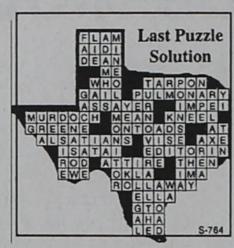
under the NCLB umbrella and can do anything they with want accountability. Ever school system should have an accountability mechanism.

I've always stated that you may send your child where you want but it may cost you extra dollars and that's the way the system should work.

Overall, Congress cut \$1.4 billion dollars from education. This my friend

this heavy burden of hurts! You can't put the NCLB requires more blame on Republicans federal dollars and not because Democrats voted for taking money from public the cuts just like their

Good luck to Private schools are not administrators, teachers, students, counselors, librarians, and nurses as you begin the 2006-2007 school year. You'll make it!





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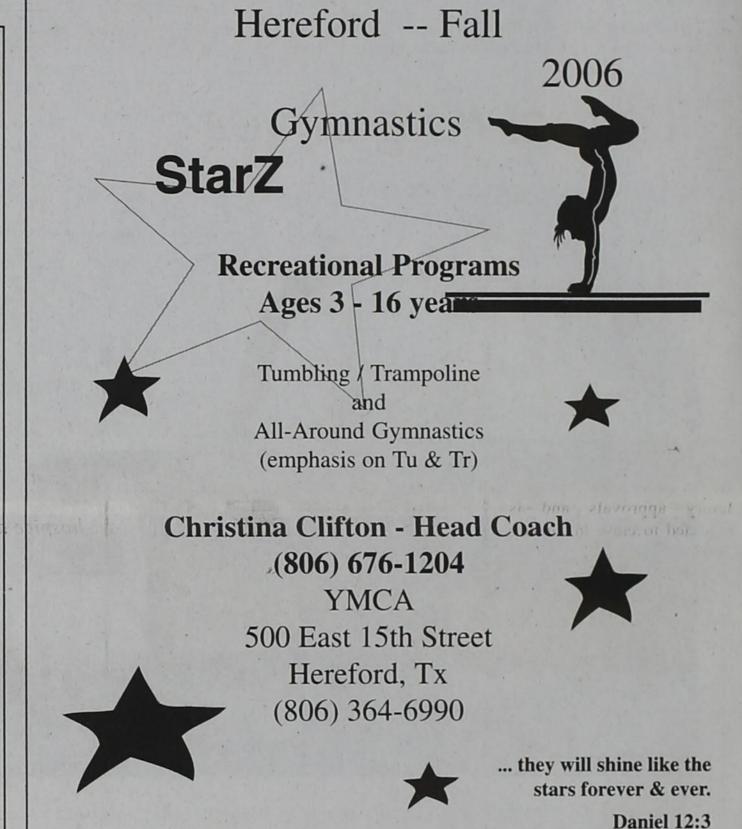
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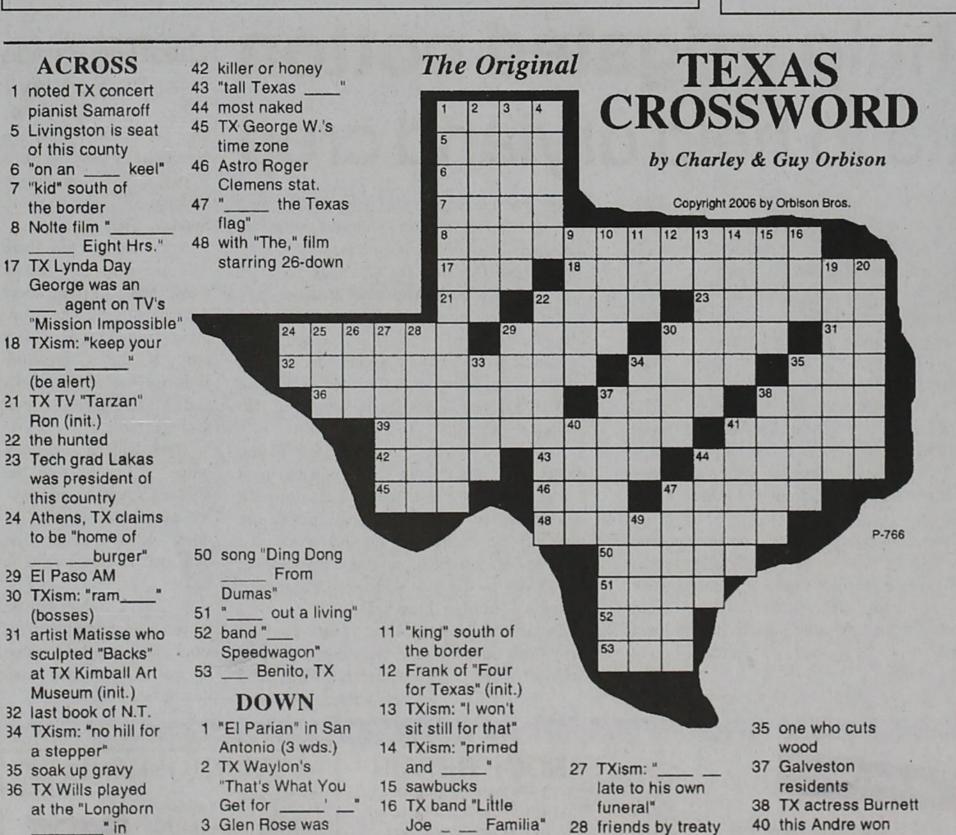
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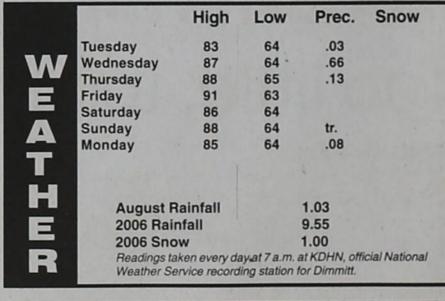
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Published each Thursday in Dimmitt, Texas, 108 W. Bedford. Periodicals postage paid at Dimmitt, Texas. Publication Number 092980.

One Year Subscription Rates: \$21.00 (in Castro County) \$30.00 (out of Castro County but in Texas) \$35.00 (out of Texas) \$21.00 (electronic delivery) Foreign subscriptions-please call for rates

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	, On the Go

Naz News

with Vergie Gerber, 945-2669

Thank you Lord for the rain! A big crowd of well-wishers attended the annual "Meet the Swifts" ice cream and cookies social held at the football concession stand and under the community hall awning Sunday afternoon. Our football team, cheerleaders, and coaches were all given special recognition.

Donna Charanza and Virgie Gerber drove to Little Elm on Friday and spent the weekend with Bryan Charanza. On Saturday, we drove to Keller and spent the afternoon at the home of Gene and Susie Gerber.

Everyone enjoyed some extra company as Jamie Birkenfeld came from Dallas and Jake Hoelting from Tyler. Also, Michael, Jenny and Raegan Goss who also

live in Keller. Jake spent Sunday at Bryan's home with us in Little Elm before returning to Tyler.

Our NFD held a Fire Prevention Poster contest recently and the winners were: Getruda Klassen 1st in primary and Aganetha Klassen 3rd. In the middle division Eva Klassen won 2nd and Haley Birkenfeld 3rd.

Joe and Imogene Drerup received a letter from their nephew Ryan Huseman, son of Dwayne and Teri Huseman. he is in Iraq and said the termperature was 130 degrees and the soldiers are carrying around 130 pounds of equipment. The sandstorms are like the one in the movie Hidalgo. Please keep him in your prayers.

