







# People



## Health fair planned for Oct. 15

Flu vaccinations, screening for cholesterol and blood sugar, Chem 22, PSA tests and blood pressure checks will be offered during a Castro County Community Health

Fair in Dimmitt on Oct. 15. The fair will be held at the Plains Memorial Hospital's ambulance barn on Oct. 15 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Flu shots will be offered for \$5.

Extension Service, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, Kidney Foundation, Child Protective Services, Depression Screening, Nutritional Counseling, Hospice Services, Amarillo College, DARE, Castro County Emergency Medical Services and Aero Care—Air Transport Services.

A quilt will be raffled by the Hospital Auxiliary, and chances will be available during the fair.

Cost for cholesterol and blood screening will be \$7. The Chem 22 test will cost \$15 while the PSA test will be offered for \$20. Blood pressure checks will be conducted by Home Health nurses for free.

Information booths will be provided on the Harrington Cancer Center, Home Health, Castro County

## Haywood tells personnel change

State Senator Tom Haywood recently announced that he has hired Shannel Woodard as the new Western District coordinator of Texas Senate District 30.

He said Woodard will assume responsibilities formerly handled by Trey Powers, who now works in the Senator's Austin office.

The Abilene district office will be responsible for responding to constituent inquiries, handling constituent casework concerning state agencies, and assisting local and regional governments. The Western District includes Castro County, along with Taylor, Jones, Fisher, Haskell, Scurry, Kent, Stonewall,

Throckmorton, Dickens, Knox, King, Floyd, Motley, Swisher and Briscoe counties.

Woodard received her bachelor of science degree from Texas Tech University in 1989. Her community involvement includes membership in the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, American Heart Association, Texas Tech X-Students Association, and the Big Country Society of Human Resource Management.

The Western District office for Senate District 30 is located on 1025 East North Tenth Street, Suite 285, in Abilene. Woodard can be reached during normal business hours at 915-672-2436.

## Dutton graduates from Texas A&M

Danny Wayne Dutton of Dimmitt received his bachelor of science degree in animal science from Texas A&M University in commencement ceremonies in August.

Close to 2,000 students received their degrees in two separate ceremonies. Commencement speakers were James R. Adams, chairman of the board of Texas Instruments in Dallas, and Robert K. Goodwin, president and chief executive officer of The Points of Light Foundation in Washington, D.C.

## Flame Fellowship to hear Warner

Jean Warner will speak Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Rhoads Memorial Library for the October meeting of the Dimmitt Chapter of Flame Fellowship International.

"We are happy to welcome back Jean Warner as the speaker for our second anniversary," a group spokesperson said. "God uses Jean to minister hope and encouragement to women's groups, churches and at seminars and conventions across the country."

"The depth and intimacy of her personal relationship with God is evident as she ministers. Come and be blessed by God's word. Everyone is welcome."



MISTI DAWN HOWELL of Blanchard, Okla., daughter of former Dimmitt residents Gaines and Crystal Howell, was chosen as the new 1997 Pre-Teen Oklahoma in the senior division. She was one of 168 contestants from across Oklahoma. *Courtesy Photo*

## Howell wins Oklahoma pre-teen beauty pageant

Misti Dawn Howell, daughter of Gaines and Crystal Howell of Blanchard, Okla., former Dimmitt residents, was recently crowned as the new 1997 Pre-Teen Oklahoma.

She is the granddaughter of Jack and Charlene Howell and CD and Linda Fitzgearld, all of Dimmitt.

Howell was one of 168 contestants from across Oklahoma who entered the pageant. She received a \$1,000 educational bond, titleholder's trophy, personal banner, medal, top 25 finalist's trophy and the trophy for having the top interview among all contestants.

She also entered the talent competition and she performed a flute solo of the "Feather Theme" from the movie *Forrest Gump*. She finished as third runner-up in the talent competition among 98 contestants.

As Miss Pre-Teen Oklahoma, Howell qualified to compete in the 1998 Pre-Teen America national competition, which will be held in Baton Rouge, La.

The pageant was held at the Southern Hills Marriott Hotel in Tulsa, Okla.

Students competing were between the ages of 7 and 12. Contestants were evaluated in seven areas including academic achievement, volunteer service to church and community, school honors and activities, development of personal skills and abilities, general knowledge, communicative ability, on-stage expressiveness and overall pre-teen image.

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# BEALLS

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### Thank You from the family of Ben Arthur

The family of Ben Arthur sincerely wishes to thank our friends, neighbors and relatives for each act of kindness and message of sympathy expressed in behalf of our loving husband, father and grandfather. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by family and friends. The prayers, phone calls, cards, food, visits, flowers and donations were greatly appreciated.

We send a very special "Thank You" to Dr. Gary Hardee, the Nursing Staff, Joe Sloan, A'llan, Linda, Sherry, the receptionists, and the many other Plains Memorial Hospital Staff members that were so helpful and attentive to the every need of our loved one these past many months. Words cannot express our gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful care and concern that was afforded us at this very trying time of his life and of ours. We are so thankful to have been a part of the "Extended Care" program offered at our hospital. The many staff members of the hospital are to be commended for their valiant efforts to meet the every need required of the patient and family. God's Blessings from our family to each of them.

Verna Merie Arthur  
The Family of Gwen & Marvin Bryant  
The Family of Jo & Danny Wilson





## Retirement party planned for Bob Crozier

The Castro County Farm Service Agency will host a retirement reception for Bob Crozier today (Thursday) from 2 to 5 p.m. at the county FSA office, 114 W. Belsher, Suite A, in Dimmitt.

The public is invited to attend. Crozier has 24 years of government service with the last several years working with the former FmHA office.

"We appreciate all the hard work and dedication he has contributed," said Trish Elliott, FSA executive director. "We know that producers will miss him as much as we will."

## CRP information to be offered at meeting Oct. 14

Producers interested in learning more about the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or those who have questions about the program can learn more by attending an informational meeting in Dimmitt on Oct. 14.

The Castro County FSA will sponsor the meeting at the City Hall Meeting Room in Dimmitt at 9 a.m.

The 16th annual CRP sign-up will be conducted from Oct. 14 to Nov. 14.

Producers with contracts that expired on Sept. 30 and those with contracts due to expire on Sept. 30, 1998, will be eligible to offer land for enrollment, and those with any new land may offer it for the program.

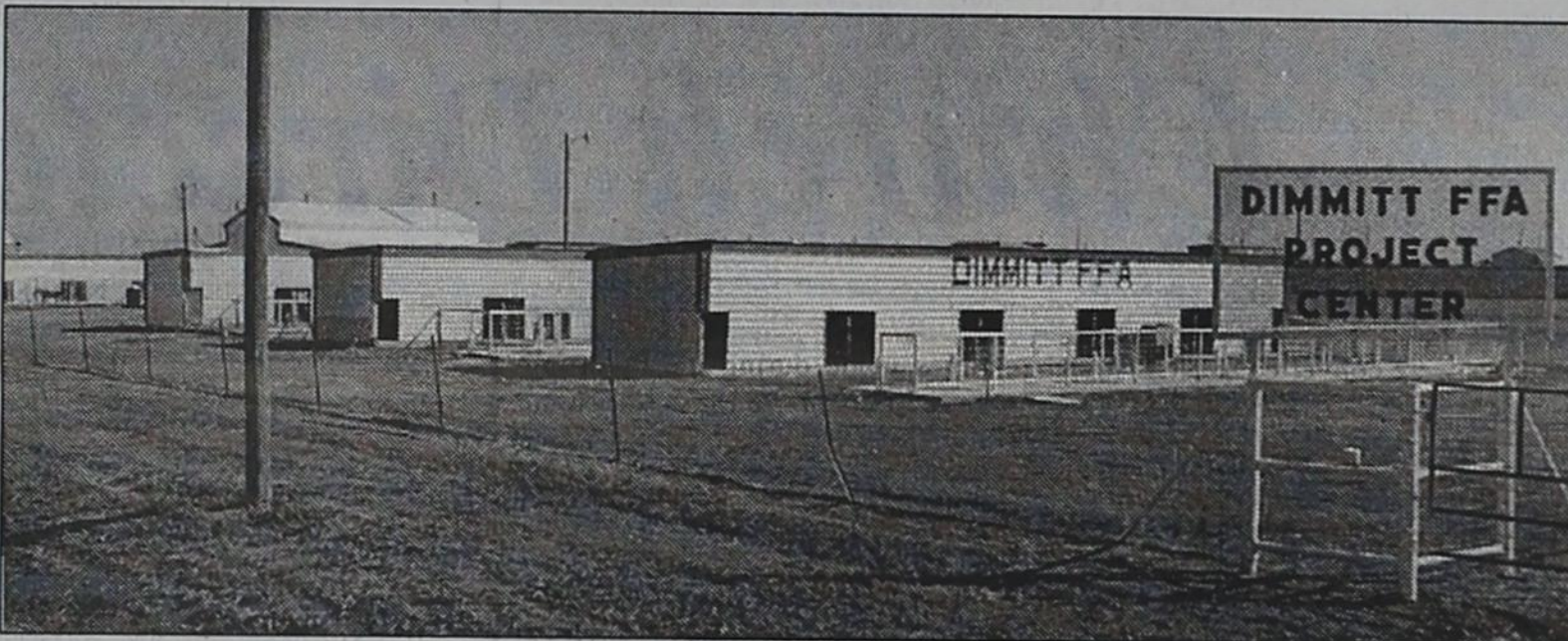
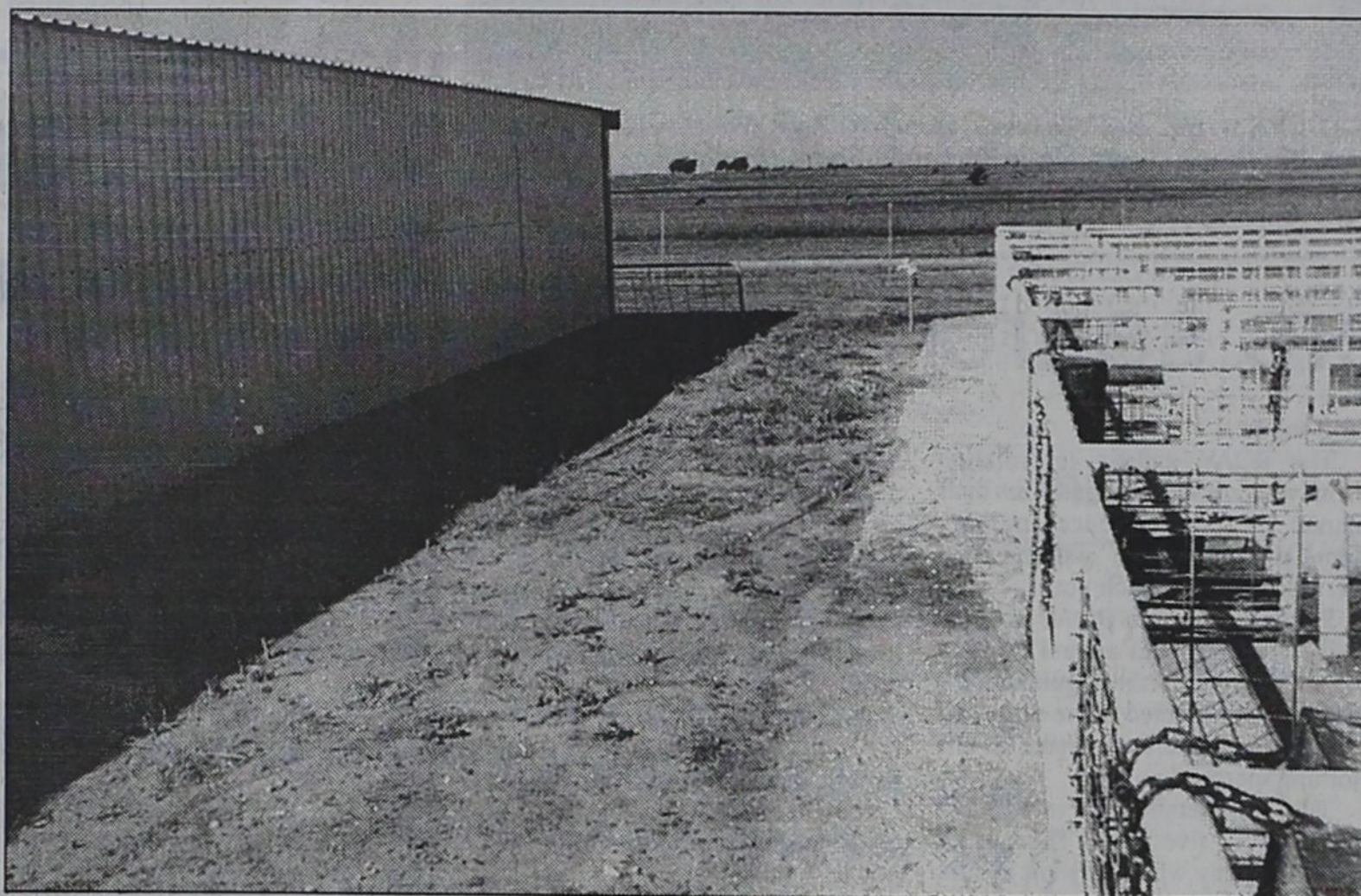
## Mays attends Tarleton camp

Wesley Mays, a Tarleton State University student from Dimmitt, attended Duck Camp this summer at Camp Champions in Marble Falls. Held just prior to the start of the fall semester, the camp is a four-day, three-night crash course in what has been called the "Tarleton Experience."

Sponsored through the Division of Student Services, Duck Camp is aimed at making first semester freshmen feel more at home on the Tarleton campus. Over 240 campers participated in the event.

Participants divided into small groups, with Mays assigned to the "Caballeros." Group names are selected to reflect some significant part of Tarleton's history.

## Before and after...



(TOP) An unidentified prisoner from the Marshall Formby Unit in Plainview is working at the Dimmitt High School FFA Ag Farm on Aug. 28, cleaning out weeds around the animal pens. Most of the pen areas were covered with weeds just about as thick as shown here. Prisoners also shoveled out pens and worked inside the barn, installing blanket insulation for the structure, as well as doing plumbing and concrete work. They also did some work at the 4-H Ag Farm and the DHS baseball field. After three weeks of

steady work, the same area (MIDDLE) and the entire ag farm (BOTTOM) showed a great improvement in appearance, including a new sign painted on the eastern-most rank of the animal sheds and pens. "The prisoners did work our FFA kids could not have done, and we got it done free. Some of it would have cost several hundred dollars to get done, we just supplied materials, transportation and meals," said FFA Sponsor Jerry Matthis. Photos by Linda Maxwell

## Minding Your Own Business

By DON TAYLOR

### Your success portrait:

### Like film, it must be developed

Some people are born with a great one, while others are completely devoid of any. Most of us have some, but would like more. A great one makes an unattractive person beautiful. The lack of one causes a beautiful or handsome person to be undesirable. What is it? Personality.



The dictionary has several definitions for personality. They include: 1. The quality or state of being a person; 2. The complex of characteristics that distinguishes an individual; and 3. Excellence of personal and social traits.

I'd like to paraphrase these into my definition of a positive personality. I believe that a positive personality is "the sum of all personal traits, skills and characteristics that make people attractive and valuable to those around them."

No one is born with a great personality. Like film, you must develop it. There are two prerequisites to making ourselves more attractive and valuable to others. First, we must want to, and second, we must know what to do. While I can't give anyone the want to, I can offer some suggestions on improving our personality.

If we are truly interested in becoming more valuable, attractive and useful to others, we must know what others find valuable and attractive. Then we can work on the weaker parts of our personality to improve and enhance those points.

Most traits that make a person attractive and pleasant fall into two categories: Those related to our public and professional life and those related to our private life. Our public or professional image is made up of our education, skill, expertise, self confidence, friendliness, willingness to cooperate and leadership abilities. Those that make up our private image include grooming, appearance, communication skills, enthusiasm and attitudes.

We are all individuals with many facets of personality. We are what we've become over the years. We will be what we choose to become in the future.

### Develop these traits

• **Self confidence.** Self confidence comes from knowing you know, and knowing how. One of these greatest values of education is acquiring useful information and skills you can use forever. Knowledge increases our self assuredness. Skills build our confidence. William Hazlitt said, "As in our confidence, so is our capacity."

• **Humility.** Charles Spurgeon said, "Humility is to make a right estimate of one's self." Humility is not a total absence of pride, but knowing what is truly important to be proud of.

• **Well-groomed.** Your appearance is important. Clothes don't have to be new to be clean and neat. Scuffed shoes, unkempt hair and dirty fingernails may cause people to mark you as a loser before they get to know you. Hair styles, cleanliness, appropriate clothing and personal care can help you make a positive personal impression.

• **Become a team player.** One of the most important personality traits is a willingness to cooperate. See the value in what others are doing and help them achieve their goals. They in turn will help you get what you want.

