

# The Castro County News

69th Year—No. 49

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, March 17, 1994

35¢

16 Pages Plus Supplements



SECOND IS NO CONSOLATION for the Nazareth Swifts, who came within a basket of winning the Class A state championship Saturday morning at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin. Colby Pohlmeier (foreground), Joey Schacher (14), Gaylon Schilling (24) and Nick Johnson (40) are dejected after their heartbreaking 62-60 loss to Lipan in the finals. The Swifts finished their season with a 33-6 mark as state runners-up. Photo by Anne Acker

## Swifts finish as state runner-up

*I felt like the guys gave everything they had and that's all you can ask of a player. We had some good, easy shots, they just wouldn't fall. But that's just basketball.*

—Nazareth Coach Mark Makeever

The Nazareth Swifts saw their dreams of winning the Class A state championship bounce off of rim after rim Saturday morning in the Frank Erwin Center.

Nazareth suffered through poor shooting for half of the first quarter and the entire second quarter, and Lipan took advantage of the cold spell, working on a lead which it would still hold when the final buzzer sounded in the title game.

Lipan claimed the gold medals with a 62-60 decision over the Swifts before 12,727 basketball fans in the Drum.

The Swifts had beaten two-time defending state champion Laneville in the state semifinal game last Thursday, and enjoyed a 60.5% shooting performance.

But on Saturday, the Swifts' shots just wouldn't fall, and they suffered through a 25.9% first-half and 35.9% second half.

"We just didn't shoot the ball," said Nazareth Coach Mark Makeever. "We really got cold in the first half. Then Justin (Wethington) got in foul trouble and had to sit out. That was a decision I had to make. I felt like we would be able to stay a little closer than we did—I didn't expect them to get an eight-point lead on us. I had hoped I could keep Justin out and hold him with two fouls. That way he'd be in good shape for the second half."

When Wethington left the game with two fouls with a little over two minutes left in the first quarter, Lipan's Cody Chandler, who was

voted the Class A Most Valuable Player, just had two points.

Wethington, who had been guarding Chandler, didn't return to the game in the first half and Chandler went wild, scoring 11 more points before intermission. He finished the game with 26 points, seven rebounds and three assists.

"Chandler's a really good player and a good athlete," said Makeever. "Justin's been doing a good job on opposing point guards throughout the playoffs. He was doing okay on Chandler until he got in foul trouble. Losing him was a big factor for us offensively and defensively. We've got a pretty good bunch, but Justin is our leading scorer and he's a senior. It's going to affect us when he's not in the game."

**Swifts defeat two-time defending champions in semifinals--Pictures, story, Pages 8-10.**

Nazareth controlled the opening tip and scored first when Nick Johnson, an all-state tournament selection who led the Swifts with 19 points, 11 rebounds and four assists against Lipan, canned a three-pointer.

Lipan got baskets from Chris Tarpley and T.J. Bleeker to take a 4-3 lead, but Nazareth scored the next eight points thanks to baskets from Colby Pohlmeier, Gaylon Schilling and Wethington and a pair of charity tosses by Johnson.

Lipan called a time out and that's when Nazareth shooters turned cold.

Wethington picked up his second foul when he was called for a

charge with 2:17 left, and that started a chain of Nazareth fouls--Trampas Ball, Brad Keel, Johnson and Schilling all picked up their first personals.

By the end of the first stanza, Lipan had narrowed Nazareth's lead, 11-8.

Nazareth's problems continued in the second quarter. Schilling, who joined Johnson and Chandler on the all-tournament team, picked up his third foul with 5:27 left in the half. Bleeker stepped to the line and missed the free throws, but grabbed his own rebound and scored to give Lipan a 14-13 lead.

The lead changed hands seven times in the first half, but when the teams headed to the dressing room at halftime, it was Lipan on top, 30-22.

Bleeker scored with a three-pointer, then scored on a cross-court inbounds pass from Tarpley. Chandler added a pair of short jumpers and three free throws down the stretch for that eight-point lead.

Wethington started the second half, but he picked up his third foul right way. He fouled Chandler, who made the shot and ensuing free throw to give Lipan its biggest lead of the game, 33-22.

The Swifts battled back, though, with treys from Wethington and Johnson. Wethington made it a four-point game with 5:08 by canning a jumper from the right side.

Then Schilling used a spin move inside and scored to pull Nazareth within two.

Wethington knotted the game at 36 when he hit a seven-foot jumper with 4:13 left and Lipan called a time out.

That chilled Nazareth shooters for the second time in the game.

Over the next four minutes, Lipan outscored Nazareth 10-4 for a 45-39 lead at the end of three.

The Swifts fought to get closer in the final quarter, but couldn't gain any ground until the end.

Johnson hit a trey from the top of the arc with 52 seconds left to make it a three-point game.

Nazareth put Lipan on the line four times in the last minute and a half and that gave the Swifts several chances to tie and possibly win because Lipan shooters weren't very accurate from the line.

After one miss by Chandler, Nazareth went down and had a shot to tie, but Schilling's three-point try was blocked by Chandler and officials called the ball off of Schilling and gave Lipan possession.

Tarpley made it a four-point game by hitting one of two free throws with 17 seconds left and Nazareth got the rebound on the second shot.

Johnson's long three-pointer was off the mark.

The Swifts did get one final basket--an offensive rebound by Pohlmeier with 2 seconds left, but it was two points short of winning the state title.

"In the last minute I don't think we had enough patience," said Makeever. "We had two big possessions when they had a three-point lead. We probably should have showed a little more patience in taking our shots. I was out of time outs then and we couldn't set anything up."

Wethington and Schilling both fouled out near the end of the fourth quarter, but each still finished in double figures--Schilling with 14 points and Wethington with 12.

## Woman dies in March 9 wreck

### Fund started for girls

A 39-year-old Dimmitt woman was killed March 9 when her car was struck by a truck on US Highway 385 at Sunnyside.

Lynette Darlin, 39, of Dimmitt, died when her 1984 Oldsmobile was struck by a 1989 Freightliner driven by Guadalupe Villareal, 53, of Hereford.

Darlin was making a U-turn out of a private drive near Running Water Draw at Sunnyside. She turned directly into the path of the truck, which had no opportunity to stop. Villareal told persons at the scene that he saw the woman turn directly in front of him and threw on his brakes

while turning his wheels in a futile attempt to miss the car. The truck and the car ended up in the bar ditch on the west side of the highway.

The Dimmitt Volunteer Fire Dept. was called to the scene to use the Jaws of Life rescue tool to free Darlin. She was pronounced dead at the scene by Justice of the Peace Marshall Young. Villareal suffered a broken finger and was treated at Plains Memorial Hospital and released.

The accident was reported at 7:52 a.m. Dept. of Public Safety officials reported that icy roads did not contribute to the wreck.

## 1:1

By Don Nelson

*"I know a feller who bought a new pickup last year and had 9,000 miles on it before he ever had to turn the windshield wipers on."*

—Richard Franks  
Hart Philosopher

It was last week when that feller finally had to turn 'em on.

The early spring was interrupted by a day and a half of winter, during which we actually, by gosh, got some moisture.

And it was the best kind for this time of year — a slow drizzle followed by snow. Not to seem ungrateful, but we could have used five times as much.

I had to drive to Canyon and back last Tuesday evening, FM 2943 on this side of Hereford—the "Big Daddy Cutoff" — was close enough to being impassable that I went around it on the return trip. And only one lane was passable

each way between Hereford and Canyon.

The best-cleared stretch of highway in the area that night was Highway 385 from Dimmitt to the Deaf Smith County line. Kudos to our highway department guys here.

When I made a coffee stop at Hereford on the return trip, I visited with a young Pampa man who had just driven in from Friona. He said Highway 60 was solid ice to the west. I told him that the radio guys who advise us where not to drive were viewing the highways from Amarillo north with gloom and doom. He was going to meet his dad and brother in Pampa, and the next day they were going to go to the boys' state basketball tournament together. I hope he made it.

The next day I made the trip again—at midday this time—and

(Continued on Page 4)

## Weather

Recordings are made daily at 7 a.m. for the preceding 24 hours at KDHN, official recording station for the National Weather Service.

	Hi	Low	Precip
Thursday	35	22	
Friday	61	26	
Saturday	62	32	
Sunday	44	31	.05
Monday	58	32	
Tuesday	71	33	
Wednesday	68	34	
March precipitation	.51		
1994 precipitation	.86		

## Deputy Frieda credited with saving toddler

A Castro County sheriff's deputy is being credited with saving the life of a Dimmitt youngster on March 3, but Brian Frieda says he was just doing his job.

Frieda was in his car on duty in Dimmitt on the Thursday morning that a call came in on the emergency 911 system. Dispatcher Jerry Jansa took the call from a frantic parent, saying their baby was choking.

Jansa took the necessary information from the man and sent out a call to all law enforcement officers and the Castro County EMS at Plains Memorial Hospital.

Frieda was only a few blocks away. "I already knew that (Dimmitt Police officer) Santos Perez was busy with another call, and I was close by anyway," Frieda said. "So I went over there to see if I could help."

When Frieda arrived, only two minutes after receiving the call, the baby was already turning blue. The infant was not breathing.

"I just reacted on instinct," Frieda said. Following his emergency training, he turned the baby over and patted it firmly on the backside.

"The baby started gasping for breath, and I knew we had a chance."

(Continued on Page 16)

## Election filing deadline near

Wednesday is the deadline for persons seeking posts on local city, school and hospital boards, and there are plenty of seats still open with less than a week before the filing deadline.

Local elections will be held May 7 in Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth. Papers and petitions must be filed by 5 p.m. on March 23 to be placed on the ballot.

### Hospital board

No one had filed for the two posts open on the Castro County Hospital District board as of Wednesday morning according to Steve Goode, Plains Memorial Hospital administrator.

Goode said incumbent Mildred Bradford had said she would run again, but Stanley Schaeffer had not said whether he would seek re-election. Goode said several persons had picked up petition applications.

Persons seeking to be on the ballot for the May 7 election must have 100 signatures on the petition.

### Dimmitt city

Dimmitt has four posts open on the city council, but only two persons have filed for the posts.

Roy Garza has filed for the District 1 seat currently held by Larry Gonzales, and Roger Malone will seek re-election in District 4. District 2 Councilman Lloyd White and District 3 Councilman Wayne Proffitt have not yet filed for re-election.

### Dimmitt school

Incumbents John Nino and Frank Welch are the only persons to file for the two seats open on the Dimmitt school board, according to board Secretary Debbie Annen.

### Hart city

No one has filed for the city council. Incumbents are Todd Pebb-

worth, L.C. McLain and Ismael Carrasco.

### Hart school

Three persons have filed for the three seats open on the board: incumbents David Smith and Jerry Miller, and Danny Rodriguez. Rodriguez is a former board member who was defeated in the last election. Incumbent Freddy Upshaw has said he will not seek re-election.

### Nazareth city

Mayor Ralph Brockman and Councilman Gregory Schiacher have their posts up for election this year. No one had filed as of press time Wednesday.

### Nazareth school board

Incumbents Sidney Birkenfeld and David Olvera have filed for re-election. As of Wednesday, they had no opponents.

## Local woman's husband facing 2 federal charges

A Dimmitt woman has been arrested for possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia in Portales, N.M., while her husband faces federal firearms and possession of stolen property charges.

Shahla Ojagh Zarlengo, an industrial lab technician, surrendered to Portales police last week on the drug charges. She was arraigned and released on an appearance bond.

She and her husband shared an apartment at Stafford Apartments on Western Circle Drive. They also have a house in Portales, where her husband is director of Computer Services at Eastern New Mexico University.

Her husband, Dr. Don Zarlengo, was arrested after 32 weapons were confiscated at their house in Portales. Twenty handguns, eight shotguns, four other weapons and several

silencers were taken from their home, according to agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

He was also jailed for possession of stolen property over \$20,000, a second degree felony, and conspiracy to commit possession of stolen property over \$20,000, a third degree felony. He is being held in lieu of \$100,000 cash bond in the Roosevelt County Jail.

Attempts to contact Mrs. Zarlengo at her Dimmitt phone number were unsuccessful. Dimmitt Police Chief Dewayne Haney and Castro County Sheriff CD Fitzgerald each said they were not aware of any problems with Dr. or Mrs. Zarlengo here. The officials said they had not been contacted by New Mexico or federal authorities.

Dr. Zarlengo is a former employee of Serv-Air of Mountainview, Calif.

Serv-Air is a company that bids on servicing contracts over \$1 million from NASA. At issue are contracts for over \$100 million, according to affidavits filed in the case.

The contracts had been held by NSI Technology Services Inc. of Sunnyvale, Calif., for several years. NSI lost the contract for mechanical and technical support to Serv-Air.

According to reports, NSI vice president Robert Monk received a call from a former NSI employee, Anthony Imperial. Imperial went to work for Serv-Air after being terminated at NSI. Monk met with Imperial and determined Serv-Air had managed to steal a copy of NSI's proposal.