Hispanic Voice

with Angie Arguijo, 647-0106

Queriamos lluvia! We wanted rain. Well, that's exactly what we got. I don't know what the weather has been in Dimmitt, but it's been wet in Amarillo. The floods gave us all a good scare last week and now everytime it rains we can't help but worry. But, I guess it's doing more good than bad so we'd better not complain. I hate to say it, but I didn't get much info for the column this week, maybe it has just been one of those slow weeks for all of us.

A little update on our little family. Jozavy hit a big milestone on Aug. 28. He turned a whole month old and hit 3 pounds!

That's pretty big news for a little guy like him. He is still doing great healthwise. F

or now, they are just trying to fatten him up a bit. Of course, he has his bad moments, but most of them are caused because he has the temper of a grown man.

He gives the nurses a run for their money. Josh and I can't begin to thank all our friends and family for their kindness and support.

Even though things are going good, it just gets harder and harder to have to be away from home and not be able to take our precious boy home.

But, friends and family have been so wonderful about being supportive and lending a helping hand when times

start to get rough. The prayers have also continued to keep us strong. It's great to know that so many people continue to pray for us. Thank you so much to everyone and may God bless you all.

VERY SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES GO OUT TO DAVID RODRIGUEZ OF LEE HIGH ACRES, FLORIDA FROM HIS MOM MARY RODRIGUEZ. DAVID CELEBRATED HIS SPECIAL DAY ON AUG. 23. HIS HOPES HE HAD A WONDERFUL DAY AND WANTS HIM TO KNOW SHE LOVES HIM VERY MUCH.

Happy Birthday to my brother, Ignacio Mendoza. He'll be celebrating his birthday on Sept. 4. Nacho, we all hope you have a great birthday.

I'd like to send a big hello to one of my best friends Claudia Houston. Claudia lives in the Dallas area but keeps up with the local happenings via the internet. She is a loyal subscriber to the Castro County News and has been keeping up with Jozavy's progress.

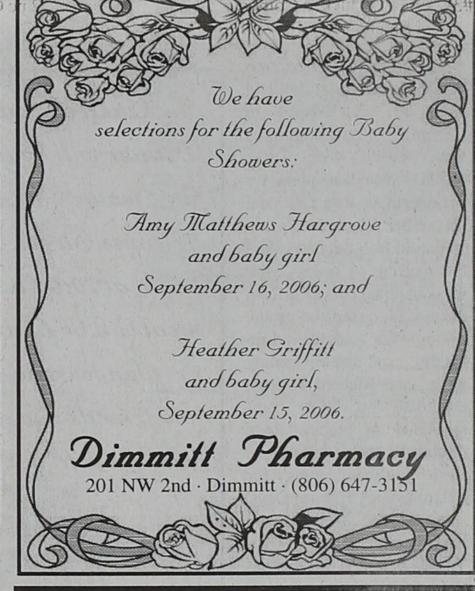
Claudia is planning a trip to Dimmitt in the near future, maybe for our 10 year reunion and I can't wait to get together with her and catch up on all the gossip. It's been a good 10 years since we've sat down for one of our heart to hearts.

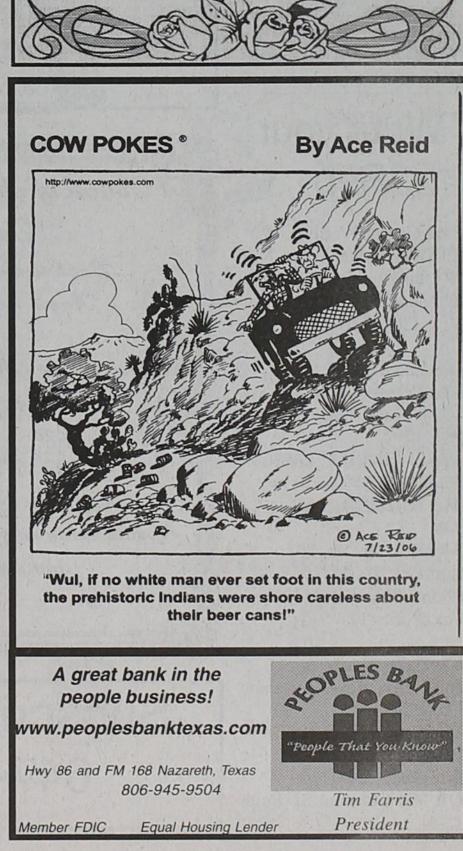
Les dije que no tenia mucho que contarles. I told you I didn't have much to share with you all. Don't forget that I have access to a computer so I am able to get your info. So keep sending your info to angie79027@hotmail.com or 346-3882. Hasta la proxima semana

Nazareth Pre-K Classes to Begin After Labor Day

Pre-K Classes at Nazareth will begin on Wednesday, September 6, 2006. All students who have pre-registered may come to the Pre-K Building for class by 8:10 a.m. Parents are asked to label their child's supplies with the first name or initials.

If you have not pre-registered your child, you may either call Deborah Clinton, the Elementary Principal, at 945-2231 to request the necessary forms be mailed or you may come by the elementary office and pick up the forms. Please make available your child's Social Security card, birth certificate, and immunizations record to be copied for the school's files. At that time, you will receive a school supply list.





VISA

First United acquires First National Bank, Lemesa

The Board of Directors of First United Bank and The First National Bank of Lamesa announced today they have entered into a definitive agreement for First United Bank to acquire The First National Bank of Lamesa.

Following the acquisition, the operations of The First National Bank of Lamesa will continue as a full service Banking Center of First United Bank operated by existing personnel of The First National Bank. The transaction is subject to certain conditions and regulatory approvals and is expected to close in January 2007.

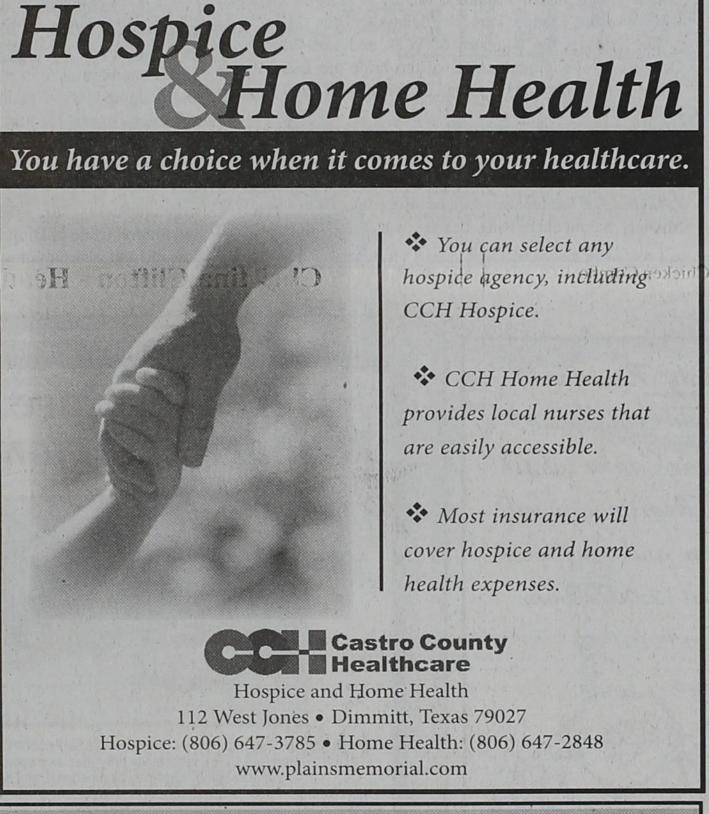
First United Bank, a subsidiary of Plains Bancorp, Inc., reports total assets of approximately \$530 million and currently operates twelve (12) Banking Center offices in Amarillo, Canyon, Dimmitt, Earth, Littlefield, Lubbock, Seagraves, Seminole and Sudan, Texas. The First National Bank of Lamesa reports total assets of \$120 million and operates one banking office in Lamesa, Texas.