• **Enthusiasm.** An enthusiastic person fills a dreary room with an unquenchable light. Charles Schwab once said, "A man can succeed at almost anything for which he has unlimited enthusiasm." Light up your personality with enthusiasm. Be careful; a spark of enthusiasm may also ignite others.

• **Honesty.** I guarantee this one trait will help you in every aspect of your life. Honesty builds trust; and trust will bring promotion, potential gain and personal satisfaction. The long-term benefits are out of this world.

There are too many to list here, but don't forget friendliness, good manners, really caring about others and being a good listener. These factors all add beauty to your personality portrait.

Don Taylor is the co-author of "Up Against the Wal-Marts." You may write to him in care of "Minding Your Own Business," P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, Texas 79105.

## Duckwall-Alco reports increase

Duckwall-Alco Stores have announced results for the second quarter and six months ending Aug. 3.

Highlights for the second quarter include:

- ◆ 25.4% growth in net income.
- ◆ 18th consecutive quarter of earnings growth.
- ◆ Gross margin improvement to 33.1% from 32.6%.

Net income for the quarter increased by 25.4% from \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million in the prior year's second quarter. Net sales for the second quarter were \$80.5 million, a 17.6% increase over sales of \$68.4 million in the second quarter of last year.

Earnings on a per-share basis were unchanged year-to-year at 30¢ due to an increase in the weighted average number of shares outstanding from 4.1 to 5.1 million shares. During the

current fiscal year, the company has opened 16 Alco and four Duckwall stores, well on the way toward its present target of 40 stores for the year overall.

For the six months ended Aug. 3, net income increased 23.7% to \$2.4 million from \$1.9 million. Net sales were \$149.7 million, a 17.2% increase over sales of \$127.8 million in the prior fiscal year. Net income per share was 46¢ per share, compared with 48¢ per share in the prior fiscal year, again due to the increase in the weighted average number of shares outstanding.

Same store sales for the Class 18 stores for the first six months increased 2.4% from \$40.5 million to \$41.5 million. Same store sales for all stores increased .7% on sales of \$122.8 million, compared with \$121.9 million.

## Castro Co-op Gin, Inc.

will hold its

## 45th Annual Stockholders' Meeting

MONDAY, OCT. 13, 1997

at 7:00 p.m. in the

Richardson Elementary Cafeteria

~ Meal Catered by Hens & Fins ~

~ 1986 Stock Retirement Checks Will Be Issued ~

~ Dividend Checks ~

~ Seed Rebate on 1996 Crop ~

~ Short Business Meeting ~

~ Door Prizes ~

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| ● Tam 109 | ● Jenkins Triticale      | ● Russian Beardless |
| ● Tam 110 | ● VNS Triticale          | ● Walken Oats       |
| ● Tam 200 | ● Easy Drill Matua Grass | ● Coronado Oats     |
| ● Tam 202 | ● Maton Rye              | ● Hytest Oats       |
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LEGGO, WILLYA?—Muleshoe quarterback Matt McClanahan (10) fights for yardage while trying to break the grip of Dimmitt's D. J. Fleeks. Rudy Alaniz (56), Charlie Sanders (44) and Casey Smith came in

to assist on the stop. McClanahan scored the Mules' only touchdown against the Bobcats in their District 1-AAA opener Friday night at Muleshoe. Dimmitt won the flag-infested contest, 28-6.

# Cats host Sanford-Fritch for Homecoming 1997

The Sanford-Fritch's winless Eagles will be the Bobcats' Homecoming opponent at Bobcat Stadium Friday at 7:30.

For the Bobcats, it will be homecoming in more ways than one after spending three weeks on the road.

The 0-4 Eagles, under first-year coach Rick Ware, have been outscored 100-17 in their first four games. They lost their district opener to Perryton Friday night, 31-7, and hope to bounce back against the Bobcats.

"We know very little about their football team," said Coach Bruce Dollar. "They have a new coach this season and we haven't seen any game film on them yet."

"But we plan for another tough game," Dollar added. "It's going to

be that way every week in our district, no matter who we play."

Last season the Eagles won only one district game and the Bobcats rolled over Sanford-Fritch 31-10 at Fritch.

Guiding the Eagles again this year is senior quarterback Haven Reed (5-8, 150). Also back is running back Darrell Winkle (5-9, 145), who scored five touchdowns last season.

Reed will try to pass to split end Shelby Deatherage (5-9, 150) the Eagles' primary receiver.

Sanford-Fritch's young offensive line has only one starter back from last year—tackle Tanner Drake (6-3, 260) who will also start on the defensive front.

Defensively, Reed will also start at linebacker, with Jerod Carr (5-10,

170) and Joey Williams (6-1, 180) at the ends.

With only five starters on the Eagles' defense who gained playing experience last season, look for the Bobcats' option offense to roll up the yardage.

If the Bobcats can get off to a fast start and build a lead, Dimmitt fans may get to see some of the second teamers get some playing time this week.

*In the mid-1800's, English women are said to have copied Queen Victoria's stout figure by wearing puffy sleeves with padding underneath.*

Homecoming '97

# BACK THE BOBCATS

as they host the

# SANFORD-FRITCH EAGLES

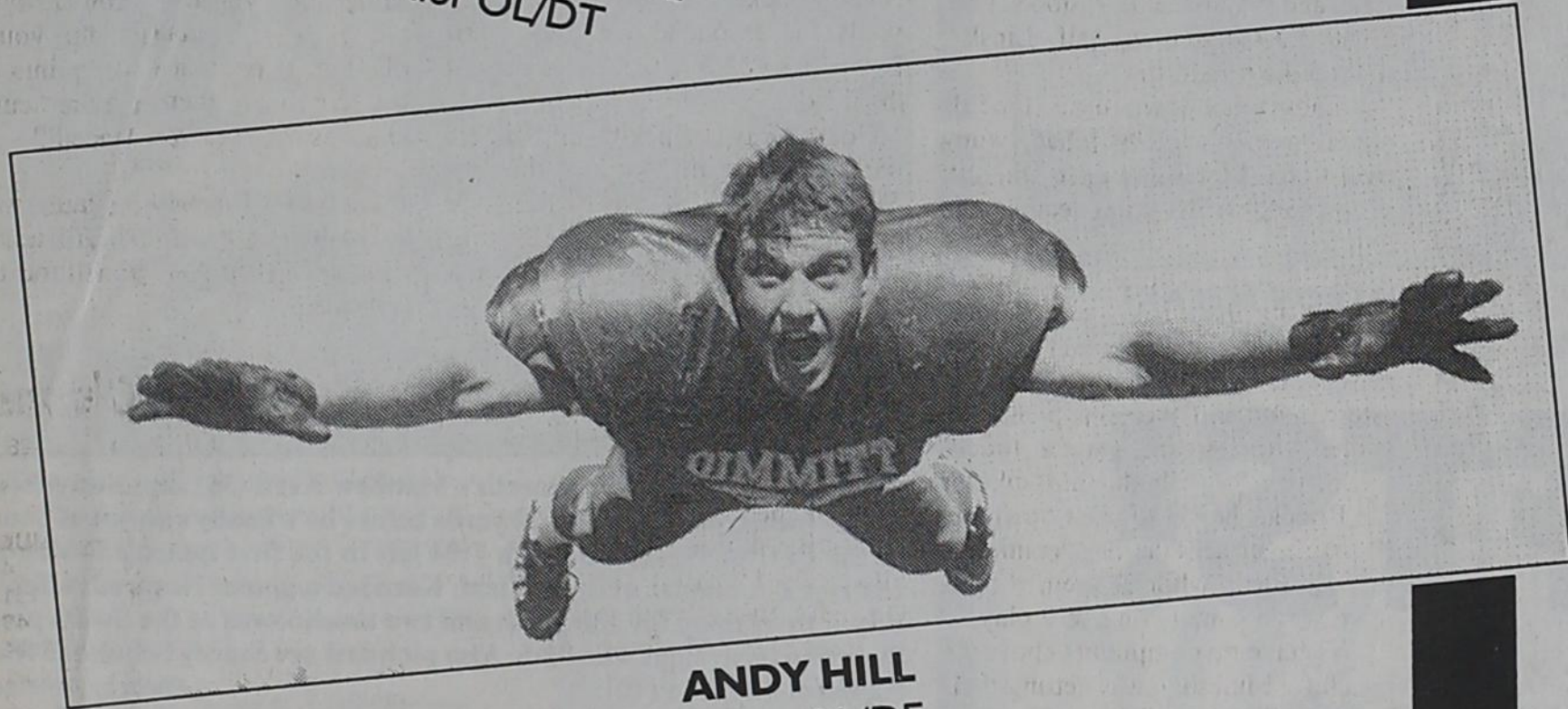
Friday, 7:30 p.m., Here



JASON HARGROVE  
Senior OL/DT



LEO OLVERA  
Junior OL/DE



ANDY HILL  
Senior OL/DE

## Schedule & Scores

### VARSITY

Bobcats 28, Lockney 13	
Bobcats 35, Sundown 14	
Bobcats 24, Canadian 31	
Bobcats 28, Muleshoe 6	
Oct. 3 *Sanford-Fritch (Homecoming), Here	7:30
Oct. 10 *Dalhart, Here	7:30
Oct. 17 *Tulia, There	7:30
Oct. 24 *Friona, Here	7:30
Oct. 31 *River Road, There	7:30
Nov. 8 *Perryton (Parents), Here	2:00

### FRESHMEN AND JUNIOR VARSITY

Freshmen 0, Lockney 12; JV 14, Lockney 0	
Freshmen 18, Friona 26; JV 10, Friona 28	
Freshmen 28, Olton 6; JV 46, Hereford 12	
Freshmen 22, Muleshoe 14; JV 18, Muleshoe 6	
Oct. 2 *Sanford Fritch, There	5:00-6:30
Oct. 9 *Dalhart, There	5:00-6:30
Oct. 16 *Tulia, Here	5:00-6:30
Oct. 23 *Muleshoe, There	5:00-6:30
Oct. 30 *River Road, Here	5:00-6:30
Nov. 6 *Friona, There	5:00-6:30

### SEVENTH AND EIGHTH

7th Grade 6, Sundown 8; 8th Grade 14, Sundown 0	
7th Grade 18, Olton 22; 8th Grade 8, Olton 6	
7th Grade 26, Muleshoe 20; 8th Grade 6, Muleshoe 33	
Oct. 2 Open	
Oct. 7 *Tulia, Here	5:00-6:30
Oct. 14 *Friona, Here	5:00-6:30
Oct. 21 *Muleshoe, Here	5:00-6:30
Nov. 28 *Tulia, There	5:00-6:30
Nov. 4 *Friona, There	5:00-6:30

\* Denotes Distict Games

## Support the Boosters Who Support Our Teams, Schools & Community!

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- Circle M Irrigation
- Cornett Equipment, Inc.
- Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative
- DeBruce Grain, Inc.

- Dimmitt Consumers
- Dimmitt Feed Yards
- Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply
- Dimmitt Ready Mix
- Don's Wrecker Service & Body Shop
- El Sombrero Restaurant
- First Texas Federal Land Bank
- First United Bank of Dimmitt
- Gary's Engine & Machine
- George's Service Station
- Gerber Welding
- Goodpasture, Inc.
- Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union

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- Lockhart Pharmacy
- Nelson Well Service
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- Pancake House
- Paxton Tire & Service
- Pro-Ag, Inc.
- Red X Travel Center
- Jimmy & Nancy Ross

- Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt
- Stanford's Body Works
- Steere Tank Lines
- Tam Anne Cattle Feeders
- Terra International
- Texas Equipment Co., Inc.
- Dimmitt Thriftway/Dimmitt Market
- Tidwell Spraying Service
- Dr. Morris Webb, Optometrist
- Western Ford-Lincoln-Mercury
- Westway Trading Corp.





# Unbeaten Swifts to face Kress in 2-A showdown

The Nazareth Swifts will face their toughest challenge of the season Friday night when they travel to Kress to take on the Kangaroos in a District 2-A matchup. Kickoff will be at 7:30 p.m. "Kress is a good solid team. They may not be as explosive offensively as they have been in the past, but they're still very good," said Nazareth Coach Rick Price. The Kangaroos are coming off of a big 10-7 win over tough Sudan in a district opener Friday night. The Swifts bombed the Valley Patriots, 42-6, in the district opener. Nazareth is 4-0 on the season while Kress sports a 3-1 mark. Both are 1-0 in district play. The Kangaroos are averaging 322 yards on offense and have allowed an average of 201 yards on defense this year. That potent offensive attack is

based on a Wing T, similar to the Swifts' offensive scheme. "They get three or four guys involved in the running game," said Price. "They try to be deceptive on offense." The Kangaroos have one of the area's top rushers in tailback Jerry Hinojosa (5-10, 125), who has gained more than 300 yards and scored four touchdowns so far this season. Joining Hinojosa in the backfield are fullback Richard Campbell (5-11, 180) and wingback Cody Barrett (6-0, 200). While that trio is talented, Price says "the backbone of the offense is their quarterback, Monty Durham (5-11, 140)." Durham, who is starting his fourth season as the Kangaroos quarterback, has thrown for more than 200 yards and four touchdowns

this season. Price says Kress will run the bootleg off of the Wing T, and that hurt the Swifts against the Roos a year ago. "We've got to stop that this week," Price said. To go along with the talented backfield, Kress sports a big offensive front anchored by Slaton Moya (5-11, 280) and Ted Jobe (6-4, 210) at guards. Kress will run a 4-3 on defense and Price says the defensive unit is "solid up front." "Those front four are big, strong kids. Moya was an all-state tackle last year. And their linebackers are all good, especially the middle linebacker, Barrett. He's been starting since he was a freshman. And their secondary is small, but they're quick and aggressive."



DIMMITT MIDDLE SCHOOL Students of the Month are (front, from left) Benny Pompa, Sean Hunter, and Stuart Sheffy; and (back, from left) Tara Delamar, Jenna Steinle, Nyssa Martinez, Kathy Amador, and Sarah Silva. Not shown are Colby Williams and Ray Medrano. Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Lady Horns finish sixth in Abernathy

Valerie Key raced to a seventh-place finish in the Abernathy Invitational Cross Country Meet Saturday and that helped boost the Lady Horns to a sixth-place finish in the big meet. Hart finished with 188 points overall, but entered the meet without two of its top runners, Isael Minjarez and Lisa Rincon, who were taking an ACT test and could not compete. "We did really well considering we were without our #2 and #3 runners," said Hart Coach Rachele Wilcox. Other Hart runners and their respective places and times were Christy Guzman, 38th, 13:54; Angelica Perales, 53rd, 14:12; Vanessa Carrasco, 55th, 14:14; Nikki Burres, 59th, 14:18; Julia Cisneros, 64th, 14:22; and Ysa Rodriguez, 116th, 15:28. In the junior varsity division, Hart finished third and placed two runners in the top 20. Individual results were Roseanna Waddell, 12th, 14:38; Veronica Gonzales, 20th, 15:07; Becky Guzman, 23rd, 15:21; Sonia Gonzales, 35th, 15:57; Geneva Finch, 37th, 16:02; Lindsey Montemayor, 41st, 16:07; and Wendy Law, 54th, 16:39.

## Freshmen Cats' passing game swamps Muleshoe

Freshmen B.J. Hill and Daniel Proffitt teamed up for two passing touchdowns as the Freshman Bobcats knocked off Muleshoe last Thursday, 22-14. Dimmitt had a balanced offensive attack in the first half, racking up 22 points to take a commanding lead, and they held on through the second half for the win. Dimmitt opened the scoring in the first quarter with a 15-yard touchdown run by Clint Swain. Jeremy Allison picked up the two-point conversion for an 8-0 lead. Quarterback Hill and receiver Proffitt teamed up to seal the win after that. Hill's first touchdown pass to Proffitt was a 40-yarder in the second quarter. The run for the two-point conversion was stopped short. The two hooked up again later in the stanza for a 53-yard scoring strike. Swain picked up the two-point conversion. Muleshoe scored twice in the second quarter and at halftime Dimmitt was on top 22-12.

Neither team scored in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter Dimmitt's defense held on a huge goal line stand at the beginning of the stanza. Muleshoe had worked to Dimmitt's 2-yard line and had a first-and-goal from that spot. But the Bobcat defense held for four plays, turning the Mules away empty-handed. But after Dimmitt took over on the 2, tragedy struck. A fumbled snap resulted in a Muleshoe safety, but it wasn't enough, and Dimmitt held on for a 22-14 win. "Daniel Proffitt had an outstanding game at wide receiver," said Coaches Cory Lynch and Monty Gothard. Proffitt finished with five catches

for 158 yards. Coaches also praised the offensive line, which controlled the line of scrimmage throughout the game. They include Cory Lane, Gus Correa, Bobby Hill, Jacob Castillo, Adrian Pena, Joe Acevedo and Matthew Sandoval. "The defense played very well," said coaches. "Both of Muleshoe's touchdowns were the result of a breakdown in our kicking game. Tony Sifuentz, Bobby Hill and Clint Swain had excellent games. "We were very proud of these young men. Muleshoe beat them bad twice last year. We can't say enough about how our defense played. We would bend, but we never did break," said coaches.