Officials from Sunnyvale Dept. of Public Safety, Santa Clara District

(Continued on Page 16)

# On the Go

With Mary Edna Hendrix, 647-3343

In the United Methodist Church's newsletter, Pastor Johnny Robertson had a very touching story. Here's a brief summary of that story.

"The gardener was very upset when he found many of the choice flowers had been picked from the garden.

He asked the head gardener, "Who stole my treasures?"

He answered, "The owner came into his garden this morning and picked those flowers himself. Has the Saviour plucked a cherished rose bud or lovely bloom from your garden and taken him or her to the mansions above? Be comforted in the truth that your loved one is with the Lord. We have an eternal home with the owner of the garden, our Heavenly Father."

The Hospital Auxiliary members met on a cold Wednesday morning with Jackie McLeroy presiding over the business meeting. Reports were given by Florene Leinen and Ruby Wood. They planned to have a bake sale on Friday at 10 a.m. at the Plains Memorial Hospital. Other members present were Betty Freeman, Mary Edna Hendrix, Ethel Fry and Mattie Seale. They all read the prayer for hospital auxiliaries.

I need to apologize to Dennis Underwood. I left his name out of the write-up of his little brother, David's, birthday party last week. Their parents are Danny and Debbie Underwood.

The Dimmitt Book Club met on Wednesday afternoon with Barbara Bain presiding over the business meeting in the absence of Debbie Matthews. Cindy Adams read the minutes and called the roll.

Susie Bradford reviewed parts of several books on "Angels." Included in her review was Billy Graham's best seller, *Angels: God's Secret Agents* and stories from people who believe their lives have been touched by angels. Barbara Bain and Kim Hays were hostesses for the social hour and they served pretty cake squares decorated with

green clover leaves and lime sherbet punch. The centerpiece was a pretty arrangement of yellow jonquils with paper money tucked in among the flowers. Green and white napkins added to the St. Patrick theme.

The Town and Country Extension Club met on Thursday morning with Rose Acker presiding over the business meeting. The members recited the prayer and the creed. Rosetta Bellinghausen was the program leader on the topic of "Calcium — The Lighter Way." Members answered roll call with "My Favorite Calcium Source." Oneida Hutto and Betty Freeman assisted Rosetta with news concerning calcium. Drink milk, use grated cheese on salads and casseroles, use more cottage cheese, try baked custards, puddings or frozen yogurt as sources of calcium.

Mary Edna Hendrix served a Mexican casserole, tossed salad, chips, pecan pie and soft drinks.

On a cold, snowy Tuesday the WMU of the First Baptist Church met in the Fellowship Hall for a luncheon and program for the Home Missions Week of Prayer.

Dorothy Hopson and Ysleta Ball presided over the business meeting. Paul Kenley gave an interesting talk on "Ministering to Fragmented Families" and Bill Newland sang a special accompanied by Walter Maynard on the piano. Bill directed a skit with Kenley as the father, Ball as the mother and Maynard, Hopson, Faye Mohon and Carolyn Moke as the children. They were typical kids asking their parents for many things and fussing with their sisters. Bill Newland also gave a talk on "Family Structure."

There are many types of families: traditional, two-income, childless, senior-adult, blended, single-parent and single-adult households.

Maxine Tidwell and Gertie Waggoner prepared a delicious lunch of chicken casserole, tossed salad, hot rolls, cherry cake and cherry cobbler. The round tables were covered in pastel-colored cloths with pretty flower arrangements centering each table.

Bill and Paul sang "Satisfied with Jesus," and were accompanied by Mary Edna Hendrix, who played the piano.

Emily Clingsmith, Mary Cox, Johnnie Davis, Ed and Betty Freeman and Bea Hardy drove to Lubbock Wednesday to attend Bea Hawkins' 79th birthday party at Lubbock Village. Several of Bea's nephews and nieces, great-nephews and nieces and great-great-nephews and nieces also were in attendance, along with many residents and staff members from Lubbock Village.

In the "Village Variety," which is a monthly newsletter of Lubbock Village, Bea had written, "I am a happy resident of Lubbock Village. Having been here less than a year, I already feel at home. Maurine and her staff are very caring people. They make everyone feel important. I have enjoyed all of the many activities planned for our entertainment. Transportation and security are provided for all. The Health-Cor nurses here are caring and kind to me. I am glad to have my home here. My only regret is that I wish I had come sooner."

The Tennessee Waltz will be the Community Concerts program on Monday, at 8 p.m. at Herral Audi-

torium at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

Jackie McLeroy assisted the Lubbock County Senior 4-H Recreation Leaders by taking them to the State 4-H camp at Brownwood last weekend.

Of course, the incentive was to get her grandson, Nic Gray of Lubbock, to the meeting. The five teenagers had a great time, along with the 180 other teens and 40 sponsors attending. They spent two nights at the 4-H camp. The bad part was we bought bad gas and had to call for another car. We still had fun!

Jackie McLeroy, a director for Springtime at Ceta Canyon, attended a planning meeting on Thursday in Amarillo.

Springtime at Ceta is a camp for senior adults, 50 and over. It is a special time during which people experience fun and fellowship, Bible study, creative crafts and good food, all in the midst of God's beautiful budding nature. This camp is sponsored by the Northwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church in Lubbock.

"Springtime at Ceta Canyon will be held May 2-5. If you are interested in attending, call Jackie at 647-5317.



WTAMU FORMAL ROYALTY—Jennifer Felts (left, above) and Candace Matthews (left, below) were among the nominees for Formal Princess at the All-University Formal at West Texas A&M University on Feb. 18. With Felts are Mickey Trussell and Cuca Marquez; accompanying Matthews are Kastle Freeman and Marcy Mayberry.

Courtesy photo



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A reminder from this newspaper and the Troopers of the Texas Department of Public Safety

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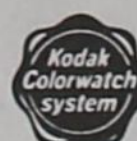
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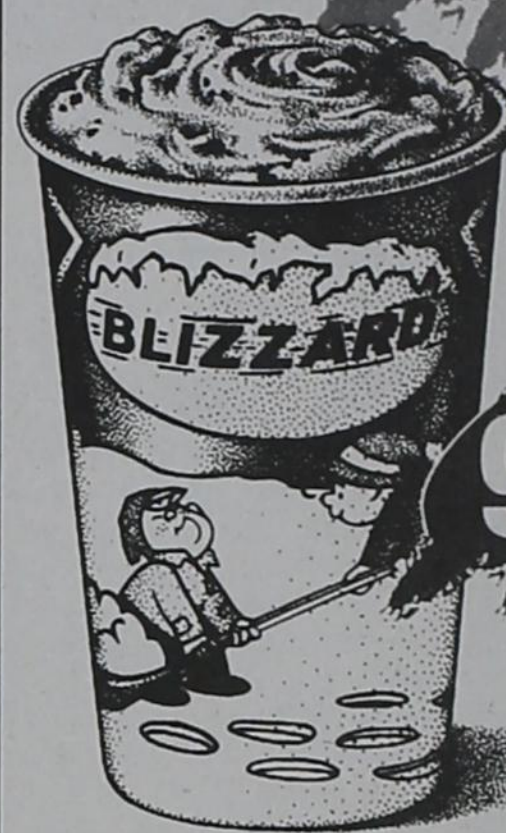
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## Protect your rights! "Render" your taxable property by April 14th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year. The rendition form is available at your local appraisal district office... or you may draft a similar form.

### Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business.

### Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- ☑ You give your opinion of your property's value. If the appraisal district believes the value is higher, it must notify you in writing of the higher value and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- ☑ You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- ☑ You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 1993. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 1994.

### What's the deadline?

The last day for filing or postmarking 1994 renditions is Thursday, April 14. You can get an extra 15 days if you ask for it in writing by the April 14 deadline.

### Where do you file?

File renditions with your local appraisal district at:

**Castro County Appraisal District**  
204 S.E. 3rd (Rear), Dimmitt, TX 79027  
806-647-5131

For more info, stop by your appraisal district and pick up **"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies, Responsibilities"**

Or contact:  
**Comptroller's Property Tax Division**  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin TX 78711-3528

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper

## Correction

In the advertisement in last week's issue thanking those who contributed to the Dimmitt Buyers' Club to benefit the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and sale, the names of Kenneth Frye and West Texas Gas were inadvertently omitted from the contributors' list.

The Dimmitt Buyers' Club wanted to be sure that all contributors were recognized and thanked publicly.

Sue Howell gave an interesting talk on "Ministering Christ's Name to Latchkey Children" on Monday, and since she is counselor at Dimmitt Middle School she knows the children's problems.

Linda Fitzgerald talked on "Ministering in His Name to the Poor" on Thursday. Martha Jo Hyman, Dorothy Hopson and June Sutton served delicious pick-up foods.

Ina Rae Cates was hostess to the Thursday Bridge Club that met at the Senior Citizens Center and she served apple and cherry cobbler. Susie Reeves won high score and Alma Kenmore won second high score. Others playing were Loranel Hamilton, Fern Dickey, Helen Braafladt, Dugan Butler, Virginia Crider, Dude McLauren, Gladys Benson, Emily Clingsmith, Neva Hickey, Bernice Hill, Cleo Forson, Oleda Schumacher and Johnnie Vannoy.

Out-of-town visitors at the Castro County Museum were Ann Morris and Kyle Williams of Canyon and Edna Reinart of Hereford. After Sam Gilbreath's funeral, several members of his family stopped by since the Gilbreath family built the house. They wanted to show it to some of their relatives.

Lucille Posey of Hereford was 2-1/2 years old when she lived in the house. Others were Sallie Kirby of Las Vegas, Rebecca Kirby of Lubbock, Jefferson Rhodes and Scott Rhodes of Alamogordo, N.M., Gary Peterson of Houston and Lois Peterson of Amarillo.

Bill Newland led the singing at Canterbury Villa Sunday morning and Paul Kenley gave the mini sermon. His subject was "Later Stages of Life."



### FIND "NEWSY"

We've hidden "Newsy" somewhere in the **CASTRO COUNTY NEWS**.

If you find him (and he may be any size, anywhere), come to the *Castro County News* office, 108 W. Bedford St., during business hours, 8-5 Monday through Friday.

The first two to come in and show us where they found "Newsy" in this issue will win a 2-liter bottle of soft drink. (One win per month, per family. No phone calls, please.)

Last week's winners:  
Elaine Broadstreet  
Johnathan Mireles

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## Who's New?

### Plains Memorial Hospital

Ruben Borrego and Sally Lopez of Dimmitt are the parents of a boy, Aaron Ruben Borrego, born Feb. 10. He weighed 6 lbs., 13 ozs., and was 17 1/2 inches long. He has three siblings: Angelica Marie Lopez, 7; Francisco Javier Lopez, 2; and Monica Yvette Borrego, 1.

Paternal grandparents are Ramon and Francisca Borrego of Plainview. Maternal grandparents are Rito and Bruna Lopez of Petersburg.

Juan and Olga Beanes of Hart are the parents of a boy, Alberto, born Feb. 9.

He has two siblings: Yvet, 7, and Angel, 6. Maternal grandparents are Ramon and Rosalia Mejia of Hart. Paternal grandparents are Jesus and Maria Beanes of Hart.

Ashley and Jaime Heard are the parents of a boy, Terrell Seth, born March 11 at 1:45 p.m. He weighed 9 lbs., 9 ozs., and was 20 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Kenneth and Nona Heard of Dimmitt. Maternal grandmother is Doris Hatla of Nazareth.

Daniel and Marie DeLeon are the parents of a boy, Daniel III, born March 10 at 9:13 a.m. He weighed 6 lbs. and was 18 inches long.

Daniel has two siblings: Romei, 3, and Felisha, 2. Paternal grandfather is Daniel DeLeon Sr. Maternal grandfather is Pete Gallegos Jr., of Dimmitt. His great-grandmother is Inez Gonzales.

### Out-of-town

Alan K. and Bridgett Howe of Clovis, N.M., are the parents of a son, Michael Ryan, born March 9 at Plains Regional Medical Center/Clovis. He weighed 9 lbs., 1 oz., and was 20 3/4 inches long.

Michael has one brother, Marc Alan, 3 1/2. Maternal grandparents are T.J. and Sandy Watson of Clovis and Patrick and Toni Keating of Austin. Paternal grandparents are Buddy and Jeri Byrnes of Clovis. His great-grandparents are Doris Stoner of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Louise Watson and Blanche Hudson, both of Clovis, and the late Kem and Genevieve Howe of Dimmitt.

Didi and Tony Saunders are the parents of a girl, Kendra Nicole, born March 1 at Garland. She weighed 6 lbs., 6 1/2 ozs., and was 19 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Joyce Rickard of Amarillo and Charles Rickard of Dimmitt and Wayne Bishop of Dickens. Paternal grandmother is Terri Saunders of Akron, Ohio. Great-grandparents are Susie Reeves of Dimmitt, Rose Mary Vinciguerra of Akron and Anna Mae Payne of Lubbock.

Jose and Alice Lopez of Andrews are the parents of a boy, Jose Mario Jr., born March 11 at 10:46 p.m. at Permian General Hospital in Andrews. He weighed 6 lbs., 8 ozs., and was 19 inches long.