The combined banking operations will have assets of \$650 million, deposits of \$550 million, loans of \$350 million and equity capital in excess of \$50 million.

First United Bank has been servicing the financial needs of West Texans since 1907. R. Mark Bain, President of Plains Bancorp, Inc. stated "First United Bank is extremely proud to expand

our bank into Lamesa and Dawson County. This acquisition continues with our strategic plan to expand our company into progressive markets throughout the West Texas region. We remain

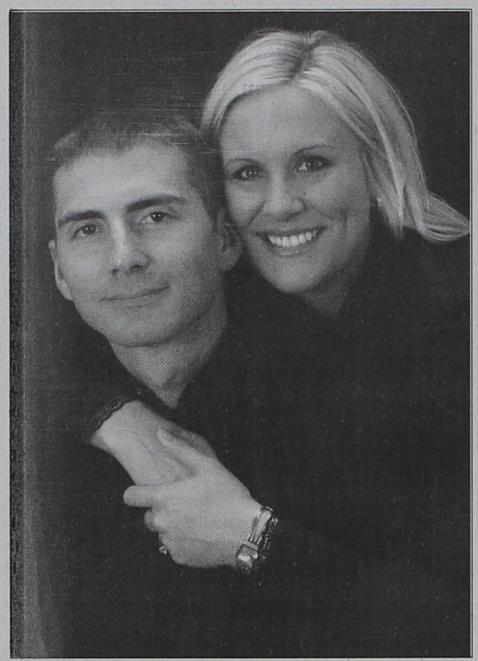
sector and the viability of community banking on the South Plains and the entire West Texas region. We feel this is an excellent opportuSee FIRST, Page 9





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Everett Wayland and Ashley Forsythe

Wayland-Forsythe

Ruth and Paul Wayland of Dimmitt are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their son, Everett Wayland to Ashley Forsythe, daughter of Brian Williams of Idabel, Okla., and Lueta Kanngiesser of Wichita, Kan.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Wichita State University in Wichita, Kan., with degrees in finance and real estate.

The prospective groom is also a graduate of Wichita State University with a degree in criminal justice.

The couple will exchange wedding vows on Sept. 14, 2006, at the Ambergris Caye in Belize.

W.T. Coalition of Democrats meet

The West Texas Coalition of Democrats met Tuesday, Aug. 22, at K-Bobs in Dimmitt. Representatives from several West Texas counties discussed plans for the upcoming state and local November elections.

Harold Bob Bennett called the meeting to order. After introductions, two local candidates addressed the group, asking for advice. Lint Merritt, candidate for county judge, and Richard Rickert, candidate for county commissioner in precinct two, discussed their campaigns. Both outlines plans for Castro County Harvest Days.

A meeting of the group has been scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 7 at K-Bobs in Dimmitt.

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Mrs. Rob Schmucker nee Sheena Maples

Schmucker-Maples

Sheena Maples of Plainview and Rob Schmucker of Lockney were married Sunday, July 2, at The Inn at Salado with the Rev. Lianne Turner officiating.

The bride is the daughter of W.B. and Lori Maples of Copperas Cove. Grandparents of the bride are Bennett and Davie Lee Maples of Copperas Cover and J.T. and Frankie Parker of Belton.

The groom is the son of Jim and Bobbie Schmucker of Nazareth. Grandparents of the groom are Joe and Amy Schmucker and Carl and Mary Kleman, all of Nazareth.

Matron of honor was Shene Robison. Best man was Michael Schmucker. Ring bearers was Eli Schmucker.

Following a honeymoon trip to Aruba, the couple are living in Lockney, where both teach and coach at LISD.

Heard feted with shower

Lyndsey Heard, bride-elect of Josh Flores, was honored with a bridal shower on Saturday, Aug. 26, 2006, in the home of Teresa Williams.

The serving table was adorned with a beautiful bouquet of red poppies, accented with candles and silver crosses in a bed of fern atop a Battenburg table cloth. Guests were served chocolate-covered strawberries along with other fruits, sweet breads and peach tea on black and whitecheckered dishes.

Guests were greeted by the bride-elect, along with her mother, Elaine, and sister, Haley. Special, out-of-town guests included grandmothers of the bride-elect, Joyce Streety and Molly Heard, both of Littlefield; sisters of the groom, Annette Martinez and Lynette Flores of San Antonio; aunts of the bride-elect, Donna McMillian of Lubbock and Gail Riley of Littlefield; and their daughters, Lori, Audra and Carly. Melody, Kate and Micah Link and Kathy Plank were out-of-town friends that came to offer their congratulations.

The bride-elect was presented with a comforter and accessories by the hostesses.

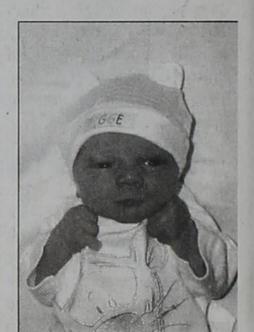
Who's New

Dusty and Poppy Michelle Giles of Chama, N.M. are the proud parents of a baby

Austin Lynn Giles was born July 29, 2006, at BSA in Amarillo.

He was born at 6:56 p.m. and weighted seven pounds and three ounces. He was 19 1/4 inches long. Austin has a brother, Brendon, who is

Grandparents are Milas and Sharon Cline of Dimmitt and Joe and Sharon Giles of Azle.

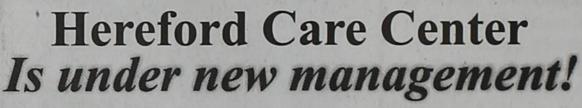


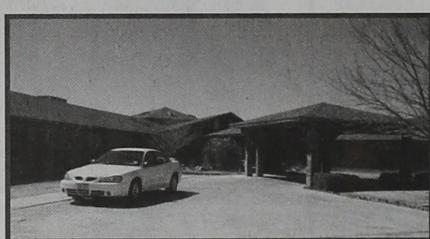
AUSTIN LYNN GILES Great-grandmother is Dorthy Raglin of San Angelo

The Castro County Reunion Dinner will be held September 9 at the Senior Citizens Center at 218 W Jones Street. Registration will begin at 10:00 a.m. and a pot luck meal will be had at 12:00 Doon. So plan to come and visit old friends and new and eat with us.



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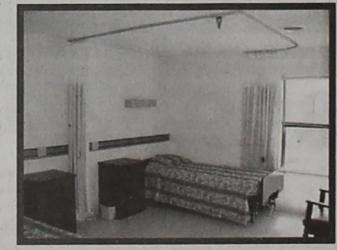
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CHURCH NEWS



Does God answer prayers - Part II

But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:6

This week I want to continue with the question about God answering our prayers. Last week we looked at how God answers our prayers by saying yes, no, and making us wait for an answer on His time. This week I want to look at a couple more answers that we often get when we pray.

I want to point out first that we have no say whatsoever in the kind of answer we will get from our Father in heaven. We must first have the attitude that He is the "King" and we are the "subject". He knows what's best for His children in any and all circumstances. God "substitutes". He sends something different or yet better than the

request itself. Perhaps more than we asked for from the start. Moses prayed to enter Palestine, he was not allowed, but later he was allowed to see it from Pisgah and from the Mount of Transfiguration.

Jesus did not return to heal Lazarus, but He raised him from the dead. (John. 11:43-44) When a parent can't give a child what they want, they sometimes substitute the better.