## JV Bobcats blast Mules

The JV Bobcats used a big first half offensive effort to unseat previously unbeaten Muleshoe, 18-6, last week at Bobcat Stadium. "This was a super win for us," said Dimmitt Coaches Gus Ortiz and

Vince Fitzgerald. "This was Muleshoe JV's first loss." Dimmitt's defense rose to the occasion early in the game. In the first quarter James Jackson blocked a Muleshoe punt and Jamie Rodriguez fell on it in the end zone to give Dimmitt a 6-0 lead. Keevin Sanders connected with Justin Sutton for the two-point conversion and an 8-0 Bobcat lead. Muleshoe threatened to score in the second quarter, but the Bobcat defense had a big goal line stand at their own 1-yard line, ending the threat. But Dimmitt didn't hold the ball for long. The Cats fumbled on the 1-yard line and Muleshoe regained possession with a first-and-goal at that spot. The Mules managed to score, but failed to convert the two-point try, leaving the score, 8-6, Dimmitt. Dimmitt's offense picked up on the following series. Daniel Flores broke free and outran everyone for a 55-yard touchdown in the second quarter. Sanders found Shane Furr for the two-point conversion and a 16-6 Dimmitt lead. Muleshoe threatened again, but fumbled on the Dimmitt 10 and the Bobcats recovered. In the third quarter Dimmitt's defense added another deuce to its total when Jackson dropped a Muleshoe ball carrier in the end zone for an 18-6 score. The fourth quarter was a defensive battle, and the Cats held on to win. Coaches say outstanding performances were turned in by the offensive linemen, running backs and receivers. Defensive standouts included the front seven and secondary. The win improved the Bobcats' record to 3-1 overall. The JV Cats will face Sanford-Fritch tonight (Thursday) at 5 p.m. in Sanford-Fritch. The Freshman Cats will play S-F at 6:30 p.m., there.

## 7th Bobcats notch first win

Dimmitt seventh grader Lee Brown scored on runs of 30, 1 and 20 yards to boost the Bobcats to a 26-20 victory over Muleshoe last Thursday. It was the first win for the rookie Cats. Brown's first touchdown came in the first quarter and gave the Bobcats a 6-0 lead when the two-point conversion failed. Later in the stanza Brown scored from a yard out and it was 12-6 after the end of the first period. Muleshoe took a 14-12 lead in the second quarter after they scored and added a two-point conversion, and that's how the score stood at the break. Dimmitt owned the second quarter, though. Brown put the Cats back on top for good when he rushed for a 20-yard touchdown and the ensuing two-point conversion and Dimmitt was on top 20-14. Raul Ontiveros added a 60-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter for the Bobcats, countering a Muleshoe TD, allowing Dimmitt to hold on for the win. Coby Martinez, Abel Espinosa, Matthew Gauna, Raul Ontiveros and Brown were mentioned as offensive standouts in the game while Gauna, Daniel Prieto and Roy Rodriguez were credited with having good defensive games. "Lee Brown had an outstanding game, and part of that was due to the line's blocking," said Coach Bobby Feaster. "The whole team has progressively become better each week. They did a super, super job."

### PANCAKE HOUSE

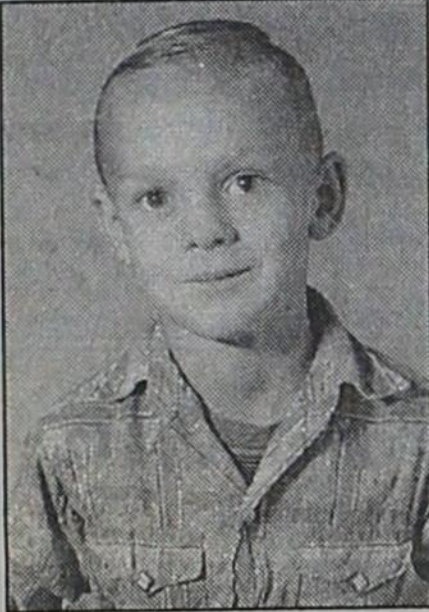
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# Sunnyside with Teeny Bowden

A norther came in Sunday morning about 5:20 with high wind. The temperature was 60 degrees at that time, but it began to drop some about 7 a.m., but never got real cold. Monday morning it was 44 degrees at 6 a.m., and it was 60 degrees by 9:30.

Robert and Francis Duke and 11 others gleaned some on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in Loyd Vaughn's field about eight miles west of Flagg. Part of the Eric Vaughn field was included in this. A husband and wife team from Midland came and gleaned Friday for their first time. They thought it was a great experience—a nice outing. For the week, they gleaned 3,200 lbs. of green beans. The beans went to a food bank in Lubbock and a food bank in Odessa. Five different agencies distributed the beans in Hereford. Several agencies worked Dimmitt. Some of the beans went to a Senior Citizen organization in Amarillo. Some of the beans went to Farwell and Friona. They seek out widows and others who could benefit from the food.

Teeny Bowden talked with Bess Bills of Dimmitt Saturday evening. She said they did pretty well as long

as they stayed home and took their medicine and R.V. took his treatments on schedule. They were sad, however, as R.V. had lost another sister, Netta May Hargrove of Garland. She died Wednesday night and the funeral was held in Garland Sunday afternoon, but Bess and R.V. didn't try to go.

Saturday morning Gay Sadler and her mother, Ruth King, and brother, Karl King, both of Hereford, drove to Stratford to spend the weekend with Gay's sister, Brenda Johnson, and her husband, Steve, and their children, Bethany, Clayton and Jordan. They all went to church Sunday morning with the Johnsons. They were all celebrating Ruth King's birthday. They had a good time together.

Alton and Betty Loudder and Doug Loudder went to Stamford Lake Friday to fish over the weekend. They did catch some fish. Doug came home Sunday. Alton and Betty came home Monday.

Hershel and Retha Wilson attended the funeral services for Carey Collins, Hershel's nephew, in Levelland Saturday afternoon. He had been in Lubbock's Methodist Hospital for a long time with cancer. He was the son of Hershel's oldest sister, Lillian Hill.

Hershel's mother, Ruby Wilson, had been visiting with family in Dallas when she got sick. They were afraid it was her heart, so they flew her back to Lubbock Thursday and they found the problem was low blood sugar. She is out of the hospital now and doing fine.

Retha and Hershel Wilson and others have been attending prayer meeting groups in preparation for a revival for the Springlake First Baptist Church beginning Sunday (Oct. 5).

## Irish CraftFest set in Shamrock

Irish CraftFest '97 is slated for Saturday and Sunday in Shamrock and everyone is invited to participate in the events for the two days.

Held at the Shamrock Area Community Center on South US 83 in Shamrock, the hours for the event will be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, and noon until 5 p.m. on Sunday.

A special door prize will be given away—a fully decorated Christmas tree.



## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Beall's in Dimmitt held a ribbon cutting ceremony last Thursday as part of the store's Grand Opening celebration. Helping with the ribbon cutting are (from left) Chamber of Commerce representatives Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins and Chamber members Mike Huseman, Bill Gregory, and Don Nelson; store personnel, selling supervisor Marlene Martinez, store manager Liz Aranda (holding scissors), and selling supervisor Frances Anes; and Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava. Aranda said the turnout for the Grand Opening Celebration, which lasted for four days, was "well above the goals that were set." She said

total sales for the four days was \$27,855, with the biggest portion of the sales made through Beall's charge cards. Aranda said the store also surpassed its goal in setting up new Beall's charge card accounts. "We feel the store has had a very good reception in the community. The store appearance is better and brighter, and people noticed the changes," Aranda said. She said the store will have seven full-time employees besides herself, cutting back from the 24 employed during the grand opening and preparation days. She said the winners of the prize drawings advertised during the grand opening will be announced at a later date.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Class of '55 plans reunion for 50s students

The Dimmitt High School Class of 1955 is hosting a high school reunion for all of the DHS classes of the 1950s and their friends.

The reunion committee has selected Las Vegas, Nev., with its bright lights, glamour and fantasy world, as the site for the celebration.

The reunion will be at the newly-remodeled Sahara Hotel and Casino March 6-7, 1998. The Penthouse has been reserved both days for non-stop visiting and scheduled programs.

A special block of rooms has been reserved at a special rate. Early registration is encouraged to ensure bargain room rates and to help the committee plan for attendance.

For registration information call your class representative or Lucy Nelson at (806) 647-2376. If you live in the west, call Regene Blair at (805) 393-7928. If you live in the north call Troy Stafford at (307) 856-6435.

## Cline strikes again!

When it comes to picking football winners, Milas Cline Jr. lives under a lucky star.

He won the local Power Points Football Contest not once, but twice last year. In fact, in the Week 16 contest last year, he missed being the state winner by just a point.

Now he's done it again—with one of the lowest winning scores in the state, 116 of a possible 136 in the Week 5 contest. He wins \$20 from the News as the local winner.

"I started off badly this year," said Cline, 45, an instrument technician in Cerestar's maintenance department. "Dallas got me that first week. Green Bay got me this week. And Jacksonville. Those are the only two I missed. Whether I win or not, it's a lot of fun."

The Week 5 contest was a case of respect and disrespect, pure and simple. And neither half worked in favor of the contestants.

On the one hand, followers of the Dallas Cowboys have grudgingly learned to pay high homage to the Green Bay Packers. This week, it cost them big points as Detroit whipped the Super Bowl champs, who were listed quite high on most contestant ballots.

Meanwhile, UTEP, which hasn't won a game since before last Halloween, pulled a shocker over New Mexico State.

As a result of these twin tragedies, not a single Texan could muster a perfect score in Week 5. The state winner was Shane Ogburn of Atlanta, with 135 of a possible 136 for the weekly state grand prize of \$1,000.

Ogburn, 22, who works at the family grocery store in Atlanta, missed only Carolina for one point.

## More about

# 1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

about two weeks. Take some aspirin to relieve your discomfort."

"That's it?" I said. "Two weeks is all the time I have here. This is my first overseas trip. I don't want to be miserable the whole time. Can't you give me an antibiotic . . . ?"

That's when I got The Lecture. "You Americans," he said with a condescending smile. "You want to take antibiotics for everything, and too many of your doctors go along with it."

"You have a viral infection, and antibiotics simply are not effective against a virus."

"If it were a bacterial infection, an antibiotic would cure it. But there's nothing you can do about a virus except put up with it."

He didn't make me feel any better in any way, shape or sniffle.

But at least he didn't charge me for an office call.

"That would be illegal," he said.

Now it's turning out that our bacteria are becoming immune to many antibiotics, partly because we take so

many of them.

And what will we do about these new garbonzo strains of bacteria?

Not to worry. Somebody will surely come up with a pill.

## More about

# Hospital . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

—Heard from Sloan that a family practitioner is showing a keen interest in locating here.

—Voted to apply for a license that would allow the hospital district to sell or lease durable medical equipment such as wheelchairs, beds, resuscitation equipment, etc.

—Voted to purchase an arterial blood-gas machine for \$6,000.

—Approved the purchase of a new Lifeline system.

—Approved a design for new "Friday shirts" (polo shirts with the district's logo on the pocket) for employees of the district.

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# Obituaries

## Carolyn Jean Ball

Carolyn Jean English Ball, 54, of Plainview, died Monday.

Services were held Wednesday morning in Wood-Dunning Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Allie Balko, pastor of First Baptist Church in Wickett, officiating. Burial followed in Hart Cemetery.

Mrs. Ball was born in Red River County. She married Charlie Ball in 1982 at Plainview. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by a daughter.

Survivors include her husband; her mother, Blanche English of Hart; a sister, Reba Barham of Amarillo; a brother, C.M. English of Hart; and two grandchildren.

## Mellie Capley

Services for Mellie Capley, 84, sister of Cleo Forson of Dimmitt, will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Rainbow Chapel in Whittier, Calif.

Mrs. Capley died Monday night in Modesto, Calif.

She was born in Huckabay on Oct. 16, 1912. She moved to Lorenzo when she was 2 years old. She graduated from Lorenzo High School.

She married Eugene Capley in 1935 in Whittier, Calif. He died in 1980.

In 1994 she moved to a retirement home in Modesto.

Survivors include two sons, Kenneth Capley of Spanway, Wash., and Jim Capley of Modesto, Calif.; one brother, Bill Cowan of Johnson Valley, Calif.; a sister, Cleo Forson of Dimmitt; seven grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery in Whittier, Calif.

## Juanita Cranford

Funeral services for Juanita Cranford, 67, of Lubbock, and formerly of Dimmitt, were held Saturday afternoon in St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Lubbock with Rev. Pat Donley officiating.

Burial was in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under direction of Sanders Funeral Home of Lubbock.

She died Sept. 24 in St. Mary Hospital.

She was born Sept. 25, 1929, in Dimmitt. She moved to Lubbock in 1942. A graduate of Lubbock High School, she attended Texas Tech University. She married Morris Cranford Jr. on June 28, 1949, in Lubbock. She was a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband; a son, David of Lubbock; two daughters, Connie King of Spring and Cindy Cranford of Lubbock; three sisters, Nell Beavers of Greensboro, N.C., Natalie Harrison of San Antonio, and Anita Hamilton of Austin; and two granddaughters.



## Ruby Webb

Funeral services for Ruby M. Webb, 98, of Dimmitt, were scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday at Dimmitt's First United Methodist Church with Rev. Rusty Dickerson, pastor, officiating.

Burial was to follow at Castro Memorial Gardens in Dimmitt under direction of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home of Dimmitt.

Mrs. Webb died Sept. 28 in Baptist/St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo after a lengthy illness.

She was born Jan. 29, 1899, in Montague, and moved to Dimmitt in 1915. She married Bill Webb in Dimmitt. He preceded her in death in 1964. She also was preceded in death by a son, Harold Mayes Webb, in 1920; and a grandson, Michael Darren Webb, in 1963.

She was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt. She was a life member of the Order of the Eastern Star and was a Past Worthy Matron.

She is survived by a son, Cavin Lee Webb of Amarillo; a grandson; and four great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were James Baker, Jerry Stump, Fred Bruegel, Bill Snider, Robert Duke, and Tommy Cleavinger.

The family suggests memorials to First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt, 110 SW Third, 79027.

## Faye A. Kenmore

Faye A. Kenmore, 94, of Amarillo, and formerly of Dimmitt, died Sept. 29 in Amarillo.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Dimmitt, with Dr. George Ray officiating. Burial will follow in Castro Memorial Gardens under direction of Schooler-Gordon Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Kenmore was born in Gould, Okla., on Dec. 23, 1902, to William Henry and Mollie Conner. She was a graduate of Hollis High School in Hollis, Okla., and received her teaching certificate from Weatherford College in Weatherford, Okla. She married Ferron Harvel Kenmore on July 31, 1921 in a double wedding ceremony in a buggy. Mr. Kenmore died on Jan. 12, 1940.

Mrs. Kenmore taught school in Prairie Hill and Louis Hill in Oklahoma. She and her husband owned and operated a grocery store in Oklahoma before moving to Dimmitt in 1933. She worked alongside of her husband in farming, running a machine shop, running a Gulf Oil service station, as a dealer for Diamond T Trucks, Dodge-Plymouth Cars, and Allis-Chalmers Tractors.

Following her husband's death, she owned and operated a kindergarten, was a Peggy Newton Cosmetics representative, was an employee of M-System Grocery, and an Avon representative.

After serving 20 years as a teller at First State Bank of Dimmitt, she retired in 1968. During retirement, she was a representative for Fuller Brush Products. She moved to Amarillo in 1981 and lived in the Northwest Retirement Village, then moved to the Canyons Retirement Community in 1992, where she resided until her death.

Mrs. Kenmore served many hours as a Pink lady volunteer at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt and at High Plains Baptist Hospital in Amarillo. She was active in the Business and Professional Women's Organization and the Elephant Birthday Club of Dimmitt for many years.

She became a Christian as a teenager and was baptized in Bethel Creek near the Bethel Baptist Church. She was an active member of First Baptist Church in Dimmitt for 48 years. She joined Coulter Road Baptist Church upon moving to Amarillo, where her membership was at the time of her death.

Mrs. Kenmore, who was affectionately known as "Mamma Faye" to many, was preceded in death by her husband, two infant sons, an infant daughter, her parents, a brother, Elgin Conner, a sister, Floy Thomason Worley, and a great-granddaughter, Angelique Blasingame.

She is survived by two sons, Herschel Kenmore of Brooks, Alberta, Canada, and Hoyt Kenmore of Payson, Ariz.; a daughter, Monnette Ray of Rochester, Minn.; a sister, Bernice Hunter of Eldorado, Okla.; 11 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and a special friend, Mrs. Bernice Morris of Amarillo.