He has an older brother, Mario, 12, and a sister, Amanda, 9. His maternal grandparents are Juana Guajardo and the late Rafael Guajardo of Dimmitt. Paternal grandparents are Lupe and Lala Lopez of Andrews. Great-grandmother is Paula Silva of Dimmitt.

It's a boy for Harold and Kirsten Verkamp of Amarillo. Their son was born last Wednesday, March 9, at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 22 inches long. He has been named Daniel Brian. Grandparents are Leslie Birkenfeld and Robert and Mary Verkamp, all of Nazareth. Great-grandparents are Rose Birkenfeld and Evelyn Backus, both of Nazareth, Ella Verkamp of Idalou and Lahoma Benke of Lawton, Okla.

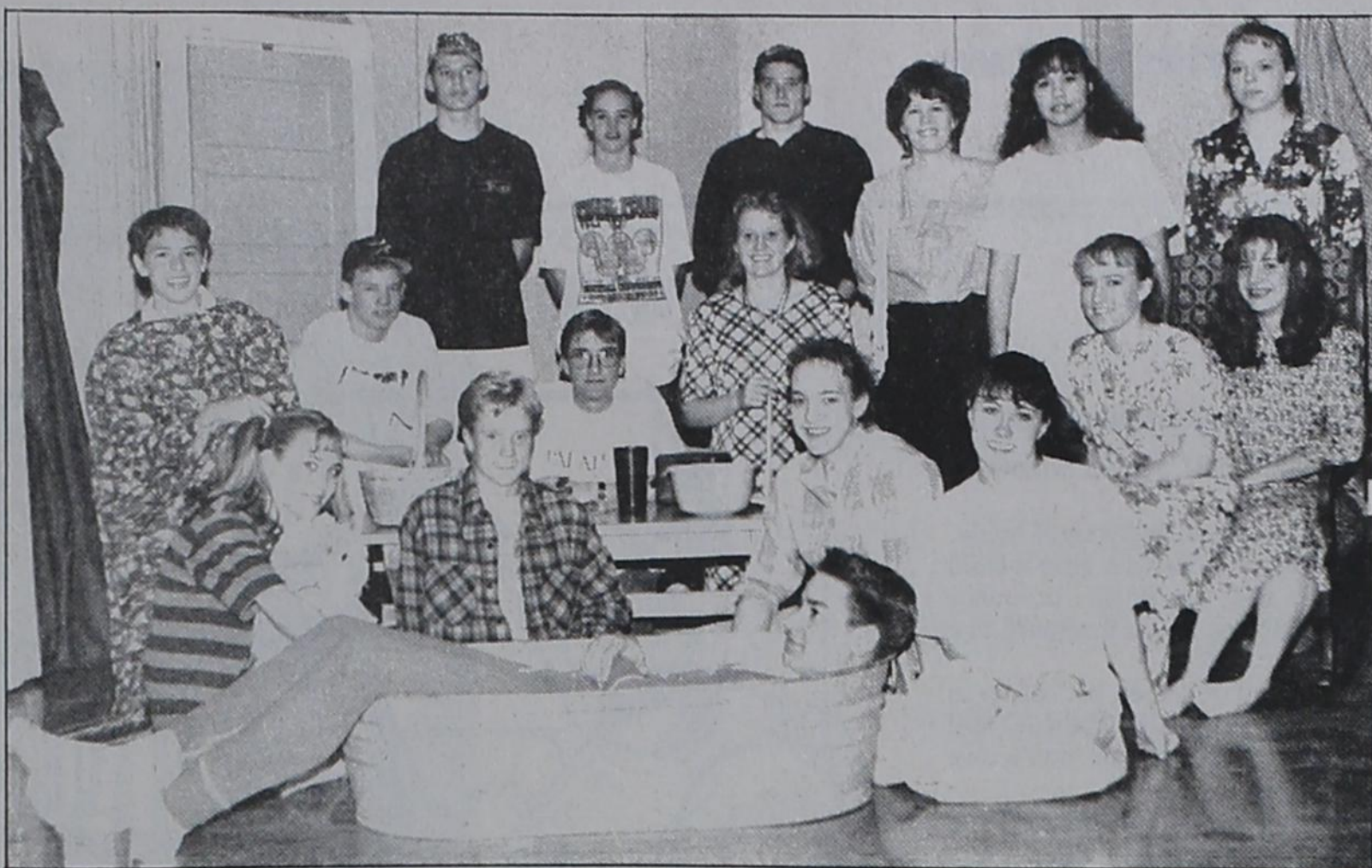
Sheri and Roger Underwood of Hereford are the parents of a boy, Schuler Garrison Underwood, born at 11:11 a.m. on March 7 at Hereford Regional Medical Center. He weighed 5 lbs., 9 ozs.

Maternal grandparents are Carl and Gail Bruegel of Dimmitt. His paternal grandparents are Roy Dale Underwood and Shirley and Don Cornett, all of Dimmitt. His great-grandmother is Juanita Bruegel of Dimmitt.

### PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL AVAILABLE FOR OVER-65 HOMEOWNERS

By filling a simple affidavit with their local appraisal district, over-65 homeowners can indefinitely postpone paying property taxes on their homestead.

For more information, contact **Castro County Appraisal District** 204 S.E. 3rd (Rear) Dimmitt, TX 79027 647-5131



**WHERE THE LILIES BLOOM**—The cast and stage crew of *Where the Lilies Bloom* will perform the play Sunday as part of a dinner theater at the Nazareth School cafeteria. The school's Drama Club will present the one-act play in the UIL contest Wednesday. Cast and/or crew members include Alston Farris (in tub); (second row, from left) Carie Wethington, Lynette Kleman, Courtney

Hoelting and Robin Schulte; (third row, from left) Karmen Pohlmeier, Casey Hoelting, Dominic Fortin, Lena Durbin, Jaimye Bingham and Heather Braddock; and (standing, from left) Colby Pohlmeier, Melinda Schmucker, Nick Johnson, Director Jo Beth Mays, Allyn Garza and Kelly Jones. Not pictured is Brad Keel. Photo by Anne Acker

## Nazareth

By Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

Congratulations to the Nazareth Swifts and their coaches, Mark Makeever and Joey Waldo, who participated in the state basketball tournament this weekend in Austin. They did very well. We're proud of them and have enjoyed many exciting games this season.

A large number of fans drove to Austin to support the team and coaches.

Alvina Gerber recently enjoyed a trip to Fort Worth with Connie and Fritz Backus of Hereford. They visited with Glen and Kendra Backus in Roanok and with Alvina's sister, Hilda Duer, in Fort Worth.

The Nazareth Senior Citizens enjoyed a good chicken dinner Sunday at the Center. It was catered by the Nazareth Band Parents. Our only guest was Shirley Schacher of Dimmitt.

Lawrence Schmucker, Floyd and Dorothy Schulte and Louise Braddock spent the weekend in Fort Worth with Louise's sister, Hilda Duer, who is in the Intensive Care Unit at All Saints Hospital in Fort Worth. Prayers are asked for her speedy recovery.

Virgil and Vi Pohlmeier, Florene Leinen, Evelyn Hill and Virgie Gerber attended rosary services Friday evening and funeral services on

Saturday for their nephew, Dirk Bell, 37, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Dallas.

LeRoy and Dorothy Pohlmeier, Denny and Pill Heiman, Lisa Pohlmeier, Annette Hoelting and Kevin and Melinda Gerber also came from Austin in time to attend the funeral service.

Dirk is survived by his parents, Jim and Jean Bell of Granbury; two sisters, Breanna DeWalt of Arlington and Becky McClanahan of Fort Worth. Dirk was a theology teacher at the Jesuit Preparatory College in Dallas.

Harold and Kirsten Verkamp of Amarillo are the parents of a baby boy, Daniel Brian, who was born March 9 at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 22 inches long. Grandparents are Leslie Birkenfeld and Robert and Mary Verkamp, all of Nazareth. Great-grandparents are Rose Birkenfeld and Evelyn Backus, both of Nazareth, Ella Verkamp of Idalou and Lahoma Benke of Lawton, Okla.

## Chamber plans 'Casino Night'

The Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a "Casino Fun Night" Saturday, March 26, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Expo Building in Dimmitt.

Tickets for the event will be \$15 per person and will entitle the holder to admission, \$500 worth of fun chips and a food buffet. Games will include blackjack, bingo, craps, and over-under.

At the end of the evening, those holding chips may use their winnings (or leftover chips) to bid on auction items, including the big prize, which is a weekend for two at Inn of the Mountain Gods in Ruidoso, N.M. The trip has a \$400 value and was donated by Dimmitt Agri Industries. Chips have no cash value, and may only be used to bid on auction items that night.

Local merchants will give out bonus chip coupons to those who request them when shopping around town. Coupons will be available March 24, 25 and 26 before the Casino night. This promotion, "Spring Win," is designed to promote shopping at home. Businesses participating in the promotion will display a bright lime green sign on the door.

The 1992 Casino night was a big success and more than 98 prizes were awarded. Prizes expected to be available at this year's auction are gift certificates, clothing items, purses, beef, business services and much more.

Volunteers are needed to help with door duties, food, dealers and more during the event.

Kelly Proffitt is the "pit boss" and Layne Myatt is rounding up dealers and game leaders. Mary Lou Schmucker is in charge of organizing the buffet and is receiving help from Walt Hansen and Doug Pybus at Thriftway, and other volunteers. Greg Odom has agreed to serve as auctioneer.

Others serving on the steering committee are Henry Ramaekers, Avery Thrasher, Mickey Bishop and Bill Sanders. These people, along with Chamber directors, will collect prizes.

Those who need more information or wish to volunteer should call the Chamber at 647-2524.

**TODAY'S THE DAY**  
Stop Smoking.  
American Heart Association

## NHS Drama Club to present its UIL one-act play

Nazareth High School's one-act play cast will present *Where the Lilies Bloom* by Celeste Raspanti Sunday at the Nazareth School cafeteria.

Prior to the play, the NHS Drama Club will hold a Mexican Stack-Up dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the play will begin at 1:30.

Dinner theater prices are \$4 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under. Those wishing to attend the play, but not the meal will be admitted for \$1.

The cast will present its play in district UIL competition on Wednesday, March 23, at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Members of the cast are Courtney Hoelting as "Mary Call," Lynette Kleman as "Romey," Carie Wethington as "Ima Dean," Robin Schulte as "Devola," Alston Farris as "Kiser Pease," Casey Hoelting as "Mr. Connell," Lena Durbin as "Mrs. Connell," Karmen Pohlmeier as "Goldie Pease," Dominic Fortin as the "Preacher," and Heather Braddock, Allyn Garza, Jaimye Bingham and Kelly Jones as wedding guests.

The stage crew includes Nick Johnson, Melinda Schmucker, Colby Pohlmeier and Brad Keel.

Classifieds gets results!

Together We Can



Vote For **Betty Rickert** Castro County/District Clerk

April 12, 1994 Democratic Primary Runoff

WORKING FOR YOU!!!

We as taxpayers must acknowledge the importance of the County/District Clerk's office to each individual and each business in Castro County.

We must elect the person that is the best qualified and is the most consistent with their work habits.

Betty Rickert has the necessary qualifications to fulfill the duties of the County/District Clerk's office.

Make An Educated Vote—VOTE FOR BETTY RICKERT

Political advertisement paid for by Betty Rickert

You don't have to be Irish to **SAVE** MORE GREEN HERE



**COCA-COLA**  
ASSORTED  
12 OZ. CAN, 6 PACK  
**\$1.69**



NABISCO **CHIPS AHOY! COOKIES**  
18 OZ. PKG.

**\$2.39**

PLAINS REGULAR OR SLIM N TRIM  
**COTTAGE CHEESE**.....24 OZ. **\$1.49**  
QUAKER PREPARAO  
**MASA HARINA**.....20 LB. BAG **\$9.99**  
ASSORTED FLAVORS  
**FLA-VOR-ADE**.....8 QT. CANISTER **\$1.69**  
SPRAY STARCH, ASSORTED  
**FAULTLESS**.....22 OZ. **99¢**

### FISH

**STUFFED CRABS**  
**89¢** EACH

UNCLE GEORGE'S  
**SHRIMP**.....4 LB. BOX **\$10.95**  
FULLY COOKED RINGS  
**SHRIMP COCKTAIL**.....16 OZ. **\$9.99**  
CAPTAIN COVE  
**SALAD SHRIMP**.....4 OZ. PKG. **89¢**  
SHURFINE  
**HAMS**.....LB. **\$2.09**

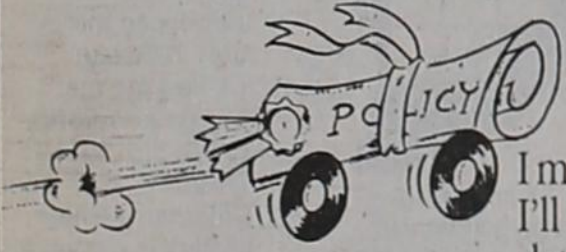
## THRIFTWAY



WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMPS WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT

SPECIALS GOOD MARCH 17-23, 1994

An auto insurance tune-up could give your money more mileage.