God answers through "changing us". Prayer changes situations because God changes us. The growth that takes place when we change is far more rewarding than the changing of a mere circumstance in life. God will often change us rather than the circumstances we face. The challenge for us is to open our eyes and see Him changing our lives as we speak.

Our prayers need to be a plea for strength and perseverance instead of an easier road to travel. To pray is to change and be open to what God wants for us.

My friends, when we pray it is not just words and noise. Our prayers are the very breath and oxygen of our faith in God. May we not give up praying with and open heart. (Hodge, pg 28-29) Keep Looking up!

Trent Tanaro is the Youth Minister at Fourth and Bedford Church of Christ, Dimmitt.



Morning Show

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

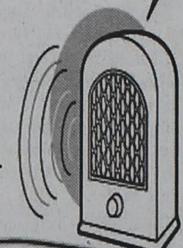
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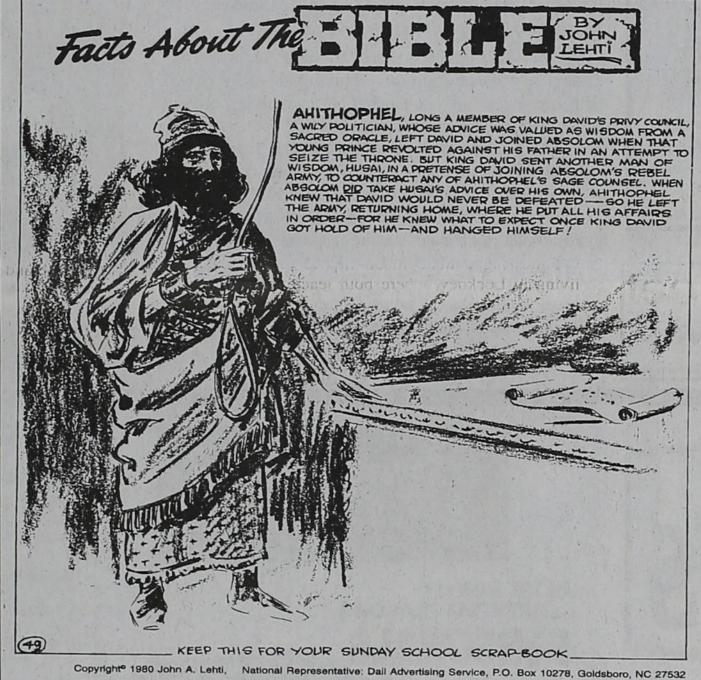
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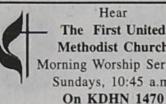
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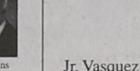
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Celebrate Labor Day on Monday

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BY FREDRIC HAMBER

It is fitting that the most productive nation on earth should have a holiday to honor its work. The high standard of living that Americans enjoy is hard-earned and well-deserved. But the term "Labor Day" is a misnomer. What we should celebrate is not sweat and toil, but the power of man's mind to reason, invent and create.

Several centuries ago, providing the basic necessities for one's survival was a matter of daily drudgery for most people. But Americans today enjoy conveniences undreamed of by medieval kings. Every day brings some new useful household gadget, or a new software system to increase our productivity, or a breakthrough in biotechnology.

So, it is worth asking: Why do Americans have no unique holiday to celebrate the creators, inventors, and entrepreneurs who have made all of this wealth possible--the men of the mind?

The answer lies in the dominant intellectual view of the nature of work. Most of today's intellectuals, influenced by several generations of Marxist political philosophy, still believe that wealth is created by sheer physical toil. But the high standard of living we enjoy today is not due to our musculature and physical stamina. Many animals have been much stronger. We owe our relative affluence not to muscle power, but to brain power.

Brain power is given a left-handed acknowledgement in today's fashionable aphorism that we are living in an "information age" in which education and knowledge are the keys to economic success. The implication of this idea, however, is that prior to the invention of the silicon chip, humans were able to flourish as brainless automatons.









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The importance of knowledge to progress is not some recent trend, but a metaphysical fact of human nature. Man's mind is his tool of survival and the source of every advance in material well-being throughout history, from the harnessing of fire, to the invention of the plough, to the discovery of electricity, to the invention of the latest anti-cancer drug.

Contrary to the Marxist premise that wealth is created by laborers and "exploited" by those at the top of the pyramid of ability, it is those at the top, the best and the brightest, who increase the value of the labor of those at the bottom. Under capitalism, even a man who has nothing to trade but physical labor gains a huge advantage by leveraging the fruits of minds more creative than his. The labor of a construction worker, for example, is made more productive and valuable by the inventors of the jackhammer and the steam shovel, and by the farsighted entrepreneurs who market and sell such tools to his employer. The work of an office clerk, as another example, is made more efficient by the men who invented copiers and fax machines. By applying human ingenuity to serve men's needs, the result is that physical labor is made less laborious and more productive.

An apt symbol of the theory that sweat and muscle are the creators of economic value can be seen in those Soviet-era propaganda posters depicting man as a mindless muscular robot with an expressionless, cookiecutter face. In practice, that theory led to chronic famines in a society unable to produce even the most basic necessities.

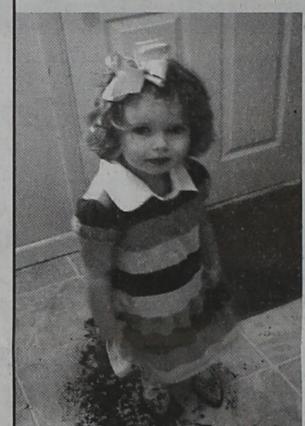
A culture thrives to the extent that it is governed by reason and science, and stagnates to the extent that it is governed by brute force. But the importance of the mind in human progress has been evaded by most of this century's intellectuals. Observe, for example, George Orwell's novel 1984, which depicts a totalitarian state that still, somehow, is a fully advanced technological society. Orwell projects the impossible: technology without the minds to produce it.

The best and brightest minds are always the first to either flee a dictatorship in a "brain drain" or to cease their creative efforts. A totalitarian regime can force some men to perform muscular labor; it cannot force a genius to create, nor force a businessman to make rational decisions. A slave owner can force a man to pick peanuts; only under freedom would a George Washington Carver discover ways to increase crop yields. What Americans should celebrate is the spark of genius in the scientist who first identifies a law of physics, in the inventor who uses that knowledge to create a new engine or telephonic device, and in the businessmen who daily translate their ideas into tangible wealth.





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Coach pleased with scrimmage Thursday

Will play **New Deal** at home On Friday

Head football coach Joe Cabezuela said Thursday's scrimmage at Bushland against Boys Ranch was a good outing for his team.

"We did well," he said. "You could see improvement from the last scrimmage.

"We were able to move the ball offensively and still are playing good defense.

"We had some good things happen defensively.

"Overall, we're pleased with what our kids are doing.

"They're doing a great job of responding to what we ask them to do."

He said the lineup is pretty well fixed.

"Offensively, we're going with Landon Porsche, a junior, at quarterback starter," he said. "Colton Bradley will still get some

In the backfield, Scott Martinez will play tailback and Houston Sutton will play fullback.

"We added a few more things offensively," he said. "Our staff is doing a great job of coaching and teaching our kids.

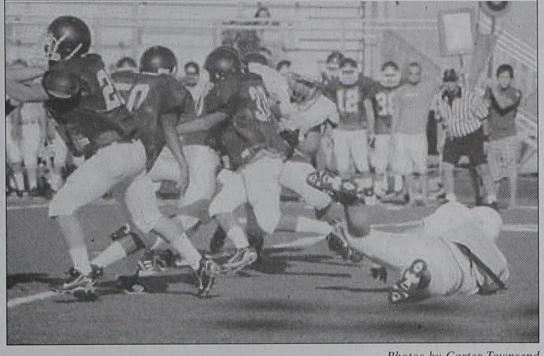
"They're having fun and enjoying themselves. It's easier to teach in that situation."