The family suggests memorials to Castro Memorial Gardens, in care of Jerry Lilley, Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home, Dimmitt, or to a favorite charity.

## Doris Maltbie

Graveside services for Doris L. Maltbie, 91, of Amarillo, the sister of Veta Self of Dimmitt, were held Sunday afternoon at Cherokee Cemetery in Cherokee, Okla., with Gerald Floyd, Richard Goodwin, and Bill Goodwin officiating.

Arrangements were by Schooler-Gordon Funeral Directors of Amarillo.

Mrs. Maltbie died Sept. 26. She was born in Madill, Okla. She was a billing clerk for Mercy Hospital in Independence, Kan., for 23 years before her retirement. She was a member of First Christian Church of Independence. She married Lee Roy Maltbie in 1925. He died in 1955.

She is survived by a sister, Veta Self of Dimmitt; and two grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to First Christian Church in Independence.

## Martha Parker

Martha Parker, 84, of Amarillo, the mother of J.D. Parker of Dimmitt, died Monday in Amarillo.

Funeral services are set for today (Thursday) at 3 p.m. in the First Baptist Church of Hedley with Bruce Howard of the Hedley First Baptist Church officiating.

Burial will be in Rowe Cemetery in Hedley, under the direction of Schooler Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Mrs. Parker was born in Salisaw, Okla., on Sept. 4, 1913, and grew up in Amarillo. She moved away for several years, and married James Marion Parker in 1931 in Oklahoma. Then she returned to Amarillo 22 years ago. She was a homemaker and a Baptist. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Shirley Ann Hill, and a son, Douglas Marion Parker.

Survivors include her husband, James Marion Parker of Hedley; three daughters, Hazel Fay Harper of Canyon, and Donna Sue Clark and Bonnie Gail Francis, both of Amarillo; four sons, Virgil Ray Sullivan of Moody, Utah Carrol Parker of Las Vegas, Nev., J.D. Parker of Dimmitt, and Edwin Allen Parker of Sheridan, Wyo.; 29 grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

## Sarah Walton

Funeral services for Sarah "S.T." Walton, 94, of Hereford, were held Saturday afternoon in Hereford's Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home Rose Chapel with Bonnie Dunsworth, pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church of Hereford, officiating.

Burial was in Castro Memorial Gardens in Dimmitt.

Mrs. Walton died Sept. 24.

She was born in Van Alstyne. She moved from East Texas in 1923 to the Easter community. She married Fred Erwin Walton in 1925 in Dimmitt. They lived on the Slimmons farm near Easter and were involved in farming. Mr. Walton died in 1982. Mrs. Walton was a homemaker and a member of First United Methodist Church. She taught Sunday school at Easter and also helped with elections. She was a member of many community clubs and was involved with church activities. She moved to Hereford in 1982 from Easter.

She is survived by a sister, Grace Brown of Las Cruces, N.M.; and a brother, Nolan Fields of Sundown.

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# Ag REPORTER

A supplement to Canyon News, Plainview Daily Herald, Tulia Herald, Castro County News, Abernathy Weekly Review, Idalou Beacon

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COMING  
next month

**Agrifood Masters**  
A group of volunteers put in many hours to teach urban children where their food really comes from

Many other features

## Livestock shows involve more than just the youth

Angie Welch  
Ag Reporter staff

Many countless hours are put into the hobby, followed by only a couple of minutes in the show ring and what they receive is based solely on a judge's opinion.

Sometimes they receive a check, but more times it is only a ribbon that the junior livestock exhibitors receive for their time and effort.

But, it is not the fame and fortune they are in it for, according to most exhibitors and parents.

"It teaches them responsibility and a good work ethic," said Lisa Shields, mother of junior livestock exhibitors, Jeremy, Seth and Jess Shields. "If it is done right, they grow up to be good parents. It teaches them patience."

Jeremy, Seth and Jess, along with Lisa and their father, Johnny, are from Stinnett and fit the image of a typical livestock showing family. The Shields raise and show shorthorn heifers as well as pigs.

"I was a 4-Her from the age of nine and showed," said Lisa, who grew-up near Clarendon. "We show Shorthorns because they are known to be docile. It is a good breed to start young kids with."

A project to keep kids busy and because the parents did it as children seem to be the most common reasons for youth to be involved in the livestock showing industry.

"It is a project that keeps them occupied and off the streets," said Tonya Scarborough, Dumas resident and mother of 16-year-old Chris who showed in the junior steer show during the Tri-State Fair in Amarillo. "My children have shown since they were old enough to."

The exhibitors don't necessarily consider the animals a way to keep them occupied, but rather as something interesting to do.

"I enjoy showing," said 12-year-



ANGIE WELCH

Lisa Shields answers a question from her youngest son, Jess, while brushing Scarlet at the Tri-State Fair in Amarillo. Jess and Lisa are an example of the family involvement of livestock showing.

old Patrick Anthony, resident of Canyon and second year steer exhibitor. "You get to come out here and compete. You also learn to take care of your animal."

His mother, Susan Anthony, said there are many reasons why Patrick and his 10-year-old sister, Kori are involved with livestock. She said, first and foremost, is because of Steve's (their father) agricultural background.

"He grew-up in an Ag-related family of four children in Dimmitt," Susan said. "He showed steers as a child and is now employed in an Ag-related

business."

Showing teaches children responsibility, budgeting and it gives them their own money, she said. They learn what they put in is what they get out.

"They do not have time to get in trouble and no time to get bored," said Susan. "I feel like my children have the opportunity to become good citizens and, therefore, I totally support 4-H and FFA activities."

Livestock showing involves more than just the exhibitor and their family. Susan said that friendships are built not only be-

tween the child and the animal but also with volunteers and other parents.

One of those behind the scenes supporters is Canyon resident, Johnny Horton. He not only has children of his own showing, but he is there to assist any child.

"Mr. Horton has been so supportive," said Susan of the help he has offered Patrick. "He helped us buy our animals. He has built a dear friendship with Patrick. He not only helps his own children but others too."

Horton said it is good for the See livestock on page 13

## Desired traits vary between animals

Rebel Royall  
and  
Benny Martinez

special to the Ag Reporter

In theory, in all market species you are trying to pick the animal that most closely fits the consumer's preference in terms of meat cuts.

A stockshow judge is trying to find the animal that will hang the best carcass and produce the best quality cuts of meat.

There are a lot of things that play into judging a live animal, but these carcass aspects should be the driving force behind any judges decision.

There are several other aspects

of judging live animals that do not involve the consumer's table.

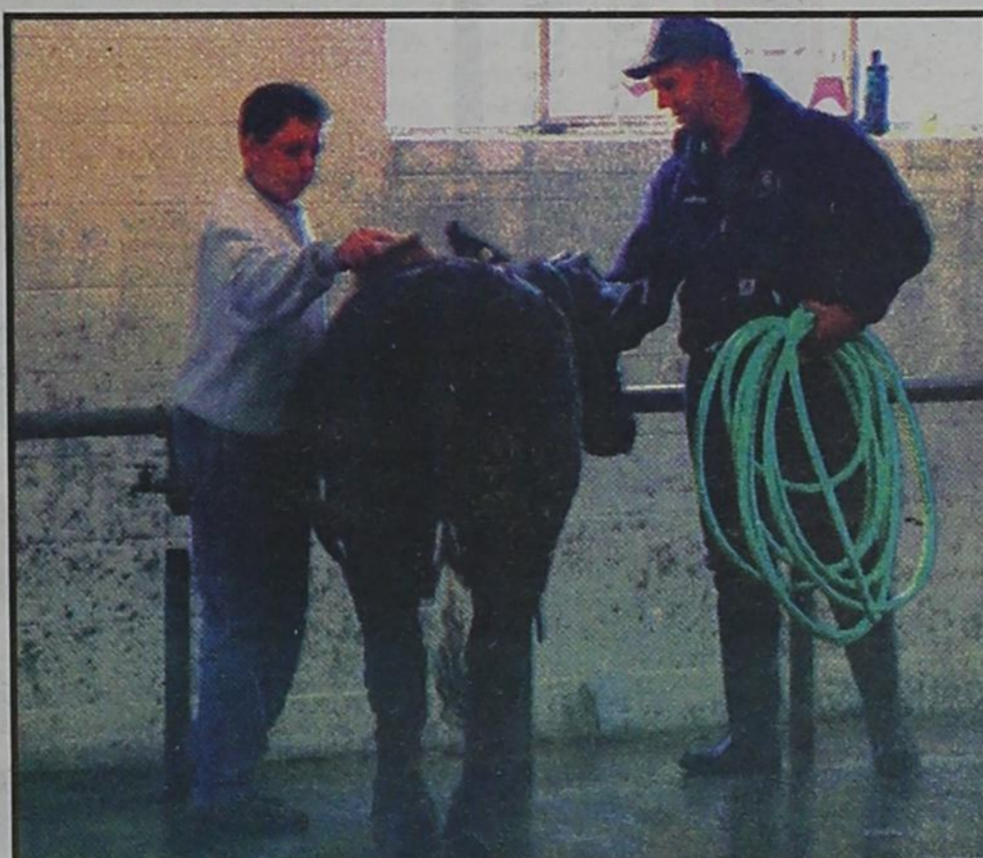
These things tend to involve the commercial industries needs.

These things include structural correctness, balance, general appearances, etc.

With this background we will now go into each species and describe a few things a stockshow judge is probably looking for when he or she is judging market animals.

One thing to remember is that every judge is different, and each one may place his emphasis differently for each trait.

See traits on page 12



ANGIE WELCH

Canyon residents, Patrick Anthony (left) and Johnny Horton are one example of the friendships developed behind the scenes of the junior livestock arena.

CALENDAR

**October 2-4**  
**Clovis Livestock Auction and Barrel Futurity**

Barrel futurity and derby will take place on Oct. 2. The auction will be at 10 a.m. at the Clovis Livestock Auction in Clovis, New Mexico. The 3rd will feature the 3-year-old futurity sale and the 4th will be a special racebred broodmare and stallion sale at 6 p.m. The regular catalog sale will be the morning of the 4th.

**October 4**  
**Fair on the Square**

Event held in downtown Canyon from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information, call 806-655-1183.

**October 5**  
**Amarillo - Team Roping**  
 An Original Coors Team Roping event is scheduled in Amarillo at the Bill Cody Arena at the Tri-State Fairgrounds.

**October 8-10**  
**Farmer-Stockman Show**

The fifth annual farmer-stockman show will be held in Lubbock from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day. The show is 1.5 miles east of Loop 289 on East 50th Street (FM835).

**October 10-11**  
**WTAMU Homecoming**

Football team will play Oct. 11 at 6 p.m. at Kimbrough Memorial Stadium against Tarleton State University. For more information on other Homecoming activities, call 806-656-2311.

**October 13**  
**Agriculture Field Day**

A free field day on precision agriculture is schedule at Halfway, Texas. The event is sponsored by Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Centers in Lubbock and Amarillo.

**October 25**  
**Pumkin Days**

The annual Pumkin Days in Floyd County will take place on the 25th. For more information, call 806-983-4912.

**October 26 - November 2**  
**National Roping Finals**

The USTRC national finals will be held in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Team ropers from all over will participate in the week-long event.

**November 8**  
**Amarillo - Team Roping**

Same as October 5

**December 2-4**  
**Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show**

The 13th annual Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show will be held in Amarillo from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. each day. For more information, call 612-894-8007.

**December 13**  
**Amarillo - Team Roping**

Same as October 5

*To place your calendar event, fax the information to Ag Reporter at (806)655-0823 or call it in at (806)655-7121.*

# Texas sorghum board to elect new board members

Texas producers who grow grain sorghum have an opportunity this year to run for a seat on the Texas Grain Sorghum Board. Anyone who produces grain sorghum in Texas or who owns a farm in Texas on which sorghum is produced is eligible to vote in the election or to serve as a director on the board.

The fifteen-member board administers the checkoff funds which are collected on grain sorghum grown in the state. An assessment of 20 cents per ton is collected and used to fund programs for research, insect and disease control, education and pro-

motion of Texas grain sorghum.

Members of the board represent every grain sorghum producing region in Texas. Under the assessment program, the state is divided into five districts, with each district having three representatives to the board. Directors are elected for terms of up to six years.

In this year's election, five directors will be elected to the board: one each from the West Texas, Central Texas, Panhandle, Coastal and the Valley district.

The Panhandle district consists of the following counties: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth,

Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher and Wheeler.

The West Texas district consists of over 100 counties, such as Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Floyd, Hale, Hockley, Lamb and Lubbock.

To be listed on the ballot, a prospective director must submit a nomination form which can be obtained from the Texas Grain Sorghum Board by calling (806)298-4501. Deadline is October 13.

# New Director for Agriculture named in South Plains district

A veteran county agent who has served agricultural producers on the High Plains for two decades has been named South Plains District Director for Agriculture by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Jett V. Major began his new duties September 15. He was previously the extension agent for agriculture in Hockley County.

"We are extremely pleased to have Jett assume the position of district Extension director for agriculture for the South Plains region," said Dr. Zerle L. Carpenter, state Extension director.

As district director, Major will

supervise the counties of Bailey, Borden, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Mitchell, Parmer, Scurry, Swisher, Terry and Yoakum.

"These 20 counties are consistently among the top agricultural producers in Texas, with some of the nation's most progressive farmers and ranchers," said Major. "We have an outstanding Extension faculty



Major

of county agricultural agents, integrated pest management agents and subject matter specialists. My goal is to continue to strengthen the district's reputation for service to the producers and the families of this area.


"I have always enjoyed working with people on a county level and keeping them current with changes in agricultural technology and policy. It will be even more challenging to coordinate this effort on a district basis."


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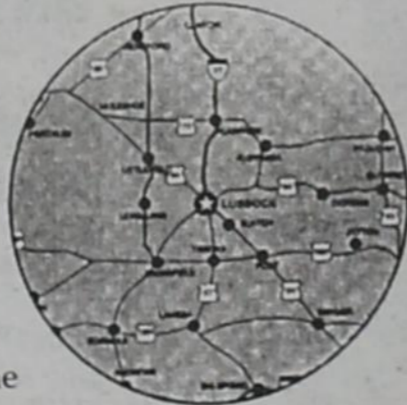
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THE LEADER IN THE FIELD

# Local girl lived as 18th century farmer during D.C. internship

Jana McManigal of Happy exchanged her jeans for colonial garb at George Washington's Mount Vernon plantation for a ten-week internship at its pioneer farm site this past summer. She is the daughter of Jim and Willa Jane McManigal.

Jana, currently enrolled at Texas A & M and former President of her senior class, National Honor Society, and 4-H group at Happy High School, spent her summer living the life of an 18th century farm worker.

Disappointed on her first trip to Mount Vernon in 5th grade because she confused Mount Vernon with Mount Rushmore, Jana was excited to have a second chance to visit the monument.

Chosen along with six other interns from around the country, Jana lived at Mount Vernon and worked five days a week at the *George Washington: Pioneer Farmer* site.

She cooked hoe cakes on the open fire, tended to the livestock, harvested wheat, carded wool and worked in the 16-sided barn, an exact replica of the one George Washington built in 1792.

Jana, who as an intern saw farming demonstrations and visitor interpretation as her key re-

sponsibilities, said, "A lot of us had a hard time getting accustomed to the interpreting part. We're use to the farming but the main part of our job is informing the visitors."

The *George Washington: Pioneer Farmer* exhibit's mission is to educate visitors about one of Washington's lesser known accomplishments - a successful farmer.

According to Mike Quinn, program director for the Pioneer Farmer site, "Washington was as remarkable in his wheat fields as he was on a battlefield.

His creativity and determination can be plainly seen in the way he tackled the challenges of farming, and made Mount Vernon a successful business."

As a tutor for several hundred students at her University, Jana, who majors in human resources management with plans of becoming a recruiter or motivational speaker, felt the most beneficial aspect of her job was interpreting for hundreds of people a day.

"I used to say 'um' a lot but this helped me better and more clearly communicate with people. I have always been friendly but I didn't have the confidence in public speaking. This helped me become

more outgoing," Jana explained.

Jana took with her to Mount Vernon a lifetime of experience in farming, having grown up working on her parents' 2200 acre farm in Happy.

"For me the thrill of this whole internship is realizing how farming has evolved through time. It is incredible the thinking process they went through back then, they didn't waste a thing. Everything had a purpose. We have been able to witness the day-to-day tasks they had to do to survive," she said.

The Pioneer Farmer site, located on the banks of the Potomac River, includes eight fields and features heritage breed animals such as oxen, mules, roosters, sheep and chickens that are familiar to the kinds of farm animals Washington had at his farm.

The interns plant, hoe and harvest to demonstrate Washington's advanced farming practices and crop rotation scheme for the public.

Their knowledge of modern agriculture helps give visitors a more comprehensive understanding of the farm and the processes of maintaining it.