Let me check out the coverage you have on your car. I might be able to save you some money. Stop by soon and I'll run all the details by you. **You're in good hands.**

**BETTY JONES**

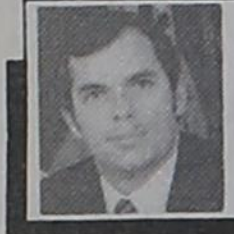
1 Mile North of Dimmitt on Hwy. 385

647-4247

**Allstate**

# Op-Ed

opinions, editorials, letters, features



## A View From the Hill

By Congressman BILL SARPALIUS

By BILL SARPALIUS  
US Representative

There has finally been a shift of the tax burden. For once, working people are getting a break—a break that is worth about \$14.5 billion. It is an often overlooked break called the Earned Income Credit (EIC) and this year it is worth even more.

Due to an increase in the EIC, which was approved last summer in the budget reconciliation bill, 42% of the families in the 13th District of Texas are now eligible to apply for the EIC. That's 62,219 families. What is even more incredible is the fact that those 62,219 families are eligible to receive a total of \$109.1 million in tax credits. That is money that can help the working people make ends meet, and ultimately gives a shot in the arm to the local economy.

The EIC is a refundable tax credit for lower income working families with children. This credit can increase the amount of federal income taxes you get back, or it could decrease the amount you own. You also can get EIC money even if you don't have to pay federal income tax.

But how do you know if you are eligible to apply? If you answer yes to these questions you probably qualify to receive EIC money:

- \* Did you have a qualifying child living in your US residence for more than six months in 1993 or a child born in 1993?
- \* Did you have income during 1993, earned from salary, tips, contract labor or self-employment?
- \* Is your income less than \$23,050?
- \* Is your filing status one of the following: married

filing joint, head of household, single, widow or widower with child?

You also may qualify for two other types of credit. The Young Child Credit is for those who have a child who was born in 1993, and the Health Insurance Credit is for those who paid for health insurance that covered at least one dependent child.

An eligible family now can obtain an EIC of up to \$2,364. The average family that claims the EIC will receive about \$1,000. Even families that don't owe federal income tax can get the EIC.

Getting the EIC is a relatively simple process. You must file a federal income tax return—either Form 1040A or 1040. Do not file Form 1040EZ. You also must attach a form called Schedule EIC. If you have any questions, you can call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

Remember, if you believe you are eligible for the EIC, but you were not expecting a refund, you may still be able to receive EIC money. If you think you are eligible, you don't lose anything by applying for the EIC, and chances are you will come out on the winning end.

It's time that the tax breaks went to the working people who need them. The deficit reduction bill did just that. Unless you are in the top 1% of the wealthiest people in the 13th District, your income taxes were not increased, and quite possibly went down. As for the Earned Income Credit, just imagine—\$109.1 million is sitting there, waiting to be claimed by qualifying families in the 13th District. Take advantage of it.

## More about 1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

the roads already were clear and drying, and spring was practically upon us again.

That's about all the winter we've had in our little corner of the world.

The upper Midwest has been deluged with snow. My son Dave in Madison, Wis., said they had had 38 inches during February alone. That's an average of almost an inch and a half a day. They're worried about floods again when the spring thaw comes.

But here, nada. When Canadian got a foot of snow and Amarillo had its biggest storm, we were off the southern edge of it. When Lubbock, Midland and Odessa got their big snow, we were off the northern

edge of it.

It's as though Mother Nature had a date with us and stood us up.

Virgie Gerber, our Nazareth correspondent, walked into my office recently and spotted a new sweatshirt—a gift from my daughter—that I had brought in to show off. She picked it up and unfolded it to read the front (*I Fish, Therefore I Am*). Then, with a flick of her wrists, she refolded it in midair. Perfectly.

Boy, was I impressed.

I have to lay sweaters, sweatshirts and T-shirts down flat to fold them. Which means I have to have a bed or a table close by.

"When you've raised as many

kids as I have (13), you learn some shortcuts," she explained. "There's nothing to it."

Oh, yeah?

I've been trying to do it her way ever since. I've even tried it without chewing gum at the same time. I'm not there yet.

The most feared woman in America: Tonya Rodham Bobbitt.

*ICE SKATING* most likely developed in Scandinavia as early as 1000 B.C. The first skates were made from shank or rib bones of elk, oxen, reindeer, and other animals. At what time metal was introduced for skate blades is not precisely known, but bone was still in use in England in the 12th century.

—New Britannica



## The Castro County News

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**DEADLINES**  
Display and Classified Advertising.....Tuesday Noon  
Agriculture, Business & Industry News.....10 a.m. Monday  
Sports, Social and Church News.....Monday Noon  
Community Correspondence.....Monday Noon  
Personal Items.....5 p.m. Monday  
General News, City and County.....Tuesday Noon

Editor and Publisher.....Don Nelson  
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Advertising Composition.....Paula Portwood  
Page Composition and Photo Lab.....Linda Maxwell  
Bookkeeping.....Anne Acker, Paula Portwood  
Community Correspondents.....Mary Edna Hendrix, Dimmitt;  
Virgie Gerber, Nazareth; Teeny Bowden, Sunnyside

**Last Puzzle Solution**



**State Capital**

**HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Lyndell Williams and Ed Sterling  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

**Kirk New Secretary of State**  
Secretary of State John C. Hannah will be replaced by Ron Kirk, a Dallas lawyer and chairman of the state General Services Commission.  
Gov. Richards picked Kirk to fill Hannah's unexpired term, as Hannah has been nominated by President Clinton for a judgeship for the U.S. District Court Eastern District.  
Kirk, a former Democratic assistant city attorney of Dallas and a registered lobbyist, has been involved in studying ways to make government more efficient as a member of a legislative panel, the Council on Competitive Government.

deducted NAACP work during normal business hours. Bledsoe denied wrongdoing and said he compensated the state by working on state business after hours and weekends.  
Allegations against Bledsoe arose after the Travis County District Attorney's office began investigating Sen. Hutchison for allegedly using her office and employees to conduct personal business.  
**Casino Gambling Poll**  
Texans are deadlocked on whether Las Vegas-style gambling should be welcomed in Texas, according to a recent poll.  
The Texas Poll, conducted Feb. 4-12, found 48 percent in support of legalized casino gambling, 46 percent opposed and 6 percent undecided.  
The Texas Riverboat Association has unveiled plans to seek legislative approval for a constitutional amendment that would enable Texans to decide whether to authorize casino-style riverboat and dockside gambling on a local-option basis.  
Former state Rep. Lloyd Criss of La Marque, who heads the pro-gaming riverboat group, said he was "not encouraged by the poll one way or the other."

**AUSTIN** — As expected, Gov. Ann Richards won nomination for a second term in the Democratic primary March 8 and will face George W. Bush, eldest son of the former president.  
Meanwhile, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison — who earlier faced trial on ethics charges — easily defeated six Republican opponents. The outcome of an April 12 runoff will determine her Democratic challenger.  
Hutchison, who won a special election in June to fill the seat vacated by Lloyd Bentsen when he was appointed treasury secretary, will face either former Attorney General Jim Mattox or Dallas investor Richard Fisher.

Following the footsteps of Austin lawyer Myra McDaniel in 1984, Kirk is the second black to be appointed to the post. He is a native of Austin and is a partner in the Johnson and Gibbs law firm.  
**Voter Turnout Hits New Low**  
The Secretary of State's office says only 17.5 percent (1.5 million) of Texas' voters made it to the polls on March 8 — the weakest showing in Texas history.  
The previous low was recorded in 1986 when only 20 percent of the voters participated.  
Of the nine million Texans eligible to vote, 550,000 voted in the GOP primary and one million cast ballots in the Democratic primary.

**Other Highlights**  
■ Gov. Richards has appointed McAllen lawyer Ruben R. Cardenas to the Transportation Commission. Cardenas, former chairman of the Texas Public Safety Commission, will complete the unexpired term of Henry Munoz III, who resigned citing personal reasons. The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation.  
■ U.S. Rep. Craig Washington, D-Houston, became the first incumbent defeated in the nation's mid-term congressional elections. Houston City Councilwoman Sheila Jackson Lee ousted him from the seat once held by Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland.  
■ A new study by Donald Huddle, a Rice University economist, says immigrants — both legal and illegal — cost Texas \$4.68 billion more in 1992 than they paid in taxes. The study shows illegal immigrants cost the state \$1.02 billion, while legal immigrants cost \$3.6 billion.

Running a distant third in the Senate race was U.S. Rep. Mike Andrews, who gave up a safe House seat to make the race.  
Mattox and Fisher squared off immediately for what is certain to be a bloody runoff battle.  
"I challenge voters to come up with anything positive to remember Jim Mattox by. This guy represents slash-and-burn negative politics. Mine are the politics of change and optimism," Fisher said.  
Mattox, noting Fisher's past support of Ross Perot, said his opponent was "not the kind of Democrat that ought to lead the troops into battle." Mattox also pointed to Fisher's "pattern of contributing to Republicans and opposing Democrats."

**Grand Jury Probing Bledsoe**  
A Travis County grand jury is expected to rule this week on allegations that former Assistant Attorney General Gary Bledsoe conducted private business on government time.  
Bledsoe, president of the Texas chapter of the NAACP and chairman of the Travis County Democratic Party, was put on administrative leave with pay from his state position in October and resigned in January, amid rumors Attorney General Dan Morales forced him out. Morales denied it, but was criticized by civil rights activists and the African American community.  
The *Houston Chronicle* reported in September that Bledsoe con-

ducted NAACP work during normal business hours. Bledsoe denied wrongdoing and said he compensated the state by working on state business after hours and weekends.  
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**The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**  
1 Who \_\_\_ JR?  
5 TX picante maker  
6 Dallas' Greyhound is listed on this stock exchange (abbr.)  
7 TX Richie Valens hit: "\_\_\_ Bamba"  
8 Fiesta Texas area: "\_\_\_ Festivals"  
9 Stephen F. Austin's land commissioner: the \_\_\_ Bastrop  
16 barbed wire tycoon: "\_\_\_ Million" Gates  
17 college in Mesquite  
19 Dallas-born "Spanky" series: "Little \_\_\_"  
21 it connects a horse's harness to a wagon  
22 Walt Garrison's \_\_\_ Rodeo  
27 TXism: "Lord willing and the creek don't \_\_\_" (if I can)  
28 of a choir  
29 owner of the Alamo in Brackettville: Happy \_\_\_  
30 TXism: "loud as bootheels \_\_\_ floor"  
32 "\_\_\_ place but Texas"  
33 Fort Worth's indoor rodeo started as a \_\_\_ show ('16)  
36 Greek team of exMav Tarpley: \_\_\_ Salonica  
37 Houston 1st tested AIDS vaccine Vax-\_\_\_  
38 TXism: "range \_\_\_ (wire cutters)"  
39 Staubach won 14 in the \_\_\_ minutes  
41 transmitted  
42 rodeos, pecan pies and oil are "\_\_\_ Texas"  
45 TXism: "active as a fox in \_\_\_ house"  
46 an Odessa Gatlin (init.)  
47 TXism: "got the \_\_\_ of it"  
48 XIT ranch brand did not mean "\_\_\_ in Texas"  
49 TXism: "hiringling"  
52 top notch  
53 TX Strait tune: "\_\_\_ Come to Expect It From You"  
**DOWN**  
1 Marlin was a \_\_\_ and health resort  
2 TXism: "\_\_\_ on the hoof" (hog)  
3 big cats of the Rio Grande Valley  
4 film: "\_\_\_ River" ('66)  
8 Jerry Jones' jet  
9 Nokona products of Nocona Athletic Goods (2 wds.)  
10 TXism: "fit \_\_\_ a fiddle"  
11 TX Rip of "Blind Ambition" (init.)  
12 guv's "state \_\_\_ address"  
13 actor Robert De \_\_\_  
14 "\_\_\_ Abby"  
15 "\_\_\_ de las Casas Amarillas" (gorge in Lamb Co.)  
16 TX "Pecos Bill" invented this iron \_\_\_  
17 in Hidalgo Co. on 107  
18 this Alain starred in 4 down  
20 TXism: "thinking \_\_\_ doing"  
22 TXism: "happy \_\_\_ a hog in mud"  
23 "Dallas" star Hagman (init.)  
24 TX Judge Roy Bean was "The \_\_\_ West of the Pecos"  
25 TX cruise lines run gambling \_\_\_  
26 TX capitol is 7 ft. \_\_\_ than U.S.'s  
28 Oilers' Dishman  
31 "\_\_\_ of sunshine"  
34 TXism: "\_\_\_ a hook" (fish)  
35 "Let \_\_\_ rip!"  
37 this Swenson introduced the Colt in Texas  
40 TX flag pledge: "...I pledge allegiance to \_\_\_"  
43 TXism: "\_\_\_ rod" (boss)  
44 Coleman's Miller Library is named for an \_\_\_ librarian  
50 TXism: "it'll make your hair stand \_\_\_" (scary)  
51 plural of 40 down