Cabezuela said the offense is going with a twoback offense and incorporating the shotgun on occasion.

"Landon's doing a fine job of thowing out of the shotgun," he said. As for district play,

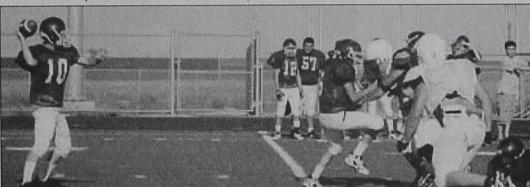
"Right now, we believe we can compete," he said. "We can pick up some wins along the way.

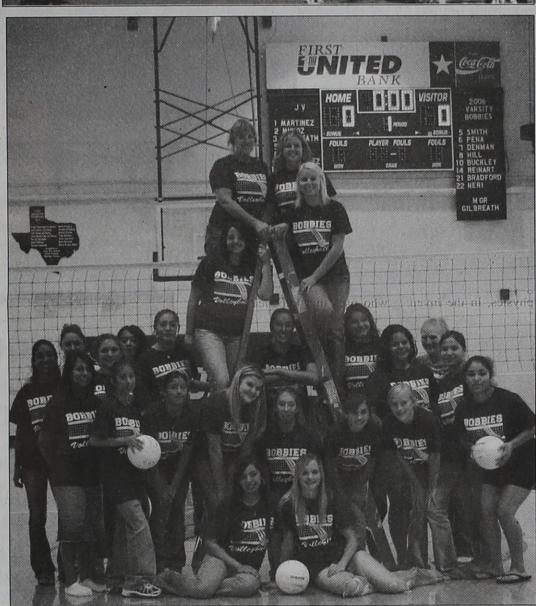
"Our kids have responded all along so we're pretty confident right now."



Photos by Carter Townsend

Above, a Dimmitt runner goes through the Boys Ranch line on Thursday. Below, the Dimmitt quarterback falls back to pass.





2006 Dimmit Bobbies Volleyball

Dimmitt Football Varsity

7:30 HM

Sept. 1 New Deal Sept. 8 Farwell 7:30 AW Sept. 15Olton 7:30 AW Sept. 22 Vega 7:30 AW Sept. 29 H.P. 7:30 HM Homecoming Tulia 7:30 AW Oct. 6 Oct. 13 Open

Muleshoe 7:30 HM Oct. 20

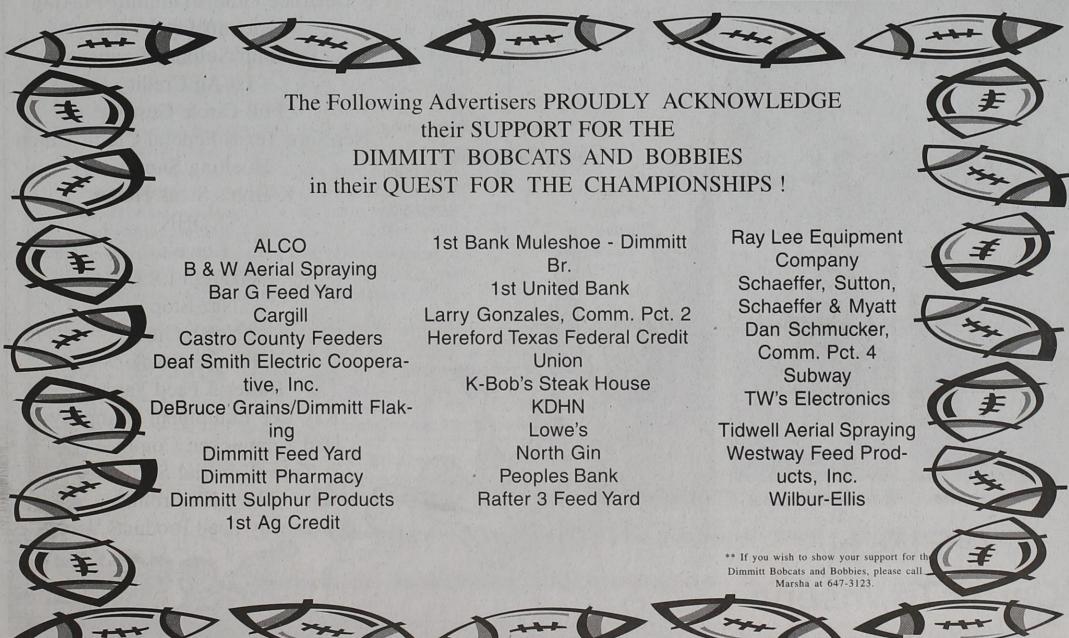
Oct. 29 Bushland 7:00 AW 7:30 HM Nov. 2 Friona River Road 7:30 AW Nov. 10

Go Bobcats and Bobbies!



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Swifts ready to take on Sunray on Saturday

Optimistic after scrimmage with Bovina

The Nazareth Swifts lined up against Bovina on Friday, and as scrimmages go, all went well, accord-Peacock.

"We made some mistakes on both sides of the ball," Peacock said.

right and wrong.

"I was real pleased with regular season. our young kids.

that was a good sign for said.

However, there is a solid core of seniors with experience, he said.

group of seniors I've had in the six years I've been here," Peacock said.

"That always helps when ing to head coach Ricky you have the older kids that have been through the wars."

Both Nazareth and said. Bovina went to the play-"It's just a chance to line offs last year, but Nazareth up against someone else, went 10-0 in the season, he said. seeing what you're doing including defeating Bovina in the final game of the

"We feel like the scrim-"They played well and mages make us better," he

> "It shows us what we need to work on.

"We got a lot of good out of the scrimmage, it "This is the biggest showed us where we are how we can we improve."

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On Saturday, the Swifts will meet Sunray at noon in Amarillo at Dick Bivins stadium.

The Sunray team is always good, too, Peacock

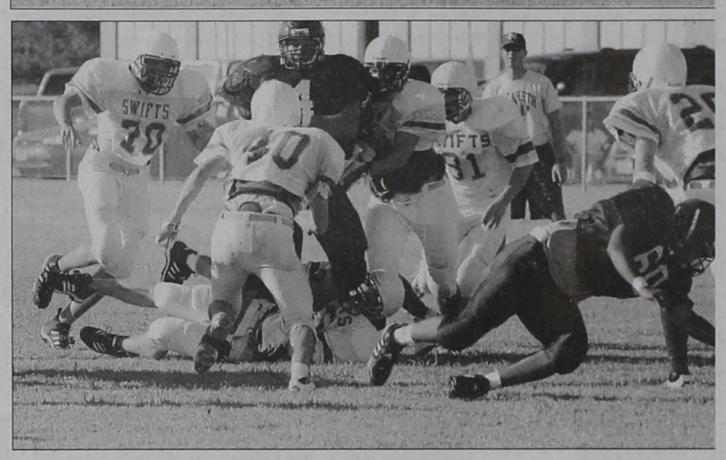
"They've been really good the last few years,"

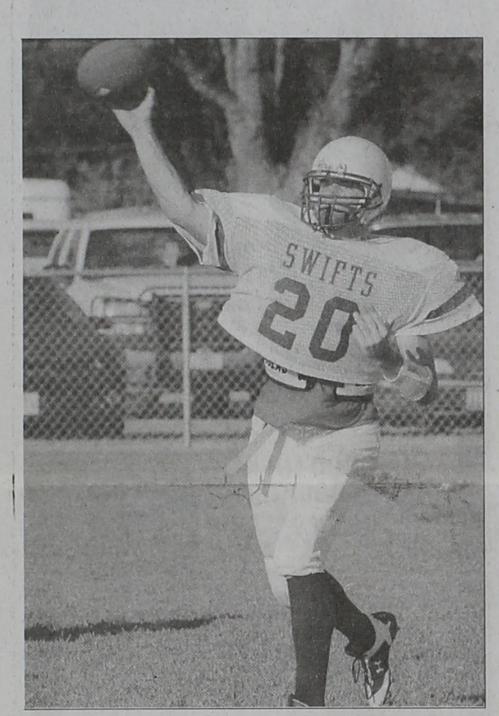
"It'll be a good opening game for us. We feel really good about our chances against Sunray, optimism is running high at this point of the year."