"I feel fortunate to have a background in agriculture," Jana said.

"Some of our visitors didn't even realize that flour came from wheat.

"The center of the farm exhibit is the 16-sided re-creation of George Washington's wheat treading barn that he designed in 1792.

The working barn functions just like George Washington's, using quarter-horses to trot around on the wheat which is placed on the second floor of the two-story, cir-

cular barn. Visitors witness history come alive as they see Washington's treading process and learn first-hand about this innovative technique of separating grain from straw.


"The most fun thing was watching little kids as we show them how potatoes are growing," Jana said.

"We try to get the kids involved with hand on experiences."



COURTESY PHOTO  
Jana McManigal of Happy lived at George Washington's Mount Vernon plantation this summer as an intern.

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# OPINION-ISSUES



**Robert Lee**

LONGTIME RESIDENT FROM HAPPY

## Happy Tales

Taking time out from my busy schedule of feeding squirrels, drinking coffee and meddling in other folk's affairs, I drove about 17 miles down FM 1075 to visit an old friend, Melton McGehee. I knew that he would be good for a tale or two. Melton is a gentleman from the old school. Soft spoken, quiet, modest and as fine a man as I have ever known. The type of man that makes contracts unnecessary. If he tells you he'll do something, take it to the bank. It'll be good.

Melton's grandparents left Georgia in 1882 and settled in Dallas County for about five years. They all had malaria when they arrived. There were 9 children plus the parents in the family. His grandad died in Dallas County. The next move found the family in the Floydada area where they lived for about a year.

In 1891, Melton's Uncle Jim, Uncle John and his 15-year-old dad came up to the Wayside area in a covered wagon, searching for land for the family to settle on. After making camp, the two older men saddled their horses, rode across the canyon and into Claude. They were hunting for a land office. Failing to find one in Claude, they rode on to Clarendon. They were gone for

three days and night, leaving the 15-year-old by himself. He had the covered wagon for a place to sleep and camp. Melton chuckles as he thought about he thoughts that must have gone through the younger's head during those three days. Melton doubted that the young man ever imagined that some day he would own the land he was camped on. They bought it from the J.A. Ranch in 1930.

His folk's first home was a half dugout that was built shortly after they came to the Panhandle. This is where his older brother and two sisters were born. On September 2, 1910, Melton and his twin brother, Miles, were born about three miles northeast of Wayside, between Happy Canyon and the Palo Duro Canyon. By this time the family had progressed to a two-room shack.

Before Melton and Miles were born, their dad had filed for a section of land down in the bottom of the Palo Duro Canyon. Every other section was a school section. The J.A. Ranch could foresee a problem with nesters in their pasture and were trying to consolidate their holdings. They began trading their outside sections for the inside sections. The J.A. traded the McGehee's

what they call their home section, for the section in the canyons. This section is located just south of Wayside and Melton described it as the most flat and best section in the whole country. This trade took place in 1910, when Melton and Miles were two-months old. The first thing their dad did was build a smokehouse, where the family lived until the big house was constructed. The smokehouse was about 12 x 14 with a dirt floor. There were seven members in the family at this time.

Melton said that when his folks first arrived, there were a lot of lobo wolves. His Uncle Jim found den of pups in Happy Canyon. He walked up to the den and decided he'd come back the next morning, since night was fast approaching. Arriving the next morning, he discovered they had been moved. The mother had moved the pups over to the Palo Duro, a distance of about a mile and half. She had five or six pups so she must of used up most of the night moving them. Uncle Jim found the new den, but failing to have anything to transport the pups in, he had to improvise. Removing his long-handle underwear, he tied the sleeves and legs together with string. Putting the pups in his makeshift tote-bag, he loaded them on his horse and headed back to his camp. On his way back to camp, he had to ride

See Lee on page 14



**Bob Givens**

KGNC AGRIBUSINESS DIRECTOR

## Be Proud of Your Profession

I think we've made progress in the '90's on what I call, our "pride" factor. We've come a long way in plowing under our inferiority complex in agriculture. But, in my opinion, we can still do better. I challenge all of you to make even further strides in being proud of your profession.

When young men and women began exiting rural life for urban living, they did so for better wages. For example, 30 years ago, income from the farm was only 60 percent of what people earned from jobs in the city. Consequently, we grew up thinking we were second class citizens. The feeling became so ingrained, that when asked what we did for a living, our answer was "Oh, I'm just a farmer." We apologized. Some of us still apologize.

Why? Is it because we grew accustomed to the government pampering us? Subsidizing us? Patronizing us?

If, originally, we needed to apologize for those reasons, we certainly don't need to today. We've grown up! We are no longer second class citizens.

Think about it.

We, in agriculture, operate the biggest business in America, and we do it very successfully. The hurdle we need to get over, now, is to realize there's nothing wrong with success. Other businesses are proud of being successful. I haven't heard Bill Gates apologize for his

Microsoft business. Ted Turner, to my knowledge, has never gone on CNN, to say he's ashamed of his affluence.

Granted, boasting about our accomplishments in agriculture, is something very few of us have learned to do.

And even if we DO feel that way, it's hard for us to admit good fortune to our neighbors and city counterparts, let alone, to ourselves.

But, the evidence of agricultural triumph is everywhere. Just take a drive across this bountiful country. Examine the numbers. Just think of your achievements this year. Sure, not every aspect comes up roses. And, yes, farming and ranching is hard, frustrating and risky.

But, that's true with most businesses. And, when most businesses are successful, they make a profit. When they make a profit, they're proud.

They brag about it to the stockholders. And, when a business, like your farm or ranch, survives the hardships, the frustration, and the risks involved, isn't that even more reason to be proud?

No, we are no longer second class citizens. Let's quit apologizing. Let's be PROUD! And, when asked what you do for a living, instead of replaying "I'm just a farmer," speak a little louder, as you throw your shoulders back and chest out, and with a smile, declare, "I AM a farmer, and proud of it!"



**Burt Rutherford**

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF TCFA

## Issues heat up as Congress returns

The August congressional recess is over and it's back to business in Washington, D.C. There are several issues that TCFA is working on and watching.

As is often the case in Washington politics, one of the "new" issues on the industry's radar screen is actually one that's been around for a while-fast-track negotiating authority for trade. Every president since 1974 has held such authority, granted by Congress, and the Clinton Administration recently asked Congress to renew it again.

"While the U.S. has been sitting on the sidelines due to lack of negotiating authority, Canada has negotiated trade agreements with Chile and China; the EU has been very aggressive in developing trade agreements in Latin America; and other competitors, including Australia and New Zealand, have gained special trading concessions," according to Clark Willingham of Dallas, TCFA past president and currently president-elect of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA).

The reason TCFA feels fast-track negotiating authority is so important is because the interna-

tional market is the future growth market for many U.S. ag products, including beef. Last year, beef exports accounted for more than 7 percent of total U.S. production and more than 12 percent of beef's wholesale value. The value of beef and variety meat exports totaled \$3.05 billion with a trade surplus of nearly \$1.3 billion.

"Without congressional approval of fast-track negotiating authority, reducing barriers in existing markets and gaining access to new markets will not be possible," Willingham says. Fast-track negotiating authority allows the Administration to negotiate trade agreements in good faith by requiring Congress to vote them up or down rather than amending them. The problem now is that trading partners are not willing to negotiate with the U.S. without fast-track, because they have no way of knowing if the agreement they signed off on is the deal they'll ultimately get.

Specifically, the Clinton Administration's proposal to Congress to renew fast-track negotiating authority would help to:

\* Implement a veterinary-equivalency agreement with

China and gain meaningful access to the beef market in China.

\* Resolve differences in grade specifications and gain access to the beef market in Chile.

\* Continue the focus of the World Trade Organization to resolve the European ban on U.S. beef.

\* Eliminate state grading systems that restrict access for U.S. beef in certain Mexican markets.

\* Facilitate exports of U.S. feeder cattle to Canada with a minimum of testing and expense.

\* Eliminate North American grain trade distortions.

TCFA and NCBA have held firm on their stance that trade agreements should be based on science and should be negotiated for the purpose of trade, not social issues. The Administration earlier had sought authority to include broad labor and environmental standards in trade negotiations, but ultimately submitted legislation which would only include such standards if they are directly related to trade. Another legislative issue that cattlemen are looking at is reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This is important to agriculture because of the heavy-handed and inflexible legislation that currently guides endangered species listing and recovery in the U.S. There are several bills in the works on this subject-the

See Rutherford page 5

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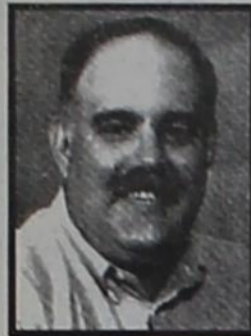
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## Monte Winders

FUTURES SPECIALIST

# Wheat market depends on weather

### Cattle

The latest cattle on feed report has shown that the total numbers on feed were 16 percent higher than last year. The placement number was 7 percent higher while the markets showed a 5 percent increase. These numbers were all on the high side of the trade estimates. The on feed and placements were bearish for the far out months while the marketing were bullish for the near months.

The live cattle futures have been trading sideways to lower for the better part of September. The market is worried about demand. Beef is a problem at this time of year with demand being down. Carcass weights are now averaging a good ten pounds about 1996. Packers are into the second week of cutting kills due to poor margins.

Technically speaking the Dec contract has broker all support levels from the 6850 to 6800 area. The close on Wednesday was below the 6800 area. Most people feel that the trend is down and will stay that way until the cycle date of Sept. 25 shows a change.

### Feeders

The feeders have been trading lower with funds showing heavy activity. Liquidation has continued from the Sept. contract while the Oct feeders closed near their 2-week lows. With the timely rains for the wheat planting, many people feel that the feeders should have some support and strength.

Technically the feeders may have put a top in the market near term. The market could have a pullback to the 74.85 area. If the front months have a drop it could go down to the 72.80 area.

### Corn

The corn futures have been trading in a narrow trading range. It shows no direction until some large orders come in, then everyone is on the bandwagon. Some sources have said that frustration has led to the sell-off that is going on. Hedge pressure may be weighing on the market as some harvesting was reported in central Illinois. We have harvest picking up and a grain stocks report coming out; it's all causing a lull in trade. The USDA report is scheduled to release the report Sept. 30 and a survey

### Rutherford from page 4

most recent entrant in the fray is a bipartisan bill that appears to make a number of important changes to the ESA.

This bill, S 1180, was introduced Sept. 16 by Sens. Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho), John Chafee (R-R.I.) Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and Harry Reed (D-Nev.). NCBA is still analyzing the bill to determine how broadly it addresses producer concerns with the ESA, but seems to think it's headed in the right direction. Sen. Kempthorne introduced a companion bill, S 1181, to address landowner compensation for private property takings.

"Takings" of private property under the ESA is one of the major concerns that cattlemen have. That's why the industry supports the "no surprises" policy for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The rule, proposed by the agency, would give assurances to landowners who enter into a habitat conservation plan by protecting them from additional regulation for endangered species adequately covered by the agreement. Fish and Wildlife informally implemented the "no surprises" policy in 1994 and is now proposing to elevate the policy to a rule.

And finally, cattlemen scored a legislative victory last month when President Clinton signed the balanced budget and tax bill on an issue that

of trading firms estimates 926 million bushels, up from last year's figure of 426 milbu.

Technically the main trend is up with the cycle bottom being placed around Oct 7. The support areas are at 258 1/4, then 254 1/4 basis Dec. The resistance is 263, then 266 1/2.

### Wheat

Sources are saying that the weather is generally favorable but updated forecasts are calling for the cool fronts to start entering the picture next week. The latest 6-10 day forecast shows the warm air being replaced by a colder-looking through into the central Midwest by the end of the period. Before the next grain stocks report, a hog & pig report will be released. Trade estimates put all hogs & pigs and kept for marketing at up 3.8 percent over last year. The kept for breeding is 3.6 percent up. If the numbers are correct it will be a grain friendly report. Also export estimates range from 600,000 to 800,000 Metric Tons.

Technically the Dec wheat is looking for a cycle bottom around Sept. 29. The main trend is still down. Support is at 371 1/2, then 2368. Resistance is pegged at 387 and 400.

### Cotton

The cotton futures have been range bound with no real trade or direction. Heavy delivery notices have been posted against the Oct contract which also tugged the Dec and Mar lower. Many people that got delivers were not wanting them so there just seemed to be continued liquidation.

There was also profit taking plus trade and hedge selling above the market. Volume has been good lately but the really big funds that hold very large net short positions have been absent. Many of the big fund managers seem content to wait for a close about 7450 before covering shorts. Many traders are watching Hurricane Nora as its path is projected across Baja California, then northward. It has the potential to affect open cotton bolls in Ariz. and Calif.

Technically, the Dec contract has shown that its main trend is up and the cycle bottom in place Sept. 24. The resistance is at 7390, then 7430-7450. Support is pegged at 7310-7330, then 7230.

NCBA and TCFA have worked on for years-capital gains and inheritance tax relief. When all is said and done for this session of Congress, this event may well be one of the biggest legislative wins for agriculture this year.

Under the law, the current \$600,000 unified credit exemption will be phased up to \$1 million by the year 2006 for all estates. In addition to the increased unified credit, family farms and ranches can utilize a new family business exclusion. Effective in 1998, family businesses will have a combined unified credit and exclusion of \$1.3 million per entity. This change alone will save an estate valued at \$3 million an estimated \$358,783 in taxes in 1998. For capital gains, the top rate will drop to 20 percent for investments held at least 18 months. For individuals in the lower income bracket, the top rate will be 10 percent for 18-month assets. These changes could save \$20 to \$32 per head in capital gains taxes on breeding cattle. There will be many more legislative issues that agriculture will face in the months ahead. TCFA encourages you to watch the issues closely and write your representative and senators with your opinion. Don't think those letters don't count and aren't read. They do and they are. And if we don't tell agriculture's story, nobody will.

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# New Zealand grasses are a 'cool' choice for the Texas High Plains

Angie Welch  
Ag Reporter staff

Grasslands Matua and Gala are two selections of bromegrass that have proven to be successful in the temperate regions of the United States, according to Gerard Lysaght.

Lysaght is a cool season forage manager for Pyne Gould Guinness Ltd Grain and Seed (PGG) of New Zealand.

On a recent trip to the Texas Panhandle in early-September, Lysaght reported on research and marketing of cool season grass in New Zealand. He visited with area seed companies on techniques that he said complement this areas current farming practices.

The company is currently concentrating on seed breeding of cool season grasses on the companies 150 acre research and development property on the east coast of the South Island of New Zealand near the city of Christchurch.

"We want farmers to become involved in cool season grass," said Lysaght. "The cool season grass can complement warm season grass. The result is more effectiveness because the two types of grass grow opposite times of the year."

The New Zealand cool season grasses of Matua and Gala are adaptable to this region, accord-

ing to Lysaght.

Lysaght said Matua produces a lot of feed in the late Spring and Summer periods, with little production in the fall or winter.

Matua requires a lot of water and fertilizer to achieve maximum utilization.

Maximum utilization is three to three and a half head of five-weight calves per acre. Gain per day can be over two pounds per day, according to Mark Roberson. Roberson owns Roberson Seed Company in Amarillo and is one of the companies Lysaght visited.

Roberson said one planting of Matua in the Texas Panhandle has survived for five years.

Matua is a tall upright plant and produces seedheads several times during the summer growing season. The most recent use of Matua is as hay.

Matua is no longer considered to be an acceptable forage plant in New Zealand and as consequence few fields have been sown in New Zealand in recent years for either grazing or hay production.

"Matua is a relatively new introduction in this area," said Dr. John Hailburton of the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostics

**"The cool season grass can complement warm season grass. The result is more effectiveness because the two types of grass grow opposite times of the year."**

Gerard Lysaght

Lab in Amarillo. "Not a whole lot is known about it, but we are doing some studies with Matua hay in horses."

Roberson said Matua hay is comparable to good alfalfa hay. "Matua is more hay type,"

Lysaght said. "Gala is best suited for close grazing. It produces a high quality feed for longer periods of time and requires less water and less fertilizer than Matua."

Grasslands Gala has a lot more leaf than Matua and it makes a seed head only once a season, according to Lysaght. In New Zealand, increasing areas of Gala are being planted annually.

Farmers acknowledge the increased liveweight gains that Gala provides over other alternative species. This is due to higher levels of crude protein,

generally 25-30 percent over other pasture species, according to Lysaght.

It has shown to have a crude protein level double that of wheat, Lysaght said.

Gala sown in New Zealand is planted in a mixture with White Clover, Orchardgrass and plantain.

Lysaght recommends 25 pounds of Gala, along with one pound each of Prestige Clover, Orchardgrass and Tonic plantain.

The mixture, which contains a legume, produces nitrogen.

The nitrogen works as a fertilizer.