**Every day,  
they feed 128  
people without  
setting foot in  
the kitchen.**



If you think it's a chore just getting dinner on the table, how'd you like to feed over a hundred people every day? That's what an American farm family does, producing enough food for 128 people in the U.S. and abroad. The productivity of American agriculture is unparalleled. Celebrate our abundance during National Agriculture Week, March 14 to 20, and on National Agriculture Day, March 20. American agriculture... *growing better every day.*

*We salute Castro County's agricultural producers, who do it as well as anyone in the world. We're proud to serve you as you work to feed and clothe our nation.*

<b>C&amp;T Fertilizer, Inc.</b>
<b>Cargill Grain Division</b>
<b>Castro Oil &amp; Gas, Inc.</b>
<b>Circle M Irrigation</b>
<b>Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative</b>
<b>Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.</b>
<b>Easter Grain, Inc.</b>
<b>First Bank of Muleshoe</b> Dimmitt Branch
<b>Flagg Fertilizer Co.</b>
<b>Hart Auto &amp; Farm Supply</b> Jim Black Oil Co.
<b>Hereford Federal Credit Union</b>
<b>J&amp;H Equipment Co.</b>
<b>E. M. Jones Ditching</b>
<b>Nelson Well Service</b>
<b>George Nelson Trucking, Inc.</b>

**OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM**

WHEREAS, agriculture, our most renewable resource, has spanned and sustained generations of Texans; and  
 WHEREAS, though less than 2 percent of our population lives on farms today, every Texas farmer produces enough food to feed 128 people; and  
 WHEREAS, Texas contributes mightily to America's agricultural bounty as the country's second-leading producer of crops and livestock, generating \$36 billion for the state's economy and creating one of every five jobs; and  
 WHEREAS, Texas leads the nation in number of farms and ranches and total acres in agricultural production and ranks first in cattle, sheep and goats, cotton, sorghum, wool and mohair; and  
 WHEREAS, the state's farmers, ranchers and processors produce such a range of mainstream and specialty foods, it is possible to eat three varied, nutritious meals a day of all-Texas products; and  
 WHEREAS, crop diversification, growth in food and fiber processing, and expanding trade opportunities with Mexico and other foreign markets will guarantee Texas agriculture a vital role in the coming century;  
 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that as we move into the future, agribusiness will become more productive, profitable and environmentally compatible than ever before.  
 NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Perry, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim Sunday, March 20, 1994 as  
**National Agriculture Day In Texas**  
 In official recognition, I hereby affix my signature on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1994.

*Rick Perry*  
Rick Perry  
Commissioner of Agriculture

**National  
Agriculture Day  
March 20, 1994**

<b>Pro-Ag, Inc.</b>
<b>Production Credit Association</b>
<b>Terra International</b>
<b>Tidwell Spraying Service</b>
<b>Triple A Pump Co., Inc.</b>
<b>W-B Equipment Co.</b>
<b>Westex Federal Land Bank</b>
<b>Wilbur-Ellis</b> Sunnyside & Hart

# People



James Weinheimer and Renee Ramaekers

## May wedding planned

Ed and Leola Ramaekers of Nazareth announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Renee Marie, to James Nicholas Weinheimer, son of James and Janice Weinheimer of Groom.

The couple plans to exchange wedding vows at 4:30 p.m. on May 14 in Holy Family Catholic Church at Nazareth.

The bride-elect is a 1984 graduate of Nazareth High School. She graduated from West Texas State University in 1988 with a degree in elementary education. She is employed as a first grade teacher at Horace Mann Elementary School in Pampa.

The prospective groom graduated from Groom High School in 1987 and he attended West Texas State University. He is engaged in farming in Groom.

## Breast screening clinic is planned

A mobile mammography unit from High Plains Baptist Hospital in Amarillo will be set up at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt on Monday.


Trained medical personnel will perform mammography screenings for \$70 that day.

Anyone wishing to have an exam must make an appointment by calling 1-800-377-HOPE or 1-359-4673.

The screening includes an x-ray, physical breast exam and the radiology fee for reading the mammogram. Funding has been provided by the Texas Dept. of Health to allow for free breast screenings for women who qualify.

The major goal of the clinic is the early detection of breast cancer. The clinic provides low-cost screening, which includes a breast exam by a registered nurse trained in breast cancer detection, teaching of breast self examination and a mammogram.

Currently, the most effective method known to win the battle against breast cancer is early detection, which is best done by following the guidelines recommended by the American Cancer Society for breast cancer screening. Those guidelines are to learn and perform breast self examination every month, have a physical exam every year and have a mammogram according to the following recommendations by age: one baseline mammogram at 40 years, a mammogram every one to two years between the ages of 40 and 49 and yearly mammograms age 50 and over.

○	Memos from	
○		
○	<b>Marilyn</b>	
○	By Marilyn Neal	
○	CEA-Home Economics	

Recently in a local restaurant I had the opportunity to observe a young mother making every effort to get her preschool son to eat his lunch. After she gave up in frustration and let him dine on French fries and ketchup, her mother said quite sarcastically, "I would never have let you eat like that."

At that point I remembered the old joke: Why do children and grandparents get along so well? They share a common foe.

Sometimes it feels that way with many young parents when they are trying to get toddlers and preschoolers to eat nutritious foods, especially when they are exposed to the many fun foods on television and in the supermarket.

Ensuring that young children have a healthy start is one of the most important responsibilities you have as a parent. Today's parents and other care providers face major challenges in feeding young children.

The erratic eating behaviors of toddlers and preschoolers, social changes that place increased demands on parents' time and recent emphasis on the relationship between diet and health, all contribute to parents' anxiety about feeding children.

What constitutes a "good diet?" After the first year, children do not need a special diet that is different from the rest of the family. Toddlers and preschoolers can eat the same foods as other family members if they are soft, moist and easy to chew.

It is the variety of food, not the amount, that counts. Dietary variety is the key to preventing nutrient deficiencies. Nutrients of special concern include fat, iron, calcium and zinc.

Several federal and health professional organizations recommend that all children over two years of age reduce their dietary fat intake to no more than 30% of total daily calories.

A diet containing 30% of calories as fat can support normal growth and development during childhood, provided that careful food selections are made and nutrients-rich foods such as meat and dairy products are included in the diet.

Child nutrition experts think that a sufficient diet for a child would include a variety of foods from the major food groups — bread and cereal, vegetable, fruit, meat and dairy.

It is hard to know exactly how much food children need for normal growth. Preschool children and toddlers need the same variety of foods as older family members do, but they need smaller servings.

A good rule of thumb is one tablespoon of food for each year of a child's age. The following recommendations can be used as a guide for your meal plan:

**MILK GROUP:** Two to four servings daily. One serving equals 1/2 to one cup.

**MEAT GROUP:** Two to three servings daily. One serving equals one tablespoon for each year of child's age.

**VEGETABLE GROUP:** Three to five servings daily. One serving equals one tablespoon for each year of child's age.

**FRUIT GROUP:** Two to four servings daily. One serving equals one tablespoon for each year of child's age.

**BREAD AND CEREAL GROUP:** Six or more servings daily. One serving equals 1/4 slice of bread for each year of age until age four. One serving of cereal equals one tablespoon for each year of life.

These amounts are only guidelines to go by. Some very active children may need slightly larger servings.

Sweets and fats should be limited. These foods provide calories and little else nutritionally.

Getting small children to avoid these foods and learn to enjoy nutritious meals and snacks may be easier than you think.

Remember that what you bring home from the grocery store will decide the kinds of foods your children eat. You are in control of what's in the refrigerator. When you have a selection of tasty, nutritious foods on hand, your children have the opportunity to enjoy them. When foods such as potato chips, candy, cakes, soft drinks, sweetened cereals and sugary cookies are available, children learn to eat these kinds of empty calorie foods.

It's important that you provide a wide assortment of nutritious foods for meals and snacks.

Set an example by eating a wide variety of nutritious foods yourself. Children learn from adults. If you snack on empty calorie foods, your child is likely to do the same. If you drink water or fruit juice more often than soda, your child will learn to enjoy these beverages.

Take time to look more closely at your own eating habits and decide how you might change them to set a better example.

Involve children in planning and preparing meals and snacks. This helps them feel that they can make a real contribution.

Help your child develop an open, adventurous attitude toward trying foods. Be relaxed about it. Help your child use the appetite and desire for food that he or she was born with.

If the foods you provide your children are the basic, nutritious foods the human body was designed to eat, chances are your children's health won't suffer even if it seems as though they don't eat enough to feed a bird. If you are concerned about your child's eating habits because he or she isn't growing or seems tired, pale or irritable most of the time, check with your doctor. Usually, a child who likes all kinds of different foods is more likely to be well-nourished than one who does not.

If you will call the Castro County Extension Office (647-4115) we will gladly send you information on making your child a "Super Snacker" with recipes and tips on good eating.



Scott Acker and Carmelita Avila

## Acker, Avila to wed


Carmelita Avila and Scott Acker will exchange wedding vows at 2 p.m. May 21 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Lubbock.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Richard and Lupe Avila of Abilene. Parents of the prospective groom are Francis and Bea Acker of Dimmitt.

Miss Avila graduated from Abilene Cooper High School in 1991. She is a junior at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, majoring in psychology with a minor in human development and family studies. She is a certified aerobics instructor.

Acker graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1991 and is a senior airman stationed at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock.

Following the wedding the couple plans to live in Lubbock.



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Michael Hauf and Cherry Kendrick

## Couple announces plans

Kenny Kendrick and Sharon McAdams, both of Lubbock, announce the engagement of their daughter, Cherry Kendrick, to Michael Hauf, son of Judith Hauf and Harry Hauf, both of Dimmitt. The couple will marry March 26 at the Lubbock Baptist Temple.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Lubbock High School and is employed by Texas Instruments of Lubbock. The future bridegroom is a 1988 graduate of Dimmitt High School and South Plains College. He is employed by WD's Paint, Body and Glass in Lubbock.

## Bridal shower fetes Killough

Christy Killough, bride-elect of Arthur Velasquez, was honored with a bridal shower Saturday in the home of Carol Lantz.

with a beige embroidered cutwork tablecloth and held an arrangement of flowers and an angel centerpiece.

Guests were greeted by Mrs. Lantz, the honoree and her mother, Grace Killough, and the prospective groom's mother, Santos Velasquez.

The bride-to-be was presented with a vacuum cleaner and silverware from the hostesses.

Guests were served fresh vegetables and dip, fruitcake, nuts, raspberry and blueberry coffeecake, coffee and hot fruit punch by Jennifer Sava and Heather Martinez of Amarillo. The table was covered

Special guests were Rhonda Killough, Judy Birdwell, Thelma Hutchison and Mrs. Rudd, all members of the honoree's family; and Connie Martinez, Irene Sepeda, Maria Lopez and Martha Correa, relatives of the prospective groom.

## Lacy, Brooks plan wedding

Karen E. Lacy of Amarillo and John Brooks of Dimmitt plan an April 1 wedding in Amarillo.

Lacy is the daughter of Dara Wood and Carl Womack, both of Oklahoma. Brooks is the son of Leeida Stephens of Dimmitt and the late C.T. Brooks.

Lacy is a 1973 graduate of Dell City, Okla., High School. She is employed by TCA Cable of Amarillo. Brooks is a 1973 graduate of Dimmitt High School and attended Central Arizona College and Hardin-Simmons University. He is employed by the *Castro County News*.

Following the wedding, the couple will live in Dimmitt.

## LGA members plan meeting

The Ladies Golf Association will hold its annual membership meeting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Country Club of Dimmitt.

A dinner will be served to guests attending the meeting. Members and guests are welcome.

## Senior 4-H fashion show set March 28

The Castro County Senior 4-H fashion show will be held Monday, March 28, at 7 p.m. in the assembly room at the courthouse in Dimmitt.

Four categories for this year's show are casual, dressy, formal and specialty in both clothing construction and buying.

Senior 4-H'ers who plan to participate in the show should call the Extension office at 647-4115 for rules and guidelines.

## What's Cooking?

Here are the school lunch menus for Dimmitt, Hart, and Nazareth from March 17 to 25.

### DIMMITT

THURSDAY-FRIDAY: No School!  
MONDAY: Hot dogs, spiral fries, dill spears, onions, peanut butter bars and milk.

TUESDAY: Chicken fried steak, creamed potatoes, gravy, green beans, rolls, butter, honey and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Beef stew, cornbread, pineapple tidbits, cinnamon rolls and milk.

THURSDAY: Comdogs, whole kernel corn, vegetable salad, banana pudding and milk.

FRIDAY: Salmon patties, black-eyed peas, coleslaw, fruit and milk.

### HART

THURSDAY-FRIDAY: No School!  
MONDAY: Enchilada casserole, corn, salad, tostados, pineapple pudding and milk.

TUESDAY: Chicken strips, whipped potatoes, green beans, carrot sticks and broccoli, hot rolls, apple cobbler and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Cheeseburger, sliced tomatoes, pickles, lettuce, fresh fruit and milk.

THURSDAY: Pizza, corn on the cob, salad, apple crisp and milk.

FRIDAY: Nachos, pinto beans, peaches, chocolate cake and milk.