The Swifts scrimmaged against Bovina on Friday. All the photos show that the Swifts were up for that encounter. However, since players didn't wear their regular numbers, it's impossible to I.D. every player. The Swifts are in light-colored uni-

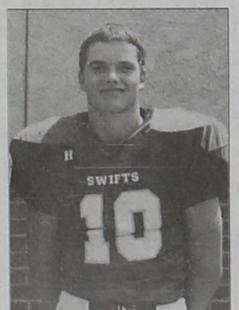
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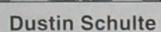








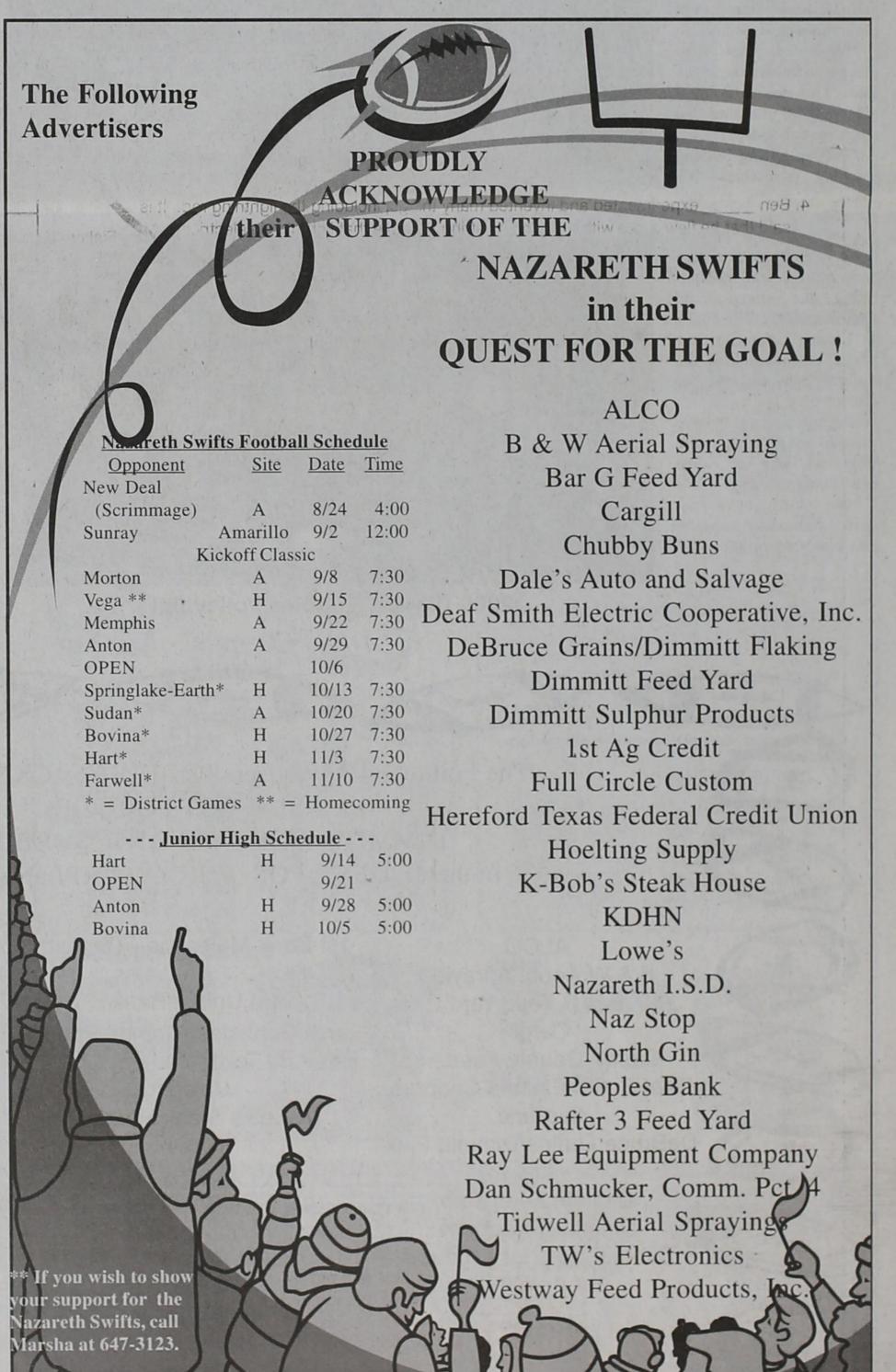






Tucker Waggoner

Photos by **Carter Townsend**



Sorghum News

The NSP Board of Directors voted unanimously last week to move forward with the process of creating a national sorghum checkoff. Directors made this decision based on the recommendation of a checkoff committee made up of NSP directors, state checkoff and association representatives and state staff.

Earlier this summer, NSP President Greg Shelor appointed members to the committee that is chaired by NSP President-Elect Dale Murden. The Board also accepted some of the committee's ideas regarding cornerstones of a possible program. Directors on the NSP board are now getting input from their sponsoring organizations before the process moves forward.

In April, NSP leaders started looking at the possibility of a national checkoff and instructed staff to start an official evaluation. The Board made a similar instruction three years ago. In May, NSP officers and staff met with USDA staff to ask a number of critical questions related to a national checkoff program. After this meeting, the staff visited with all of the checkoff organizations formed under the 1996 generic checkoff legislation. If you have any questions about the process of moving forward with a national checkoff, please don't hesitate to call the NSP office at (806) 749-3478.

Continued from Page 3

nity for both our organization and the organization and customers of The First National Bank of Lamesa."

In making the announcement, Robert F. Brown President and CEO of The First National Bank of Lamesa said "This merger will provide our customers with access to expanded and enhanced banking products and services First United Bank has a strong heritage and their financial strength and commitment to this region will create additional opportunities for our customers and market."