Tonic plantain is a preferred palatable grazing herb with high elements of Calcium, Magnesium, Cobalt and Copper.

"Producing nitrogen increases gain and eliminates the cost of fertilizer," Lysaght said. "We can obtain an added quarter to half a pound of gain per day more if nitrogen is present."

Roberson agreed with the planting mixture recommendation.

"We had a cheap source of nitrogen in the 60's," Roberson said. "It cost about 200 dollars a ton now."

Grasslands Gala is best suited for medium to light soils, where it can provide safe pasture with good drought tolerance.

## TCFA challenge area youth

Texas Cattle Feeders Association has a program designed to give practical experience in feeding commercial beef cattle to youth within the states it serves.

FFA and 4-H members of New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma have the opportunity to participate in the Junior Fed Beef Challenge, a competition in which 52 contestants entered in 1997.

Perry Church of TCFA in Amarillo said the number of participants was up from last year and the growth of the challenge is nice.

Winners of this year's event were announced in August, with the top winner taking home a \$2,000 scholarship. Ashlie Lasley of Stratford was the overall champion while Dalhart resident, Luke Unruh was reserve overall champion and Joanna Brumley of Hereford was first runner up. Unruh received a \$1,500 scholarship and Brumley won a \$1,000 scholarship.

Overall winners are determined by combining scores in four areas: written exam, oral interview, record book and carcass performance.

The contest is divided into three divisions: senior division, junior division and team challenge. A person can only compete in one division per year.

see TCFA on page 14

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# Feedlot changes focus on grain

Several changes have occurred in the cattle feeding business which have focused attention on grain processing. The first of these was the arrival of big feedlots which provided an opportunity to use larger and more sophisticated processing equipment at reasonable cost per ton of feed produced.

Also, the need to minimize feed separation and digestive disturbances encouraged the use of more sophisticated methods of processing.

A second development that is now focusing attention on grain processing is the rapidly increasing costs of equipment, fuel and labor involved in grain processing.

In recent years, these have been increasing more rapidly than the cost of feed. When such is the case, it takes larger increases in efficiency to translate into additional profits.

Feed is the most costly single item in growing-finishing cattle, often representing 70-80 percent of

the total cost of gain. Thus, small improvements in feed efficiency above the cost of obtaining those improvements can translate into sizable increases in net profits. Assuming a total feed requirement of 3,000 pounds per head during the finishing period and a feed cost of \$4 per hundredweight, then 5 and 10 percent improvement in feed efficiency above cost results in savings of \$6 and \$12 per head, respectively.

These would translate into 50

and 100 percent greater profit per head, assuming a \$12 per head feeding return. Ultimately, those differences are reflected in survival in the cattle feeding industry.

Improving feed efficiency 10 percent has nearly four times as much impact on the cost of gain as does improving rate of gain 10 percent. However, an increase in rate of gain or feed intake is usually reflected in better feed efficiency.

## Milder fall weather conducive for better grain bin cooling

By BOB KEATING

Oklahoma State University

Nighttime temperatures now are conducive for producers to use aeration for cooling grain stored in bins, advises Ron Noyes, Oklahoma State University Extension agricultural engineer.

Development of insect problems in stored grain can be slowed significantly when grain is cooled rapidly through the temperature range from 85-90 degrees to below 75 degrees, Noyes says.

He offers some guidelines for nighttime aeration of stored grain in the fall.

Producers should make sure fan covers are removed and vents are uncovered on all storage units. For grain systems that have automatic aeration controllers, power should

be turned on to the fans, the controller thermostat should be set at 65-70 degrees, and the switch should be set on "automatic."

For those grain storage systems that have aeration fans but no controllers, Noyes says the best practices for manual aeration are to use a specific time of day or use an outdoor thermometer for fan start-up.

For the time of day approach, the fans usually should be started around 7-8 p.m. and allowed to run about 12-14 hours.

Unless a weather front is moving through the area, outdoor temperatures don't change rapidly. So even if 70 degrees is the target start-up temperature, running fans an hour or two at 73-75 degrees outside temperature still will be beneficial when grain tem-

peratures are 85-95 degrees, Noyes says.

For most steel grain bins, aeration fans usually deliver about one-tenth cubic foot of air per minute per bushel (cfm/bu), he adds. That will push one air exchange through a bin in about five minutes.

In fall aeration of clean, level grain, one-tenth cfm/bu of air will cool a bin in around 120-130 hours.

For "push" or pressure up-flow aeration, the top 12-18 inches of grain should be checked to determine when cooling is complete.

Fan exhaust can be checked on "suction" or down-flow systems to get an indication of thorough cooling.

Peaks in a grain mass are difficult to cool, reminds Noyes. In peaked grain, the core and peak may not get cooled adequately, so

insects may continue to thrive.

To remove the peak and core of fines, Noyes suggests operating the unload auger to pull 100-300 bushels of grain out of the bin. Knocking off peaks and removing part of the core of fines should speed the cooling process by 10-20 percent.

An operator can pull out more grain to level bin surfaces and keep peaks from rewarming, he adds. Coring and leveling may allow cooling of the entire bin a week or two sooner.

Once grain is cooled to 60-65 degrees, insect activity should decrease substantially.

When cooling is complete, fan openings should be resealed.

Noyes emphasizes that peaked grain will rewarm, so a producer should check the surface and peaked grain every week or two for insects.

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 Ag Reporter

# Foreign country benefits from local cattle genetic business

Angie Welch  
Ag Reporter staff

A local business has grown to international markets in just three years of operation.

Integrated Genetic Management, Inc. (IGM) was established in 1994 to provide beef cattle genetics and genetic management services to progressive commercial beef operations.

By 1996, IGM exported its product to Argentina, Australia, Chile, Mexico and the Philippines. The business is run by President Mark Lust and Business Manager Troy Dodd.

The Canyon-based business deals with bull semen. The company works with operations by developing objectives and a breeding program to reach those objectives.

"We want to work with ranchers on their program as far as selecting the sire they use," Lust said. "We can work in two ways, first with artificial insemination (AI) and, second with live bulls.

"We buy semen based on the genetic merit of the bulls, and we try to match that to the clients needs," Lust said. "AI is profitable for any size business. The operations that are big enough to raise replacement heifers are the ones that can really benefit from it."

Lust said the majority of the semen business is with the big cattle states.

"If you take Texas and the adjoining states and go north, that will cover the majority of our business," Lust said. "Our semen comes from bulls as close as Canyon and as far away as Virginia."

The price of semen varies from bull to

bull and is based on the quantity of the semen and the EPD's of the bull.

One of Lust's most recent business trips was to Argentina.

Lust, along with his brother, David, ventured to the foreign land for a couple of reasons.

Mark's company has been shipping semen to Argentina ranchers for two years and he went to inspect the results, and to work on an embryo shipping project.

He said it had been four years since he had been to Argentina and that is was good for him to see the changes.

Within the four years, quite a bit of difference could be seen, especially in second generation calves from American sires, according to Lust.

"Anytime you can go to a client's ranch and ask them what they are selecting for and what they want and find out first-hand how we can help them, that's good," Lust said.

Lust said he wanted to see which genetics were working and see what was needed. It was more a customer service trip than anything else, said Lust.

The company's goal in Argentina is to increase their yearling weights

without increasing the mature size in the cattle.

"We want to use genetics there that are what we call, easy keeping or easy fleshing, ones that do well in a fairly limited supplement," Lust said. "The cattle are on excellent forage, but not much for supplementation. Which is the exact same environment we have in most of Texas."

Lust said the sires that are being used in Argentina are really well proven, but success is limited because whatever the dams are is what they have to work with. This is the reason for starting the embryo shipping.

"With the embryos we can control both halves," Lust said. "We can send something over there that is 100 percent superior instead of just half."

David accompanied Mark on the trip for different reasons. David said any travel to a foreign country is an educational experience that he could not pass up.

"I went just to learn what I could and help others," said David, an instructor in WTAMU's Ag-department.

He said any hands-on experience in the agriculture industry is beneficial in his profession.



COURTESY PHOTO

The genetic progress in Argentina is evident by this photograph, in which the heifer on the left was sired by a U.S. bull and one on the right by an Argentina bull. The heifers are the same age.

## WHAT A LINEUP!

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Greg Lair's In Canyon



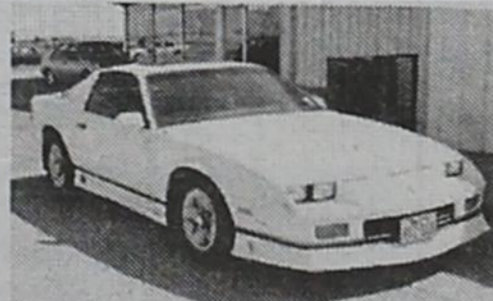
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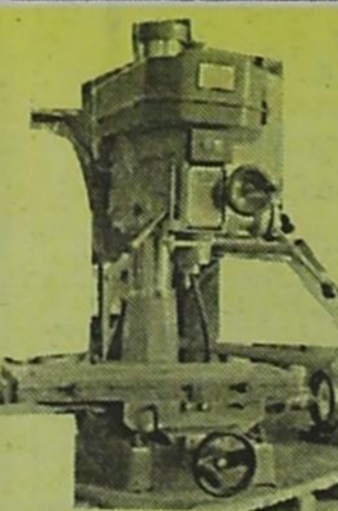
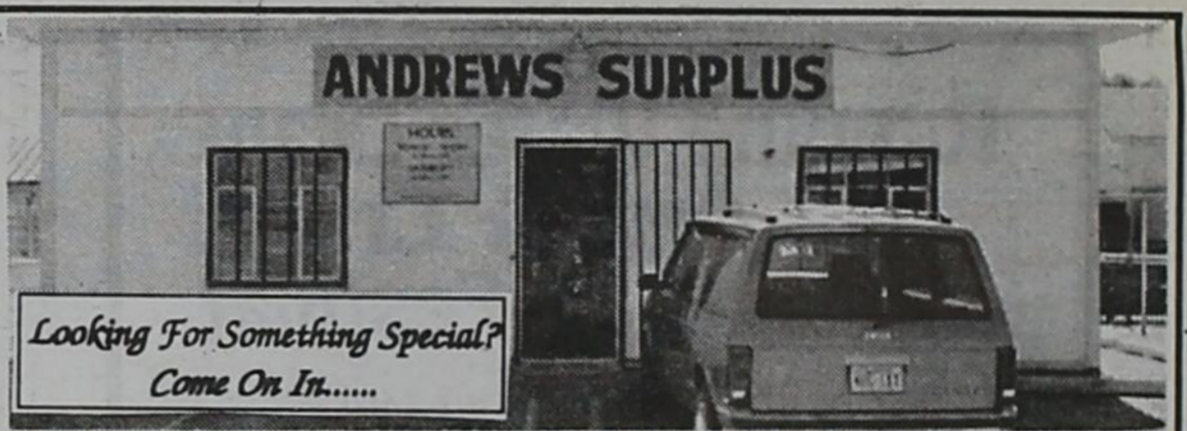
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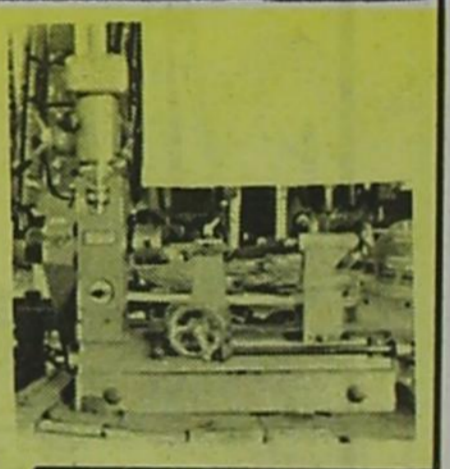


Oldsmobile  
GMC Truck



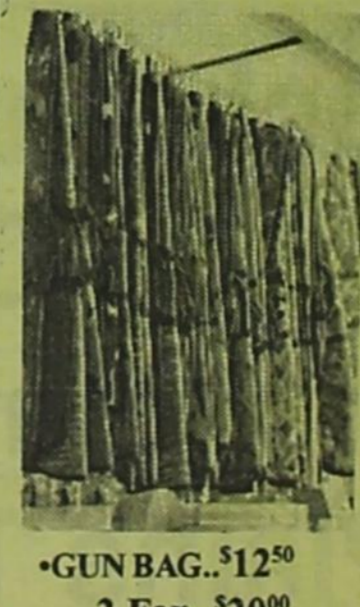
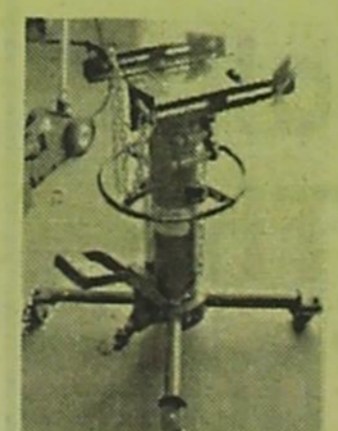
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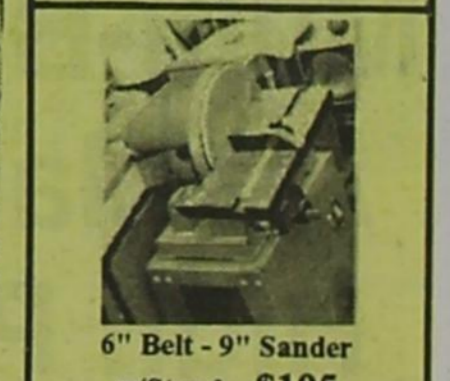


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# Precision agricultural changes farming

Earl Moseley

Ag Reporter correspondent

Traditional farming has been plowed under by war-scared satellites.

These tools of aggression have become peaceful precision farming. They have made it possible for farmers to get top crop yields that were never known before.

"Precision agriculture is a set of tools that has changed agriculture as much as tractors once did," says Agronomist Paul Wayland of Dimmitt.

Because crop yields and their financial returns can now be accurately forecast in advance, contends Wayland, "think of its affect on the banking industry and the marketing industry."

Wayland, now with Dimmitt Agri Industries Inc., is no greenhorn with agriculture. Not only does he have a master's degree in agronomy but has had a long history of farming experience.

He is the author of a book, "Certified Crop Advisor," and will soon begin his second year as teacher of "Principles of Soil Fertility in the Texas High Plains," which he also is credited with writing.

Precision agriculture has become his lead subject.

"We have the technology now to do it best through agronomics," says Wayland.

However, he admits some problems still exist, which are now in the process of being worked out.

"The program really got started from the demise of the Cold War," recalls Wayland.

"The military services had satellites on vehicles and missiles. Our satellite is still up there. Why not use it?"

It got its start in grape vineyards.

"If we can do it with corn, why not cotton, wheat? What basics do we need for the changes?" he asks.

The computerized program, based on the satellite discoveries currently being used in the field of weather forecasting, began with taking earth samples from fields which are scheduled for planting.

Field testing must be done scientifically, Wayland maintains.

"Each field has its variety of high yield, low yield and no yield sections. Tests will not be accurate if not done properly."

Thirty field samples are taken to a laboratory where they are bar coded. As the machine reads the results they are scanned in by that code.

A computer terminal will then show what parts of the field need more fertilization for the best yields and what parts may not need any at all, he says.

"The fertilizer costs might vary no more than 50 cents, but it is

placed where it is actually needed."

Rich herbicides may be used for various sections, but the herbicides may be cut back one-eighth and still do the same thing, according to Wayland.

The computer may tell him exactly where to put the herbicide, but it may be against the law to put it there under the current laws governing amounts.

"That law will have to be addressed with each state," he says. Additional tests on the fields can be delayed six years, Wayland says.

Another problem which will have to be addressed is crop measurements calibrated by monitors on combines.

"It records the grain, but not where it was cut," Wayland points out.

In order for this problem to be worked out, the reader must "go into the computer and see how fast the combine was running.

Estimates can be made by the mileage and the seconds involved in the timing."

Thus, the farmer is told almost exactly what the crop is yielding at a specific spot.

"If you calibrate it, it will be fairly accurate," Wayland says.

For more on Precision Agricultural see additional story, page 14



ANGIE WELCH

Dave Farner (left) of Amarillo and Mark Childs (right) and his 5-year-old son, Braden (inside tractor), of Canyon look over one of the John Deere tractors on display at the 21st Annual Randall County Crops Tour and Ag Show. The event, which took place Sept. 26, was at the WTAMU Horse Center in Canyon. After hearing about Senate Bill 1 from speaker, Lanny McDonald, participants toured three demonstration fields.

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# Around the Counties

What's going through the mind of your county agent

## Robert Devin

RANDALL COUNTY



"One of the greatest assets of being a farmer is the neighbors who come with the farm. Neighbors lend a helping hand when you need it. They can be depended on and confided in, and they are your best friends," from All I Need to Know I Learned Growing Up On a Farm, by Jack Odle.