### NAZARETH

THURSDAY: Nachos, tossed salad,

applesauce, peanut butter cups and milk.

FRIDAY: Shrimp, cornbread, cauliflower, macaroni and cheese, pineapple and milk.

MONDAY: Chili dogs, pork and beans, peaches and milk.

TUESDAY: Tacos, green beans, fruit salad, rolls, and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Hamburgers, French fries, lettuce, onions, pickles, brownies and milk.

THURSDAY: Frito pie, corn, cornbread, syrup, pineapple and milk.

FRIDAY: Chalupas, lettuce, cheese, broccoli, apple cobbler and milk.

## 4-H'ers plan meeting about clothing project

Junior 4-H'ers who plan to have a clothing project this year should plan to attend a meeting Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the courthouse.

The first session will cover wardrobe planning and caring for clothing. 4-H'ers will have an opportunity to learn to stretch wardrobes and clothing money.

Junior 4-H'ers are reminded that attending the meetings will fulfill requirements for completing a clothing project report.

## Booster Club sets meeting

The Dimmitt Athletic Booster Club will meet Monday night at 7:30 in the Dimmitt High School Cafeteria.

Plans will be made for this year's athletic banquet and all members are urged to attend.

## Class of 1974 seeks addresses

The Dimmitt High School Class of 1974 is planning its 20-year reunion and addresses and telephone numbers are needed for several members of the class.

Information on persons below may be given to Liz Murphy, 309 NW Fourth in Dimmitt, 647-2047; or Flo Touchstone, 6124 Nashville, Lubbock 794113, 792-3323.

Addresses and phone numbers are needed for Florence Acevedo, Benita Barba, Wesley Batterman, Sandra Casas, Helen Crespin, Jose Ramon Constanca, Gilbert Espinoza, Leonor Guardiola, Cody Harkins, Ronnie Heathington, Rick Oldfield, Santos Gonzales, Cecilia Presas, Richard Presas, Ofelia Quinonez, Steven Reed, Delia Rodriguez, Johnny Rodriguez, Ramiro Reyes, Rosa Sepeda, Angela Spinherne, Griselda Sandoval, Rose Spencer, Linda Vasquez and Rhonda Wright.

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# Church Directory

### New Hope Memorial Baptist

300 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Rev. Claude Mullins

### Sunnyside Baptist

Sunnyside  
Anthony Sisemore.....647-5712

### First United Methodist

Hart  
Lillith Arduerumly.....938-2462

### La Asamblea Cristiana

400 NW 5th, Dimmitt  
Ruben Velasquez

### First United Methodist

110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt  
Johnny Robertson.....647-4106

### Iglesia De Cristo

E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt  
Pedro A. Gonzalez

### Immaculate Conception Catholic

1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt  
Guillermo Morales.....647-4219

### Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana

301 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Antonio Rocha.....647-4373

*Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, taking all sorts of choice gifts from his master; and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. And he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time when women go out to draw water. And he said, "O Lord, God of my master Abraham, grant me success today, I pray thee, and show steadfast love to my master Abraham. Behold, I am standing by the spring of water, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. Let the maiden to whom I shall say, 'Pray let down your jar that I may drink,' and who shall say, 'Drink, and I will water your camels'—let her be the one whom thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac. By this I shall know that thou hast shown steadfast love to my master."*  
Genesis 24:10-14



### Church of God of the First Born

611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt

### Immanuel Baptist

501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

### Rosa de Saron

411 NE 6th, Dimmitt  
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598

### St. John's Catholic

Hart  
Guillermo Morales.....647-4219

### Church of Christ

SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt  
Harry Riggs.....647-4435

### Rose of Sharon Temple

407 NE 4th, Dimmitt

### Grace Fellowship

508 S. Broadway, Dimmitt  
Curtis Wood.....647-2801

### First Assembly of God

300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Claude Hendricks.....647-5662

### First Baptist

1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Paul Kenley.....647-3115

### Lee Street Baptist

401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt  
Ronald Redding.....647-5474

### First Christian

600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt

### La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito

East Halsell Street, Dimmitt

### Presbyterian

1510 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Rev. Edward D. Freeman.....647-3214

### Holy Family Catholic

Nazareth  
Neal Dec.....945-2616

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**Foskey Funeral Home**  
Mike Foskey, Jerry Lilley, Tom McGill  
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**Dimmitt Equipment Co.**  
White Farm Equipment Irrigation Engines  
411 SE 2nd • 647-4197

**Hart Producers Co-op Gin**  
Monty Phillips, Manager  
938-2189

## A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$5,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$45,000.

### Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owned a home on January 1st (and used it as their primary residence on that date) is entitled to a **\$5,000 homestead exemption** to lower their school taxes this year... and it doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. (Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.)

### Are other exemptions available?

If you're **disabled**—or if you're **65 years old** or older—you are entitled to an **additional \$10,000 school tax exemption** on your home. And if you qualify for the over-65 exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (The ceiling does not apply to county or city property taxes, and those entities may offer other exemptions.)

### Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 1993, you won't need to reapply for 1994 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 1994. And if you **turned 65** or **became disabled** during 1993, you need to file for the additional exemptions.

### When and where should I file?

File applications by **April 30** at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

**Castro County Appraisal District**  
204 S.E. 3rd (Rear), Dimmitt, TX 79027  
806-647-5131

For more information, stop in or call for a free copy of **"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies, Responsibilities"**

Or contact:

**Comptroller's Property Tax Division**  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin TX 78711-3528

# Sports

## Class A State Semifinals

# Swifts dethrone defending champs

Very few people at the state tournament in Austin gave the Nazareth Swifts much of a chance against two-time defending champion Laneville.

But the Swifts silenced those critics, coming back from a five-point first-half deficit and taking control of the game in the second half to claim a 59-57 Class A semifinal victory last Thursday at the Frank Erwin Special Events Center in Austin.

It was Nazareth's first trip to the state tournament since the Swifts won it all in 1986, and it was the first time members of this year's team played in the Drum. But you'd never have known that by watching last Thursday's game.

Nazareth shooters were hot in the first half, hitting 70% of their shots from the field. They finished with 60.5% shooting for the game. Laneville was on target, too, hitting 51.5% of their first-half shots. But the Yellowjackets' shooting fell off in the second half and they finished with 43.1%.

The difference in the first-half score, 35-30, Laneville, was the Swifts' problems holding onto the ball. Nazareth committed seven turnovers in the first half, four of those coming in the first half of the opening stanza.

Once Nazareth solved that problem, the game turned around.

The momentum changed in the third quarter, as the Swifts outscored the defending champions 14-7 for a two-point lead. The Swifts extended that lead to seven points with less than two minutes left in the game, then held off a late Yellowjacket run for the win.

The game was anyone's until the final buzzer, despite a seven-point Nazareth lead with 1:58 left.

Laneville erased that lead in 20 seconds.

The Swifts used a three pointer and pair of free throws by Justin Wethington with 2:14 left to go up 56-50. Gaylon Schilling put the Swifts up by seven with a free throw seconds later.

But then Laneville went on an offensive rebound tear that resulted in seven quick points.

Brent Brantley made the first of two free throws for Laneville, then his brother, Devoy, pulled down a rebound and put it back up and in with 1:35 left. He was fouled by Wethington, but missed the ensuing free throw.

But that brought Laneville fans to their feet as Brad Harris, an all-state tourney selection in 1993, got the rebound and scored with 1:29 left. Harris got another offensive put-back with 1:04 left to tie the score at 57.

Nazareth went down and worked the clock until Nick Johnson scored the game-winning basket with 22 seconds left. He posted up on an

inbounds play, then canned a turn-around jumper from the baseline to give Nazareth a 59-57 lead.

The game wasn't over, yet. A foul by Laneville's Keith Renfro with 8.1 seconds sent Wethington to the line, but the senior missed the front end of a one-and-one and the Yellowjackets called a time out after getting the rebound with 7.4 seconds left.

The Yellowjackets traveled the length of the floor and Harris attempted a layup down the center of the lane, but the shot rimmed out.

Laneville Coach Benny Gupton said he thought Harris' last show "was a good one, it just didn't fall."

Nazareth Coach Mark Makeever said he felt like his team kept its poise down the stretch, despite losing the seven-point lead.

"We work on different situations in practice—being behind or ahead at the end—but that's nothing to being in that situation in Austin. It's a credit to the kids that they were able to stay cool and hold on to their lead. These guys are so low-key. We've tried to work all year to get them to show a little more enthusiasm and fire, but in this situation I think it was a plus."

Makeever said the play to Johnson with the score tied at 57 was one he had saved.

"They (Laneville) run it, too. When they take the ball in, Harris usually posts up there. With us, the play is designed to go to Nick. He's a strong, 180-lb. kid who's not afraid to go up tough inside. And he had a guy on him who was a little shorter. We had possession and we were going to run our offense. I've got enough confidence in these guys that they'll take a good shot."

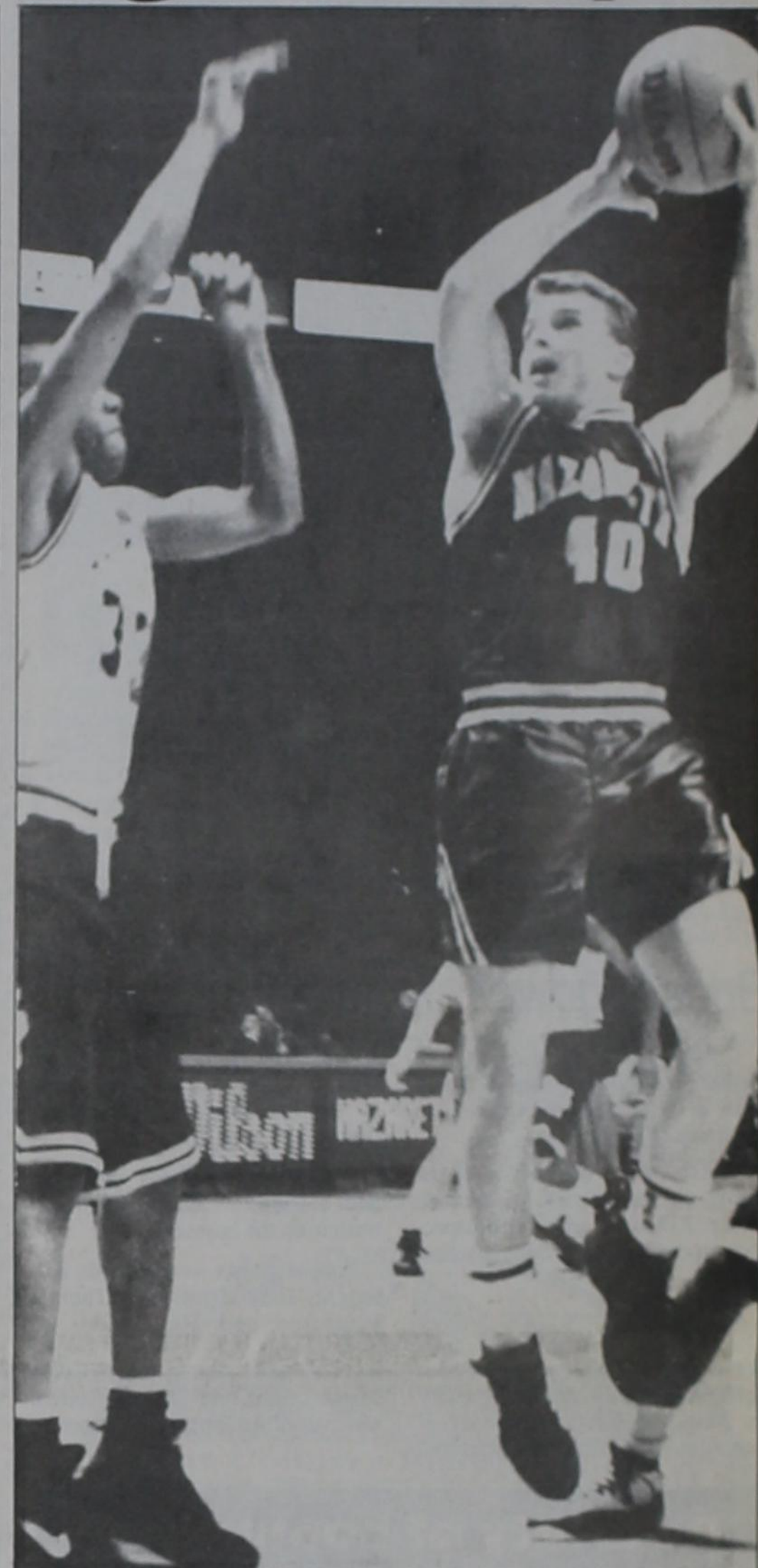
During a time out after Johnson's basket, Makeever told his team not to worry about the blown seven-point lead, but to concentrate on protecting their two-point advantage.

The game had been close throughout, with Laneville owning the first half and Nazareth winning the third quarter.

"I really thought we had a good first half," said Makeever. "We were playing the two-time defending champions and they had gotten more than five of their first-half points from our turnovers. I told the guys if we could have cut out those mistakes, we would have been ahead at halftime. We got some easy shots in the first half."