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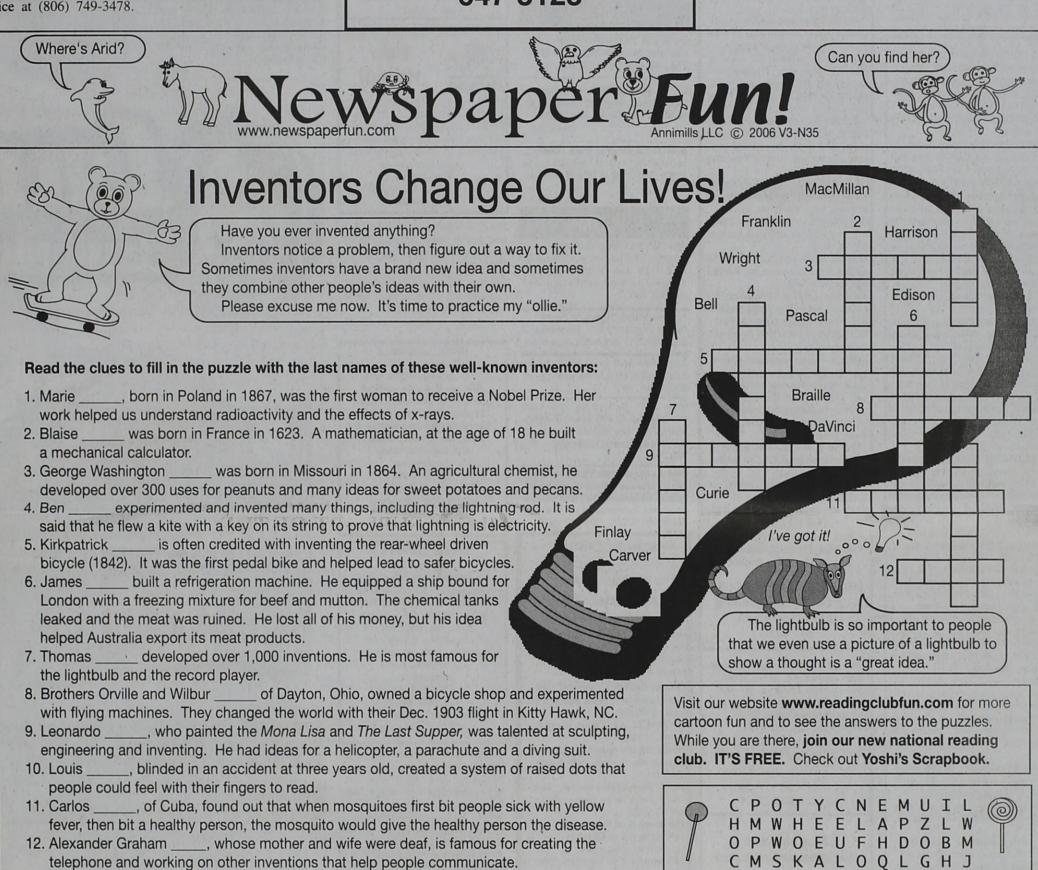
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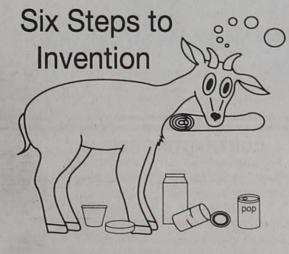
Match each clue about an inventor to the invention we love:

- 1. Samuel Born invented a machine that inserted the sticks into
- 2. Rose Totino invented a dough product for frozen
- 3. Pedro Flores mass produced a toy on a string called a
- 4. Robert Patch, at 6 years old, designed a toy
- 5. Ralph Baer invented the first home video game console and
- 6. George Ferris designed this giant fun ride called the Ferris
- 7. Frank Epperson, who at age 11 found a fruit soda and stirring stick he left outside frozen, invented the
- 8. Allan Ollie Gelfand developed the "Ollie," a leap into the air on a
- 9. Ruth Wakefield put chocolate bits into her cookie dough, creating
- 10. Curt Jones invented a snack by flash freezing beads of

Find and circle these words in

- the puzzle: A. yo-yo
- B. pizza
- C. wheel
- D. game E. truck
- F. chocolate
- chip cookies
- G. Popsicle ® H. lollipops
- I. ice cream
- J. skateboard





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The second second second	

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Listen to what others tell you. Make your invention better.

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14-tfc-20

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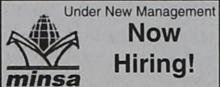
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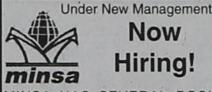
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21-tfc

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Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. Progressive CPA firm seeking Staff Accountants for Amarillo, Dimmitt and Tulia offices. Accounting Degree required. Competitive salary and benefits, with opportunity for growth. Send resume to Firm Administrator,

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Cotton News

Cotton futures on the New York Board of Trade settled modestly higher Thursday, but within the recent trading range in a lackluster day of trading.

"The market probably is buying time until the release of USDA's September supply/demand report," said one analyst. "Poor export sales and mill-use figures offer no encouragement to the market, and prices probably will remain within the recent range."

U.S. textile mills used cotton at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.6 million bales in July, down from last



DANCE! STREET

The "Showtakers"

The Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce invites Everyone to the First Annual Street Dance which will be held Saturday Night from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 Midnight on Saturday, September 9, 2006 during the Harvest Days Festival in Dimmitt. The street East of the Castro County Courthouse will be blocked off for dancing and just sitting and listening to the music and visiting with friends, both old and new. So bring your lawn chair, dance partner and dancing shoes and enjoy the live music to be provided by "The Showtakers", food and beverage booths.

This event is brought to you by the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce and is graciously sponsored by:

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year''s adjusted figure of 6.74 million, according to data gathered by the U.S. Census Bureau and compiled by the National Cotton Council (NCC).

The NCC also adjusted its June 2006 figure to 5.69 million bales from 5.84 million. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the total monthly U.S. consumption of cotton during July was 389,816 bales compared to 465,485 bales at the same time one year ago.

Meanwhile, USDA reported net export sales of U.S. cotton totaled 91,800 bales in the week ended August 17, a 16 percent increase from the previous week.

Major buyers were China, Turkey, Japan, and Peru.

At 189,000 bales, export shipments were 23 percent below the previous week's total. Primary destinations included China, Indonesia, and Mexico.

On the spot cotton scene, sales increased considerably this week as online trading by producers in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas in the week ended August 24 totaled 3,114 bales compared to the previous week when 1,794 bales were traded.

Average prices received by producers in the most recent week ranged from 38.05 to 49.72 cents per pound compared to 46.35 to 52.99 cents per pound the previous week.

In other news, widespread thunderstorms moved across the Texas High and Rolling Plains early this week bringing much-needed rain.

Precipitation accumulations varied, but growers appreciated the moisture.

Elsewhere in the state, outside activities progressed nicely with little interruption.

Harvesting began on a small scale in Central Texas, and widespread work is expected to commence in a week to 10 days. P

icking is expanding rapidly in the Upper Coastal Bend while the season is nearing an end in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley.

Even with the scattered rainfall throughout large portions of the Cotton Belt in the last few weeks, USDA reported weather conditions have contributed to a slight decline in some of the crop.

The department placed an average of 36 percent of the crop in very poor to poor condition as of August 20 compared to the previous week's 35 percent and last year''s 11 percent. An average of 38 percent of the crop is rated in good to excellent condition, compared to 39 percent the prior week and last year's 63 percent.

"Due to current weather conditions, there's still a lot of uncertainty in the market over how large both the U.S. and the world cotton crop really is," a cotton trader said. "This uncertainty is forcing many participants to remain on the sidelines so the market may not move substantially in either direction unless something major happens," he concluded.

Dog-Days of summer have captured the market

BY O.A. CLEVELAND

The dog days of summer have captured the market again-it is that time of the year.

The market is somewhat motionless and is looking for direction. The end of the 2005-06 marketing year and the beginning of the 2006-07 marketing year has left the market in its typical stall.

With the exception of weekly U.S. exports and monthly domestic consumption reports, traditional fundamentals that can be quantified are hard to come by.

entering a period where the

seasonal price trend is higher. Remember, never cantly below prior year bet against the seasonals.

seasonals! Too, the weather woes that seemingly were discounted after USDA's August crop report suggested little to no change in world and U.S. production, release this week of the U.S. are coming to life again. With the exception of the West, other regions of the U.S. appear to have suffered further crop deterioration. Rain remains in the forecast for the Midsouth for the next five days as the water logged However, the market is Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas crops want nothing but sunshine. If that were not enough, the storm moving through Caribbean is expected to move into the Gulf of Mexico on Tuesday, the first anniversary of the deadly Katrina. Cotlook lowered its estimate this week of the Pakistan crop 600,000 bales below that of the USDA August report. Too, many private sources have lowered the Pakistani crop even more, between 750,000 and 1.0 million bales. The rains and floods in India, mentioned last week, have subsided and initial reports place the crop up to 350,000 bales lower. The lag in U.S. export sales continues to be noticed only by those in the U.S. Weekly net sales of upland cotton were only 91,800 bales and shipments were 189,000 bales.