I was reminded of this statement as I marveled at the number of houses being built on acreages in northern Randall County. It's obvious that lots of folks are moving to the country. While the reasons to relinquish the comfort of the city are almost as numerous as the number of houses being built, there seems to be a common thread that is luring folks to the country.

They include:

A desire to be close to nature. This desire or need can be traced back to our roots and for some of us memories of growing up on the farm or at least visiting grandparents or other relatives on the farm.

The feeling or need exists, despite the fact that our society is now for the most part, three generations removed from productive agriculture. That's significant, because without a

concerted effort to educate the public about agriculture, a once ag literate society is quickly becoming a society without

the basic knowledge to make sound decisions regarding agriculture and our food and fiber system.

One group committed to helping fill the void is the Texas Agrifood Masters. The group is composed of volunteers who receive extensive training and then share what they have learned by providing urban audiences scientific base-unbiased information on agriculture and it's roll in our daily lives from food to pharmaceuticals.

Another reason folks move to the country is to get away from all the "red tape, restrictions and ordinances. In other words, my view of life in the country is a place with a shortened set of rules. But with a new found rights, also comes new found responsibilities.

There are no alleys in which to pile trash and if the grasshoppers invade your garden there is no one to call to blame for not spraying. Sewer stopped up? It's your septic tank and your

problem

The neighbor's dog chasing your horse? There is no animal control service to call. So you call your neighbor and threaten to sue. Next week your horse is in your neighbor's newly planted front yard? Maybe you were only kidding about last week.

My point is this, life in the country offers us the opportunity to feel more in charge of our lives; but it also challenges us to fine tune our skills in cooperation. If we fail to be sensitive to others and are unwilling to compromise, then life in the country will likely be the same miserable experience that was left behind in the city.

I guess it's kinda like the conversation overheard between a nine year old 4-Her's and his calf. The little guy was a little nervous about showing his calf that out weighed him several times.

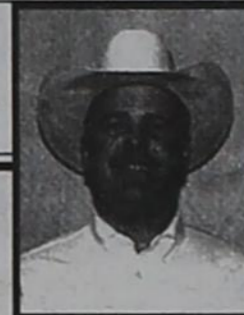
Just before his class was called, he whispered in the steer's ear "and remember, treat others like you want to be treated." Pretty good advise for us all!

Congratulations to those recognized at the Randall County Crops Tour.

Special congratulations to Gary Podzemny, Outstanding Result Demonstration and Eddie Bryan our Top Hand recipient. See you next month.

## J.D. Ragland

FLOYD COUNTY



taken its toll. You know we lost about 20,000 acres in Floyd County earlier this year due to adverse weather thus,

we're looking at 150,000 acres county wide to be harvested this time. The majority of the fields look good, however mother nature's appearance of Jack Frost will determine the outcome.

Floyd County's Annual 4-H Achievement Banquet was held September 7th. 200 attended and supported 4-Hers for their accomplishments.

Also this month we conducted Farm Safety Programs for 303 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students in Floydada and Lockney schools promoting National Farm Safety Week, September 21 - 27. Fairs cranking up Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock and Dallas all this month.

Well, got a run, phone's a ring'n probably boss wondering what in the world I'm doing!

Ya'll come to see us here at pumkin capital U.S.A. and pick out yourself that favorite pumkin.

O' by the way pumkin prices this year are around 7 cents per pound and don't forget Pumkin Days on October 25th, everyone's invited to attend.

Til next time, Howdy, cause I just hate to say Goodbye!

Howdy folks, here's what's happening from downtown Pumkin Capital USA in Floyd County America. We got a little bit of rain during the week of September 8th, around 1 - 2 inches throughout the county. Sure did need it! Pumkin harvest is in full swing. Cars are lined up along road side selecting and purchasing that just right pumkin for that special occasion. Heck, it's just like pick'n out that perfect Christmas tree at Christmas time around here!

Corn harvest has been underway for a couple of weeks. According to producer reports yields have ranged from 8 - 11,000 lbs. Overall a good corn season. I was visiting with Kim and Mike Hinsley the other day and they said they had some corn make 10,000 lbs that only had three waterings and no spraying. Now not all producers in the county were that lucky, but as a whole corn input cost this year were considerably less due to the good rains.

Soybeans and sorghum beginning to dry down, fields look good, but only a small amount has been harvested at this time, therefore to early to give ya any yields.

It's been a tough year for cotton producers this year. It seems like to much rain, insects, weeds and not enough rain has

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## Rebel Royall

CASTRO COUNTY



Open cotton bolls are being seen across the area. The cooler weather is definitely putting a halt to continued boll set. Remember to cut bolls to determine maturity before you use harvest

aid. When cut, the seeds should have a brown, firm coat and the cotton fiber should be white and well developed. Please consult your local County Extension Agent and/or crop consultant about the best harvest aid for your situation.

Fall is definitely in the air, and with this time of year, 4-H gets very busy. We are finishing up purchasing show lambs and starting to gather show pigs. We have shown hogs at Tri-State, and also planned to show at the South Plains Fair. We also have planned to take several head to Dallas for the State Fair, September 29-October 4.

Until next month, remember "a nice smile and a friendly word go a long way."

To say the least, it is very busy around Castro County as I write this column. Corn harvest is in full swing and no doubt will be nearing completion by the time this reaches the reader. Sorghum fields are reaching maturity and it will not be too long until they are being harvested. Sorghum Ergot has been found in some of our area seed sorghum fields, and those individuals are working with their seed companies to try to control the problem. One place that folks are finding Ergot across the Panhandle has been kind of surprising. Ergot is also being found in forage sorghum used for cattle feeding. Farmers and ranchers need to watch their fields for the sticky honeydew symptoms of Ergot. For more information, they need to contact the County Agent in their specific county.

A column from me would not be complete without discussing cotton.

## Greta Schuster

AREA ENTOMOLOGIST

**CORN:** Harvest has begun! This year European Corn Borer (ECB's) numbers were high in both first and second generations. Now is the time to think about next year's borer control. Full-grown ECB larvae of the second (and the third) generation spend the winter inside corn stalks, stubble and cobs. Good tillage practices are imperative if we want to reduce European corn borers as well as southwestern corn borers (SWCB). The SWCB larvae overwinter in the stalk base or root crown, insulated by a frass plug in the stalk and by the surrounding soil. One of the effective borer control methods is destruction of this winter habitat to reduce spring moth emergence. A single tandem disc cultivation or shredding will expose larvae to cold and dry winter conditions while leaving sufficient cover to reduce to prevent soil erosion. The shredder must be set to cut stalks at the soil surface to remove the protective frass plug. Shredding is particularly compatible with grazing and minimum tillage operations because it does not bury plant materials while exposing corn borer larvae. Also, stalk shredding can be performed even when soil is frozen. Double disking and deep plowing are effective methods if soil erosions are not a problem. High larval mortality is obtained when cultivation or shredding is performed before mid-January. Producers planting wheat behind corn stubble need to be aware that this practice can increase our borer problems for next year and need to evaluate control strategies.

**WHEAT:** Insect and mite pests that have been active this year can attack small grains. Producers should be aware of probable seasonal occurrences of various pests. The occurrence and development of various small grain pests are usually related to plant development and various environmental fac-

tors. The mite pests include the wheat grain mite, brown wheat mite, and the wheat curl mite.

The brown wheat mite is about the size of a period in newsprint and is considerably smaller than the winter grain mite. Its rounded body is metallic, dark brown or blackish, with a few short hairs on the back. The front legs are about twice as long as the other three pairs of legs. This species is most prevalent in dry weather, and the population increases on wheat suffering from deficient moisture.

The wheat curl mite is approximately 1/100-inch long, white, sausage-shaped and has four small legs on the front. It carries and spreads the virus that causes wheat streak mosaic. The mite does very little damage without the virus. Mite feeding alone causes leaves to roll, taking on an onion-leaf appearance, but if virus is present, yellow streaking and mottling of leaves will occur.

Mites reproduce most rapidly at temperatures between 75 and 80 degrees F. They crawl very slowly and depend almost entirely on wind for dispersal. The mite is most active during warm weather. It moves mostly on warm, southwesterly winds; consequently, most wheat streak mosaic virus symptoms develop from southwest to northeast across a field. Mites survive the summer on volunteer wheat and grass; volunteer wheat is the most important host for the mite as well as the disease. The potential for wheat curl mite and wheat streak mosaic virus is highest in the following conditions:

- Early volunteer as a result of hail on wheat that is nearing maturity.
- Good stands of volunteer as a result of July rains.
- Volunteer wheat that is not destroyed or not destroyed until after planted wheat is up.
- Early planted wheat.

See Entomologist on page 14

## Wheat blend bread recipe

Hanna Brooks - 2nd place at 4-H bake show

- Wheat Blend Bread**
- 2 cups warm water
  - 1 tbsp, active dry yeast
  - 1 tbsp, sugar
  - 6 cups, better for bread wheat blend flour
  - 2 tsp, salt



Brooks

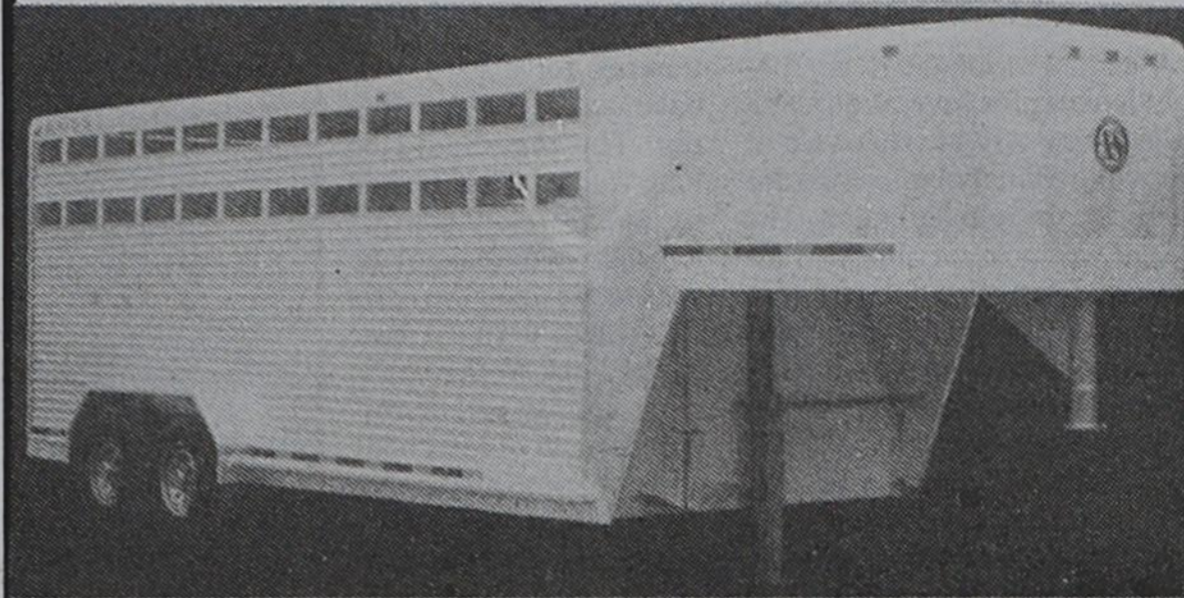
- Topping:**
- Poppy seeds
  - Egg yolk
  - Low fat granola

- Directions:**
- Place 2 cups warm water in mixing bowl
  - Add 1 tbsp of yeast
  - Measure 1 tbsp of sugar in bowl
  - Whisk until sugar and yeast are dissolved
  - Measure 2 cups of flour into bowl
  - Whisk mixture and let set 10 minutes

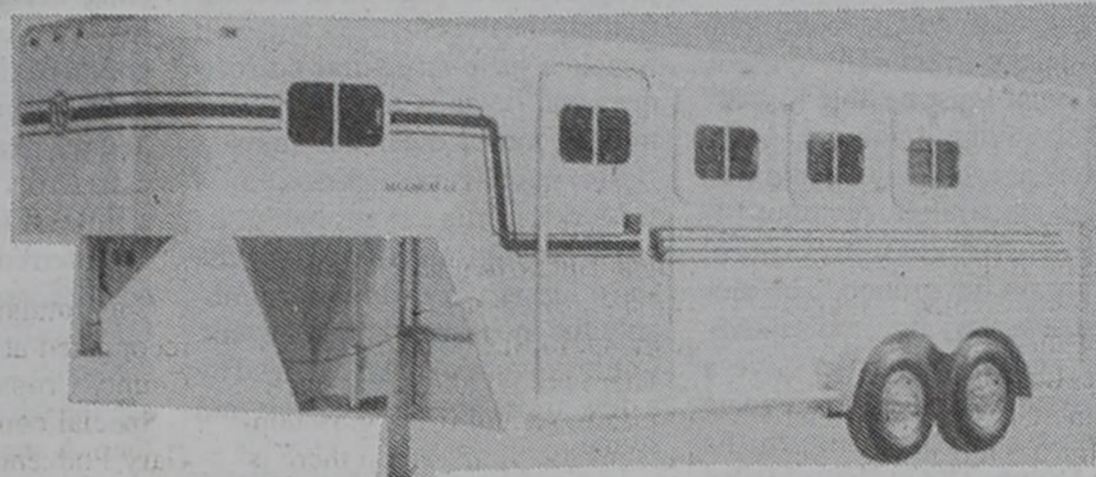
- Stir in salt and add remaining flour 1 cup at a time
  - Turn dough onto lightly floured pastry mat
  - Knead until smooth and elastic
  - Place ball in bowl greased with oil
  - Cover with damp cloth of plastic wrap, let rise until doubled in size
  - Punch dough down and knead
  - Divide dough in half
  - Roll each half into 7x12" rectangle and roll up tightly from short ends
  - Pinch seams and ends to seal and place dough seam side down in greased loaf pan
  - Cover and let rise for 45 minutes
  - With sharp knife make three diagonal slashes 5" deep to prevent cracking
  - Whisk egg yolk and brush on top
  - Sprinkle with poppy seed and granola
  - Bake at 400 degrees, 30 minutes
- Hanna is a Randall County 4-H member.

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# Balance, muscle and soundness are most common traits looked for in market animals

Traits from page 1

### Market Swine

A market swine judge is probably looking for several different traits during a swine show. He or she will definitely be looking for muscle shape and definition. The places we look for this will be down the top (through the loin region) and in the center and lower portion of the hams. Another good place to look for muscling in a pig is in the forearm region.

Leanness is another carcass trait that is very important in judging market swine. With today's health conscious consumer, leanness of meat has become increasingly important in market animals. Places to judge the fatness or leanness of a hog include: the jowl, the ham-loin junction, the twist, the flank, over the loin edge, in the shoulder pocket and in the lower 1/3 of the pig's body.

Next a judge will be looking for a pig that is structurally correct. The animal must be able to walk correctly without flaw. A judge will look at each pig to make sure his legs are straight (without begin too straight) and plant squarely on the ground. The animal must be very free in it's movement. The pig needs to have a fairly high tail set with adequate levelness and squareness in the rump region. The pig should also be level in his loin and behind his shoulder blades.

A judge will also be looking for a very well balanced, eye appealing pig. The pig should be long fronted. This is read by analyzing the pig's length from the base of the neck to the tip of the nose. The length from the base of the neck to the ear is most important in this trait. Length of total body also plays into this aspect, as well as frame size. People are always talking about judges who use "pretty pigs." We would describe those pigs as ones who may not have a tremendous amount of muscle, etc., but combine several good traits and are very balanced and eye appealing. Other judges prefer pigs that are extremely heavy muscles and will forfeit a little structural correctness and balance to get that extremely muscled carcass animal.

### Market Steers

Market cattle are probably the most prestigious species in the show circuit. They are also probably the most seen judging event. Cattle however, are also judged by a few traits just like sheep and swine.

In a market steer class a judge is also trying to determine which animal will produce the best car-

cass for the consumer. He or she is looking for indications of muscling. In cattle those places to look for muscle include the top (loin area), in the round (top, middle and bottom), in the stifle area and in the forearm.

In terms of leanness, cattle are a little different, in that some fat is preferred in the beef consumers are ordering. Cattle that are too lean will not place well in a stockshow. However, cattle that are too fat will not place well either. A market steer must be fat enough to be in the choice quality grade to place high at a major livestock show. He must be full in his

### Traits one should look for when selecting market animals for show

#### Market Swine

- 1) Muscle and Leanness
- 2) Structural Correctness
- 3) Balance

#### Market Steers

- 1) Muscle and Finish
- 2) Structural Correctness
- 3) Balance and Eye Appeal

#### Market Lambs

- 1) Muscle
- 2) Balance, Structural Correctness
- 3) Trimness

flank, and have fat deposited smoothly and evenly from his first to his thirteenth rib. He must also be reasonably full in his brisket. A steer that is too fat will take on a square appearance and will probably not show as much muscle expression.