He said the Swifts pulled together, eliminated those mistakes in the second half and took the game home.

"The guys knew what they had to do. I told the guys I'd rather they got called for a five-second count than to turn the ball over and give Laneville a layup. I told them if



## All-State Tournament

NAZARETH'S GAYLON SCHILLING (24) picks up a basket during action in the Class A state championship game with Lipan Saturday morning. Schilling, a 6-2 sophomore post, finished with 14 points and seven rebounds against Lipan. He was the Swifts' high scorer against Laneville in the semifinal last Thursday, finishing with 16, and his work earned him all-state tournament honors.

ANOTHER ALL-STATE TOURNEY selection was Nazareth's Nick Johnson (40), who tossed in 12 points and hauled down eight rebounds against Laneville, and his turn-around jumper with 22 seconds left gave Nazareth its 59-57 win in the semis. Johnson, a 6-0 point guard, was Nazareth's top scorer Saturday morning, finishing with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

Photo by Anne Acker

there was any doubt, they should hold on to the ball because at least with a five-second call we have a chance to go down and set up our defense."

At halftime, Johnson said Makeever told the team to stay calm, take care of the ball and bring it up the floor with patience.

"We did that in the second half. I thought we played better defense inside and we didn't give up as many layups as we had in the first half," Johnson said.

Nazareth took an early four-point lead on penetration baskets by Scott Brockman and Johnson, and a seven-footer by Schilling with 5:30 left.

Cedric Bowens and Harris put Laneville back on top by a point, then the teams traded baskets before Laneville went on a run.

Jerome Polk gave the Yellowjackets their biggest lead of the game in the last two minutes of the first quarter, converting an offensive board into two points, then getting a steal and traveling coast-to-coast for a layup to put Laneville on top, 15-10.

Another Nazareth turnover gave Laneville a 3-on-1 break and Harris finished it off with a layup.

He hit a turn-around jumper with 44.6 seconds left and the Yellowjackets were in control, 19-13.

Johnson trimmed the lead to four, 19-15, when he scored underneath the basket with 23 seconds left.

Harris recorded the game's first and only stuff with 5:56 left and that gave Laneville a 25-19 lead with 5:56 left in the first half.

The Swifts called a time out and after that the Laneville lead dwindled to a point after Wethington swished a trey and Schilling faked out his defender for a basket with

4:52 left. Devoy Brantley put on a show for Laneville fans for the rest of the quarter, scoring seven of Laneville's next 10 points to boost his team to a 35-30 halftime lead.

Makeever said Nazareth's penetrations and inside scoring enabled the Swifts to stay with Laneville in the first half. Schilling had 12 points and Brockman added nine to lead Nazareth in the first 16 minutes.

"Laneville pressured us hard, and I was a little surprised that we got those easy shots," Makeever said. "I've got to give a lot of credit to the guys, especially Scott Brockman. He was a major key for us, handling the ball against their pressure. We had known that if you could have one of your third guys—someone besides your point or off guard—bring up the ball, that could hurt Laneville. Scott was our man. He did a good job of handling

the ball and bringing it up the court. He didn't have quite as quick of a guy guarding him."

The third quarter was all Nazareth's. The Swifts tied the score at 35 with 6:17 left when Colby Pohlmeier scored on a jumper from the foul line. Over the next five minutes, the Swift defense allowed Laneville just seven points. Mean-

(Continued on Page 10)



SNEAK ATTACK—Nazareth's Justin Wethington (left) reaches in and steals the ball away from Laneville's Keith Renfro (12) during action last Thursday in a Class A state semifinal game at the Frank Erwin Special Events Center in Austin. Wethington, a 5-11 senior forward, recorded three steals, three assists and 11 points for the Swifts, who won the game, 59-57.

Photo by Anne Acker

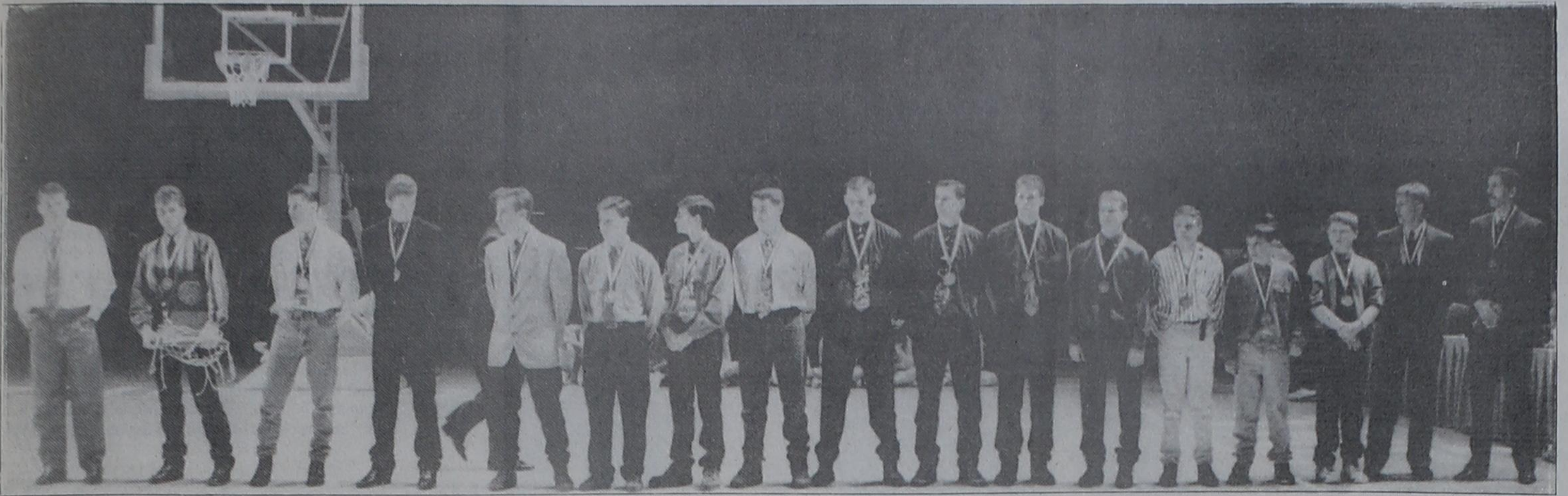


NAZARETH SENIORS Nick Johnson (left) and Justin Wethington (center) get instructions from Coach Mark Makeever (right) during a break in the action of last Thursday's Class A state semifin-

al game with Laneville. The Swifts came from behind to hold a seven-point lead in the fourth quarter, then had to hold off a late Laneville run to win the game, 59-57.

Photo by Anne Acker



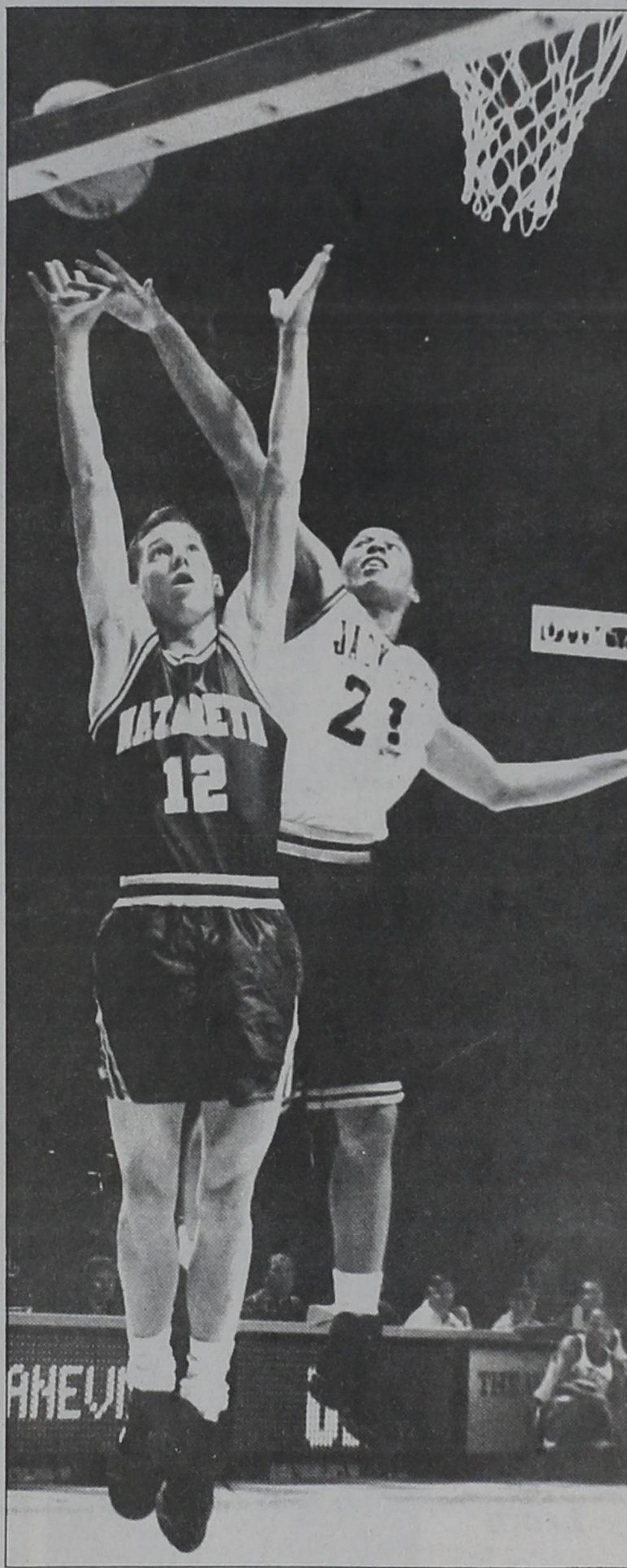


# Congratulations, Swifts and Coaches Mark Makeever and Joey Waldo on a great season!

★ District Champions ★ Bi-District Champions ★ Area Champions  
 ★ Regional Champions ★ State Runner-Up

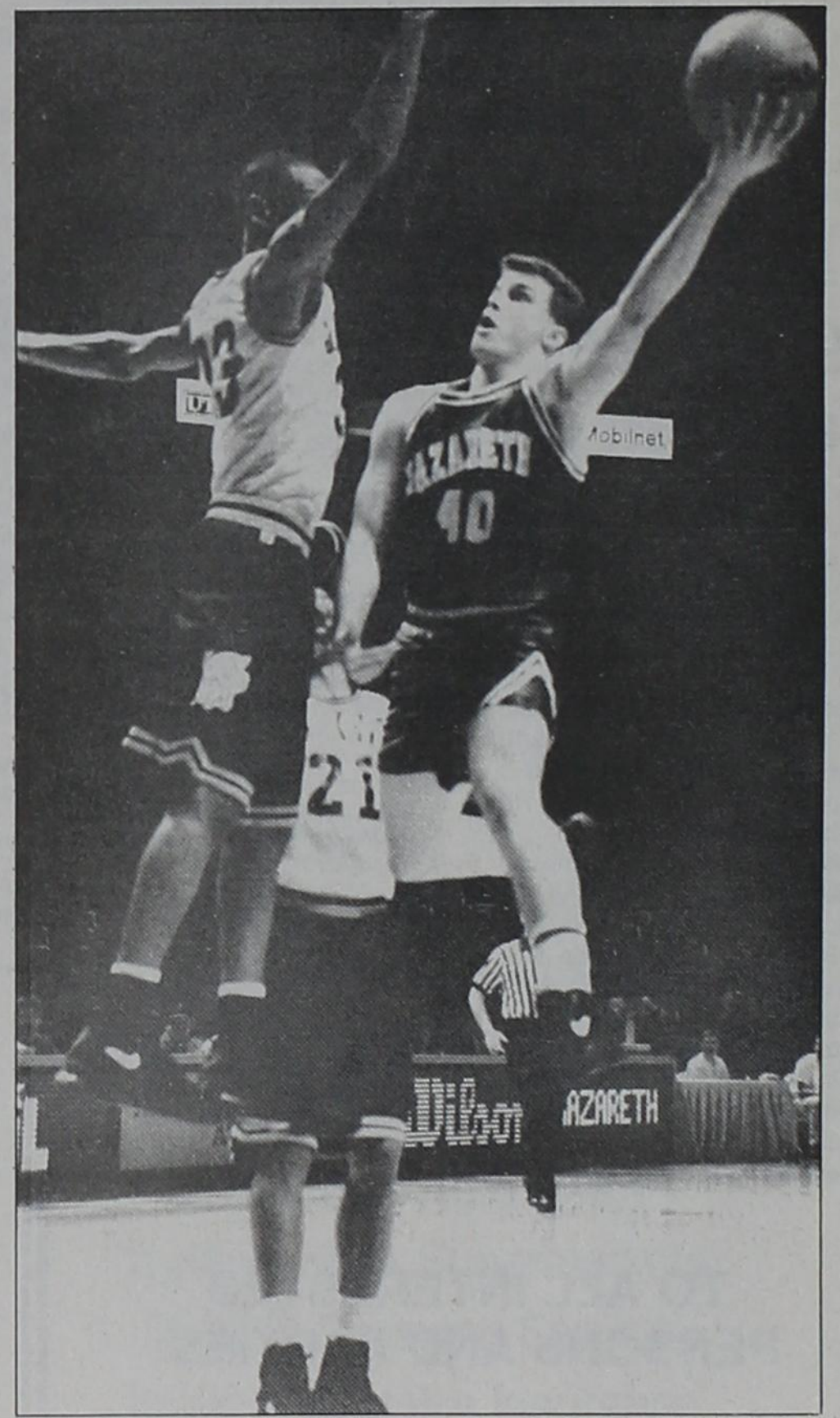


Season Record: 33-6



THE FRANK ERWIN CENTER			
LANEVILLE	09 8		
57	4		
13	1	8	24 3 16
23	3	18	15 DURING 30 1 9
22	1	7	40 4 12
12	1		ONE'S BEST. 42 4 11
21	3	5	32 8

University Federal



## NAZARETH, TEXAS—HOME OF CHAMPIONS!

American Maize-Products Co.  
 Kent Birkenfeld Seed Co.  
 Castro County News  
 Dale's Auto & Salvage  
 Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative  
 Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.