While both are signifinumbers, they are well Never bet against the above their respective five year averages. For now there is no real concern as cheaper West African and Brazilian cotton seem to be in the spotlight. Too, the monthly domestic consumption report pegging July usage at an annualized level of 5.6 million bales was not unexpected. Hopefully, the real news will turn out to be the emergence of mill de-

mand building under the

market, coupled with the

realization that mill offering prices have increased for 50 to 100 points in the past few

Many mills, over the course of the next two months, can no longer wait for the market to come down to them.

They must bid up to the market. No where is this clearer than in realizing that merchant asking pricing are beginning to move higher. Thus, the demand side of the market is building support under prices. The December contract should be well supported at 54 cents.



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RAIN

Continued from Page 1

contribute to yield either because they are not able to be retrieved by mechanical harvesting equipment or simply fail to fully mature and open.

during the bloom/boll-setting period also leads to

bolls that contain fewer seed per boll which contributes to The lack of moisture, a smaller overall boll size and further decreases the crops yield potential.

> PCG's ongoing discussion with the USDA Risk Management Agency about their boll count deviation request has stressed that the advanced maturity of the 2006 dryland crop makes it imperative that the calculations done by appraisers recognize the reduced yield potential of the crop.

> Dryland crops in many areas are already at a point where boll count appraisals could be requested.

> The latest word from RMA is that a decision could be madeby early next week and allow remaining dryland acres to be evaluated using a revised boll count procedure.

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Eva Mullins takes helm at Dimmitt Chamber

Long before Eva Mullins took over as the Executive Director of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce it was evident she was a people person.

Now, she's just expanding her horizons.

Eva and her husband, Mike, along with daughter, Baylee, 7, moved to Dimmitt and opened Colonial Funeral Home about two years ago. And she's immersed herself in civic activities since then...

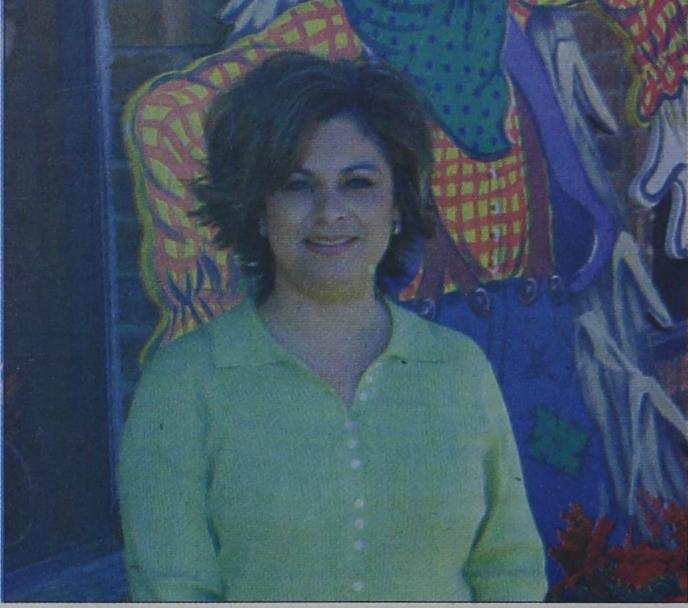
"I like hanging out with people, being social, doing volunteer work," she said. "I think my motto is 'I want to make Dimmitt a better place to live, so that people don't think they have to go out of town to have fun, that we have activities planned here, where they can stay home and have fun."

That, she said, now becomes even more important with the rise of gasoline prices.

Of course, right now, she involved with the Harvest Days, but she has other things in mind.

"I'm working on 'Clean up, Fix Up, Pride Up, Dimmitt' for the Spring, she said. "And in speaking to Cheryle Pybus and Bill Sava, we're going to try to bring back the Dimmitt Follies. And of course, the Saturday of the Harvest Day's we'll have a street dance from 8 p.m. to midnight on the east side of the Courthouse."

In conjunction with Harvest



Eva Mullins was named Chamber Executive Director recently.

Days, she's also working on the fair, the parade and support here. a host of activities, but know about Dimmitt.

to know more about our place to take pride in.' " dairies," she said.

The people I have met with the dairies have been awesome, like the local heard any negativity. Dairywomen."

And she said she's found people to shop locally. Our

businesses will go out if we

In her spare time, she's

co-chairman of Relay for

Life, but it all seems to give

place where people want to

live, I'll do anything I can to

"If it's about bettering our

"I've had more people don't." there's more she wants to walking in the front door of the Chamber saying, 'I want also the PTO president and "I'm real excited to get to help you make Dimmitt a

"I can't do it by myself - her more energy. "I'm going to tour some it's everyone with the because I think it's impor- community working to- schools and making this a tant to know about that. gether, but I've had extremely good response from the community. I've not help."

And I'm encouraging

Class of 1996 plans reunion

Community Calendar

The Class of 1996 is planning a 10-year reunion.

We are searching for all fellow classmates. If you or anyone you know has contact information for an alumni, please contact the following: Cicely Reyna via e-mail at cicely landers@yahoo.com or phone (817) 691-1518 or Alicia (Sanchez) Escamilla e-mail via alicia.escamilla@ttu.edu or by phone at (806) 544-548. The reunion will be Sept. 29 through Oct. 1.

Harvest Days Fair set for Sept. 7-9

The Castro County Fair Association has begun renting out booth space and preparing for a great fair this year, which is scheduled to begin Sept. 7 and run through Sept. 9.

Registration for the Junior Tractor Pull will be Thursday, Sept. 7 at 4:45 p.m. at the Castro County Expo; registration for the Pet Show will be the same day at 5 p.m. Friday, starting at noon, registration for fair exhibits will begin and end at 6 p.m. at the Expo Center. The Castro County Fair Parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9. The theme this year will be "A Heart for Country Living." Let's make this a year to remember our parade with lots of floats and participants.

Don't forget to nominate an individual for Parade Grand Marshal. It should be someone who has contributed and supported our community. Stop by the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce to pick up a nomination form. The Chamber is planning on having a Street Dance this year on Saturday evening. For more information on booths, either inside or outside the Expos, call (806) 647-2524.

Photo exhibit at the **Home Merc**

The photography exhibit "Where the Spirit Left" is on display in the Home Mercantile Building in Nazareth, and can be viewed by the public (until Sept. 4) on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7pm, or on Sunday from 10:30am to 12 noon. There is no charge for admission. Information on Ms. Harvey's work can be found

www.wherethespiritleft.com. For those wanting to see the exhibit from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. during the week, can call 806-945-2211 to have the building opened.

For more information contact Darryl Birkenfeld at 806-938-2529 or Melinda Harvey at 806-535-3860.

English classes offered The First Assembly of

God Church, 300 S.E. 2nd Street in Dimmitt is offering free adult English classes, free, starting May 2. The classes will run from 7

to 9 p.m. For more information, call 647-5662.

AFS student homes needed

If you're interested in hosting a student from a foreign country who will attend school in Dimmitt, please call Vicki Buckley at 647-2472.

Signup for Kids Inc.

Castro County Kids Inc. will have boys and girls soccer (kindergarten through sixth grade) and boys and girls flag football (second through fourth grade) signups from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 31 at the Richardson Elementary Cafeteria.

For more information, call Nick Larra at 647-8687 or Melissa Carpenter at 647-3657.

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