Cattle must also be structurally correct. They must be square on all four corners and be correct in their leg structure. The shoulder should set in so that the front leg is correct and not too straight. The steer needs to be able to travel well in the show ring.

Balance and eye appeal are probably more important in cattle than anywhere else. A well balanced, eye appealing steer will be level topped and ramped. He will be long necked and very smooth in his shoulder. In shows where we still have hair, the animal should have a well groomed coat that is pleasing to the eye. Frame length and size is very important in steers also.

### Market Lambs

In a market lamb class a judge is looking for an attractive lamb that will offer a quality carcass for the consumer. Muscle is very important when selecting market lambs. After all, this is the main

reason why we raise market lambs.

Shape down the top is a good indicator of muscle as well as having an adequate leg. A good show lamb should be at least 60 percent hindsaddle (from the last rib back to the dock) since this is the area of the highest priced cuts in a market lamb. Balance and structural correctness (appearance) is also very important. A good show lamb will be very stylish and attractive. A lamb should also be clean fronted with a tubular body shape. The feet and legs should also set straight and square and the lamb should be able to travel without fault.

The third element is finish. This refers to the amount of fat that a lamb has. Ideally, we want a market lamb to be lean, however we want it to have enough finish to be desirable for market. Usually about .12 to .2 inches of fat is appropriate. One of the best areas to look for finish is over the ribs or over the edge of the loin.

### Other Market Animals

There are several other market animals shown in today's showing. In terms of what judges look for, traits will be similar to the above species. Trends tend to be similar in each barn from time to time. Basically, we are looking for the best market animal that will cut the best carcass in all species.

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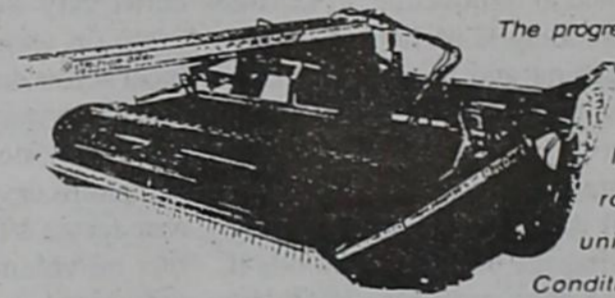
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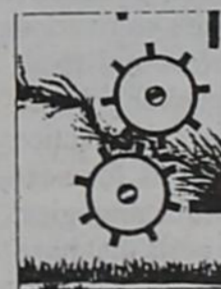
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## Showing livestock is a family project

Livestock from page 1

kids to understand a little bit about animals and how food is produced in the United States.

He said it is a good opportunity for parents and kids to spend time together.

This is the first year Horton's children have shown steers. He has two daughters, Amy, a seventh-grader, and Amber, a sixth-grader.

Livestock showing is a family project and time for families to bond, according to Susan.

"We are always all out there together," said Lisa Shields in reference to the dedication it takes from all family members to successfully show livestock. "It is a family thing; it almost has to be. Especially with the kids so active in everything."

Jeremy is involved with livestock through his Ag class in high school and all three boys are active in the 4-H livestock program. Both Johnny and Lisa are 4-H leaders.

She said her children work with their two heifers about two hours a day and they halter broke and trained both "Scarlet" and "Easter."

Their family does not show livestock to make a profit.

Lisa said they just try to make enough at the end of the year to start over. They plan to breed the two heifers they have now and show the replacements.

In another arena, with a different animal is the Olen Schulte family of Nazareth. Kelly, 10, and

Macee, 8, show pigs. They placed first in the Hamp class, third in the Duroc class and fifth with their York at the Tri-State Fair.

Olen said showing livestock is something that he and his children can do together.

It is something he did as a kid and now he and his wife, Barbara, are passing in on to their kids.

"I use to rodeo, but that was just for myself," said Olen. "This is something my family and I both enjoy and an interest we both share."

Kelly said she has shown pigs for two years and has fun doing it.

"It is a lot of work, and something to do in your

spare time," said Kelly. "You have to water, feed, clean pens and sometimes walk them. Before the show you weigh and wash them."



ANGIE WELCH  
Olen Schulte and Macee (back) of Nazareth prepare their Duroc before entering the ring. The Schulte's show livestock as a family project.

## Busy farmers are utilizing the Internet

Kay Schubert  
special to the Ag Reporter

Everyone in this area knows there's more to farming than a pair of overalls, a tractor and planting. It also takes a lot of brains, research and record keeping. In fact, it's pretty hard to keep up with the changing world of agriculture, says Joe Bryant of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Lubbock, especially if you're outside working all day.

By the time some farmers come in, everyone able to answer their questions has gone home too.

That's why they are turning more and more to the Internet for information, Bryant says. "The Internet gives a new tool for us to use. There is so much there."

Having a great deal of information available doesn't mean it's easy to access or find. That's why Bryant believes Texas A&M's Web site (agnews.tamu.edu) offers a little bit of everything people can use - out in the fields or in home gardens.

It's a good site to turn to for information on imported red fire ants and their impact as they spread across the state.

The site also offers detailed information about Texas' drought conditions, offering economic impacts, crop conditions and rain data.

It also offers statistics for Texas commodities in the form of "agrifacts" and details about endangered species living in the state.

Water information, such as water quality and conservation projects, is also a big part of the site as well. The site also offers "AGropolis."

AGropolis, the site says, is "the place to go for information to help you grow gardens and crops; take care of your pets and livestock; become more environmentally responsible; prepare nutritious meals safely; and other information to help you and your family cope with everyday life."

However, the site isn't just informational. Bryant says, "It has games with an agriculture background too."

Most of all, Bryant wants farming families to realize their computers can be used for more than keeping records of farming expenses and spraying schedules.

The Internet opens a whole new world up, and it's a world even Bryant wishes he could spend more time exploring.

Other agriculture sites Bryant recommends are Plains Cooperative (www.pcca.com), Cotton on the Net (www.cotton-net.com) and Amarillo's Extension Center's page (agweb.tamu.edu/amarillo/index.htm).

# Sluggish wheat market awaiting signals

By BOB KEATING

Oklahoma State University

STILLWATER - Watching and waiting - that's one activity many players in the grain trade are maintaining in search of market direction in the months ahead.

Wheat prices continue to move within a small range as the grain trade sorts out the strength of the influences that will be driving the market until the next U.S. harvest, says Kim Anderson, Oklahoma State University Extension grain marketing economist.

He suggests that if the Kansas City Board of Trade December futures contract price dips slightly from its current standing to move below \$3.75 per bushel, central Oklahoma cash prices are expected to fall several cents to about \$3.15 per bushel.

If the Kansas City December price shoots above \$4, central Oklahoma cash prices are expected to rise

around a quarter per bushel to around the \$3.60 level, he adds.

The market players currently are watching the developing Australian and Argentine wheat crops. Australian production now is predicted to be 588 million bushels compared with last year's 867-million-bushel crop and a five-year average of 600 million bushels.

Argentina's production is projected to be 467 million bushels compared with last year's 592 million bushels and a five-year average of 408 million bushels.

Anderson notes the importance of each year's wheat crops in Australia and Argentina is that each country consumes around 160 million bushels domestically and exports all the rest of its production.

In fact, Argentina's ending stocks average 11 million bushels; Australia averages 112 million bushels in carryover.

Wheat production and projected ending stocks in the U.S. and world-

wide this marketing year also are market indicators that central Oklahoma cash prices may not reach the \$3.60 level anytime soon, according to Anderson.

USDA now projects U.S. ending stocks May 31, 1998 will be around 671 million bushels. Ending stocks last May 31 were 444 million bushels, and the five-year average is 490 million bushels.

Ending stocks in the world next May 31 are projected to be 4.5 billion bushels, with the five-year average at 4.55 billion bushels.

Anticipated above-average ending stocks in the U.S., and world ending stocks near average, imply below-average U.S. wheat prices, Anderson says.

The five-year U.S. average annual wheat price is \$3.77 per bushel, with the average annual Oklahoma price at \$3.78.

Since the beginning of the current marketing year June 1, central Oklahoma prices have averaged about

\$3.35 per bushel, Anderson points out. In order to average around \$3.50 per bushel for this marketing year, wheat prices must remain in the \$3.40 to \$3.70 range or go higher, he adds.

Anderson states that, unless the Australian and Argentine wheat crops are smaller than currently expected, cash wheat prices in Oklahoma aren't expected to increase more than 20 to 30 cents per bushel between now and April.

Producers who still own wheat may want to start selling it into the market, he suggests.

Anderson adds that, because the current Gulf basis at Kansas City is running about 15 cents per bushel below normal, selling wheat and buying call option contracts or minimum price contracts isn't attractive right now.

After wheat is sold, any increase in the basis isn't going to be captured by increases in call option premiums or minimum price contracts.

# Wheat drops as Pakistan buys elsewhere

By TIM COULTER

Bloomberg News

CHICAGO - Wheat fell to a two-month low Friday after Pakistan bought twice as much wheat from Australia as from the U.S., signaling rising competition on the world market.

Pakistan purchased 400,000 metric tons of Australian wheat and only 200,000 metric tons of U.S. wheat in a tender Thursday, according to a

U.S.-based official of the Australian Wheat Board. Speculation also swept the market that Egypt, one of the world's biggest wheat importers, could soon buy French wheat.

Competition is increasing on the world market as the European Union, collectively the world's largest exporter, completed its harvest. Also, supplies from Australia, the world's fourth-largest exporter, are more plentiful than expected after rain revived dry crops.

Wheat for December delivery fell 8.5 cents, or 2.3 percent, to \$3.5725 a bushel on the Chicago Board of Trade, the contract's lowest price since July 21.

With new supplies, the European Union yesterday raised its subsidies on wheat exports to 4.89 European currency units (\$5.43) a ton, or 15 cents a bushel, on 115,000 metric tons of wheat. A week earlier the subsidy was 2.98 Ecu a ton.

Corn and soybeans slid as tropical

storm Nora brought less rain than expected to the U.S. Southwest, reducing concern that harvests would be delayed. The remnants of the storm had been expected to bring rain to the Midwest early next week, keeping farmers from collecting crops.

Corn for December delivery fell 2 cents, or 0.8 percent, to \$2.575 a bushel on the CBOT, while November soybeans fell to \$6.3175 a bushel, down 2.75 cents or 0.4 percent.

# Precision Agricultural is part of new technology

Technology continues to play an increasingly important role in agriculture and a Precision Agriculture Field Day on Oct. 13 at Halfway will explore some of new breakthroughs. Hosted by the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Centers at Lubbock and Amarillo, the field day is free and open to the public.

Ed Hiler, deputy chancellor of the Texas A&M system, will discuss aspects of precision agriculture and special presentations will be made by Speaker of the House Pete Laney of Hale Center and fellow House member David Swinford of Dumas who have been instrumental in pushing for precision agriculture research funding in the Legislature.

A number of exhibitors will be on hand to show their equipment and give demonstrations.

Doug Nesmith, senior research associate and manager of the experiment station at Halfway, says precision agriculture is fairly new to this area although we have done some work in the Dalhart area with grid

sampling where fertilizer is put out with a ground rig based on computerized information already programmed into the rig.

"You might put out 40 pounds of nitrogen and 80 pounds of phosphorous on a certain spot already determined and programmed after grid sampling by computer," said Nesmith.

He said Global Positioning Systems can be put on combines, for example, and provide information downloaded into a computer that can give the producer the yield information on any place in the field.

"They can be used on spray rigs to determine how much fertilizer, weed killer or chemicals to combat insects is needed in any given area.

"It's called site-specific management," Nesmith explained.

"Also, a person can carry a computer with a microphone through a field and record information that can determine where spraying should be done. Less fertilizer or chemicals may not be used, but they may be used more effectively," he said.

## Lee from page 4

by a dugout occupied by a family named Madison. Three little girls lived here and they asked for one of the pups. Their brother was A.F. Madison who served as the mayor of Amarillo from 1959 to 1961. He gave them one and killed the rest of them when he got back to his camp.

The Madison family had dug a dry well about four feet across and about 100 feet deep. Melton said he could remember the well from his childhood. They had a barbed-wire fence around it to keep the livestock out. The wolf was about half grown when he saw someone approaching the dugout in a buggy. He began to bark and run toward the buggy. As the buggy got closer, the wolf began running back toward the house while looking over his shoulder. He ran into the well and as Melton said, "That was the end of that lobo wolf."

"I'm not near through telling about my friend Melton McGehee, but I'm plumb tuckered out. We'll tell some more Melton tales later.

## TCFA from page 6

Lasley, Unruh and Brumley competed in the senior division.

The program stresses the importance of proper animal husbandry and financial management, according to a competition brochure.

To participate in the challenge, contestants purchase a steer and keep detailed records on the animal throughout the summer. The animals are weighed at the time of purchase and at the end of the record-keeping period.

A drug certificate ensuring steers were fed and managed in accordance with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations regarding animal health products is required at the time of check-in to the actual competition.

After the official contest, steers are sold to a packer on grade and yield basis.

Winner of the junior division in the 1997 challenge was Dancy Hopping of Memphis. She was named overall winner and took home \$100.

In the team competition the Memphis team of Pam Mitchell, Ty Pate and Sandra White won first. Second place overall team of Andy Hanson, Neal Hofferber and Ryan Humbel, was from Hooker, Okla.

## Entomologist from page 11

-Cool summers.

-Warm, dry fall for optimum mite reproduction and movement.

Control of wheat curl mite and wheat streak mosaic virus is achieved by managing volunteer wheat and the planting date. The usual pattern of wheat streak mosaic virus is from wheat to summer grass or crop, to volunteer wheat or early planted wheat, and then to later planted wheat. To control wheat streak mosaic virus, this cycle must be broken. During the summer, the mite can survive only a few hours without living plant tissue on which to feed. Clean tillage to destroy summer grasses, destruction of volunteer wheat, and late planting so that wheat emerges after frost are helpful practices. There are some apparent differences in susceptibility of wheat varieties to wheat streak mosaic, but none are totally resistant. Chemical control of mites has not proven to be effective.

The winter grain mite may damage oats, wheat and barley. Mites range from 1/32- to 1/16-inch long. The adult has four pairs of reddish-orange legs, and the body is dark brown to black. Mite damage is generally more severe on grain growing on land planted in small grains in previous years. Crop rotation with crops other than small grains reduces infestations.

This pest feeds primarily at night, remaining around the base of the plant during the day. The mite's activity is retarded during periods of hot, dry weather, and greatest damage occurs during winter and early spring. Mites cause leaf tips to turn brown and plants to become stunted with silvery-gray appearance. These symptoms and the presence of mites indicate the need for control.

Russian wheat aphid has been a problem throughout the High Plains region. The Russian wheat aphid is approximately 1/16 inch long, lime green in color and spindle-shaped. It has short antennae and no prominent cornices, but a projection above the cauda (tail) gives it a "double tail" appearance.

Russian wheat aphids inject a toxin while feeding, causing white and purple longitudinal streaks on leaves. Heavily infested plants will appear flattened and leaf edges will roll inward, giving the entire leaf a tube-like appearance. Russian wheat aphids prefer feeding on the younger, uppermost leaves of a plant. They may be vectors of viral diseases.

Russian wheat aphids exist in higher numbers and cause more damage in small grains that are stressed. Cultural practices that reduce crop stress should be emphasized. Destroying volunteer wheat and planting later are important cultural practices that delay initial aphid infestation.

Texas Agricultural Experiment Station scientists have developed economic thresholds for Russian wheat aphid infesting wheat in late winter and spring. The thresholds are based upon the cost of control and market value of the wheat. For every one percent of the tillers infested, there is a 0.5 percent yield loss.

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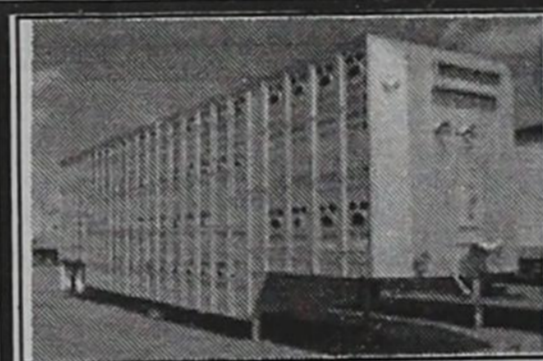
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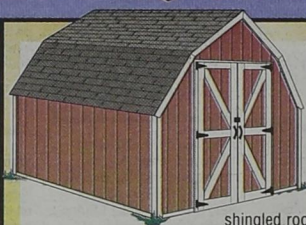
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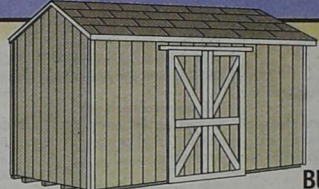


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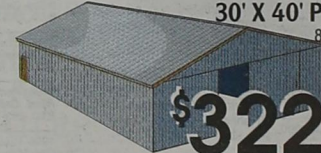
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