Dimmitt IGA/Thriftway Supermarkets  
 First State Bank of Dimmitt  
 Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.  
 Dr. B. D. Murphy & Staff  
 Nazareth Booster Club  
 George Nelson Trucking, Inc.

The 19th Hole  
 Oasis Package Store  
 Pro-Ag, Inc.  
 Roger's Repair  
 Schaeffer, Sutton & Schaeffer  
 Terra International

## Josselet's team to play in nationals

Renae Josselet and the women's basketball team at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls will be competing in the NAIA National Championship Tournament in Jackson, Tenn. on March 16-22.

Josselet, a 1991 graduate of Dimmitt High School, is the daughter of Joe and Pam Josselet of Dimmitt.

The Midwestern Lady Indians earned the trip to the national tournament by beating Wayland Baptist University to win the Southwest Regional Tournament in Brownwood last week. Midwestern is the top-seeded team from this region.

The Lady Indians, 27-5, will play Berry Georgia this morning (Thursday).



ETHRIDGE

## Ethridge earns LSC top award

Former Dimmitt standout Wendi Ethridge has been named the co-Freshman of the Year for the Lone Star Conference.

Ethridge is the daughter of Johnny and Kathy Ethridge of Dimmitt.

She was the third-leading scorer for the Lady Javs of Texas A&M-Kingsville this season, scoring 9.4 points a game. She also pulled down five rebounds a game and was the team's leading free-throw shooter, going 83.5% from the line.

She shared the conference rookie honor with Aukse Steponaviciute of Abilene Christian University.

Ethridge was also named to the honorable mention all-conference team.

## More about

### Nazareth...

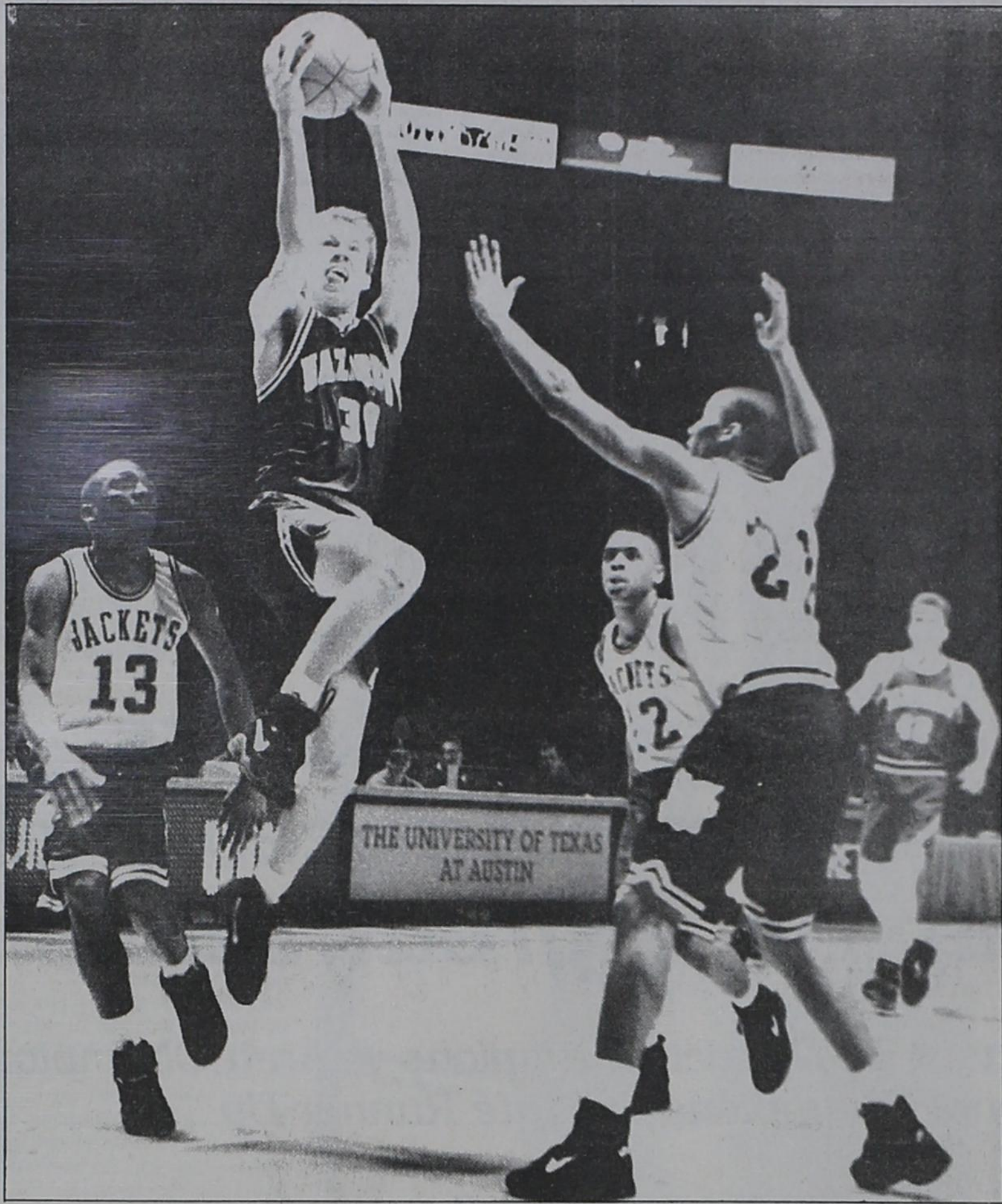
(Continued from Page 8)

while the Nazareth offense got a three-pointer from Wethington, baskets from Schilling and Schacher and free throws from several players to go ahead 44-42 by the end of the quarter.

Laneville managed to tie the score at 44 early in the fourth quarter, but Schilling converted a three-point play seconds later to give his team control.

Laneville was led by Bowens, who finished with a game-high 19 points; and Harris, who finished with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Laneville ended its season with a 33-4 mark.

Nazareth's leading scorer was Schilling, who had 16 points. Johnson finished with 12 and Wethington had 11.



**DRIVING LAYUP** — Scott Brockman (30) penetrates the lane and hits a layup with 3:14 left in first-quarter action against Laneville last Thursday in a Class A state semifinal game in Austin. Brockman's basket pulled the Swifts within a point of the defending state champs. Nazareth went on to

win the game, 59-57, and Brockman finished with nine points. Laneville defenders pictured are Devoy Brantley (13), Brent Brantley (22) and Brad Harris (23). Also pictured in the background is Nazareth's Justin Wethington (42). Photo by Anne Acker

## Hart players nab AD honors

The Hart girls enjoyed the school's best year in basketball and now the post-season honors are beginning to roll in.

District 2-A released its honor teams this week and Hart had one player on the first team and two on the second squad.

The Longhorns placed one player on the second team.

Shea Bennett, a 5-10 junior, was tabbed for first-team honors along with Tia Lee of Sudan, a 5-5 junior; Stephanie Jackson of Vega, a 6-0 senior; Shaun Weaver of Sudan, a 5-5 freshman; and Danielle Martin of Sudan, a 5-6 junior.

Second-team honors went to

Hart juniors Sheila Aalbers and Jodi Card, along with Sudan's Joey Martin, Vega's Lori McDonald, Farwell's Lianne Stout and Bovina's Charlotte Quintana.

J.R. Lee, a 6-2 sophomore from Hart, was the lone Longhorn to earn mention to an honor team, and he was listed on the second team.

First-team honors for the boys went to Jarrod Fisher and Tim Williams, both of Sudan, Dusty Walker of Vega, Junior Tijerina of Kress and Matt Hromas of Bovina. Joining Lee on the second team were Vega's Shannon Tanck and Justin Moore, Farwell's Eric Delgado and Sudan's Gerald Weaver.

## Naz teams dominate 7-A all-district lists

The Nazareth Swifts and Swiftettes captured the District 7-A championships this season and each placed several players on the all-district squads.

The Swifts' starting five all earned first-team honors, including senior guards Nick Johnson and Justin Wethington, junior guard Scott Brockman, junior post Colby Pohlmeier and sophomore post Gaylon Schilling.

The Swiftettes placed four on the all-district team including sophomore guards Melinda Schmucker and Carie Wethington, senior post Kristin Brockman and sophomore post Courtney Hoelting.

Here's a complete rundown of the all-district teams:

**District 7-A Boys:** Johnson, Wethington, Brockman, Pohlmeier and Schilling, all of Nazareth; Brett Thomas, senior, and Matt Elliot, junior, both of Lazbuddie; Mike Fisher, senior, Cotton Center; and seniors Mike Bonds and Steve Stevens, both of Happy.

**District 7-A Girls:** Schmucker, Brockman, Wethington and Hoelting, all of Nazareth; seniors Gina Jarman and Jarah Redwine and junior Trina Orozco, all of Lazbuddie; and Happy's Lori Moudy (senior), Heather Stewart (junior) and Leah Lair (freshman).

## Bobcats split at Plainview

Dimmitt split two games last weekend at the rain-marred Plainview JV Tournament.

The tourney was to start Thursday, but was pushed back a day because of cold and wet weather. Dimmitt's first-round game with Idalou wasn't played until 9 a.m. Friday, and the Bobcats busted the Wildcats, 8-0.

Dimmitt fell to Muleshoe, 9-4, in a Friday afternoon championship bracket game. Saturday's games were cancelled because of wet weather. A steady drizzle and fog throughout the day in Plainview made conditions unplayable.

Jason Nino cut down Idalou, allowing just four hits, while the Bobcats took advantage of their six

hits and seven Idalou errors to claim the win. Dimmitt jumped to a 3-0 lead in the second, added two runs in the third, and scored three more in the fifth.

Against district rival Muleshoe, the Bobcats outhit the Mules 5-3, but Muleshoe used timely hits and a couple of Dimmitt errors to score seven times in the second to erase a 2-0 Bobcat lead. Each team scored twice in the third and were scoreless in the fourth. The game was then stopped because of the tournament time limit.

The Bobcats will be back in action Friday, with a 3 p.m. doubleheader against Morton at George Howell Park.

## SCOREBOARD

### State Semifinal

**Swifts 59, Laneville 57**  
 Nazareth 15 15 14 15 — 59  
 Laneville 19 16 7 15 — 57  
**NAZARETH:** Gaylon Schilling 6-7 4-7 —16; Scott Brockman 4-8 0-0—9; Nick Johnson 5-8 2-3—12; Justin Wethington 3-7 2-3—11; Colby Pohlmeier 4-5 0-0—8; Brad Keel 0-1 1-2—1; Trampas Ball 0-1 0-0—0; Joey Schacher 1-1 0-0—2. **TOTALS:** 23-38 9-15—59.  
**LANEVILLE:** Keith Renfro 0-7 0-0—0; Jerome Polk 2-7 1-2—5; Brent Brantley 3-6 1-4—7; Brad Harris 8-16 2-2—18; Cedric Bowens 8-11 3-5—19; Devoy Brantley 4-11 0-3—8; Anthony Neal 0-0 0-0—0. **TOTALS:** 25-58 7-16—57.

**FIELD GOALS:** Nazareth 23-of-38 (60.5%); Laneville 25-of-58 (43.1%).  
**THREE-POINT GOALS:** Nazareth 4-of-8 (50%); Laneville 0-of-15 (0%).  
**FREE THROWS:** Nazareth 9-of-15 (60%); Laneville 7-of-16 (43.8%).  
**REBOUNDS:** Nazareth 26 (Johnson 8, Schilling 6); Laneville 37 (Harris 10, Brent Brantley 8).  
**ASSISTS:** Nazareth 13 (Johnson 6, Wethington 3); Laneville 5 (Brent Brantley 2).  
**TURNOVERS:** Nazareth 15 (Johnson 7); Laneville 10 (Polk and Harris 3).  
**BLOCKED SHOTS:** Nazareth 2 (Johnson and Brockman); Laneville 2 (Harris and Bowens).  
**STEALS:** Nazareth 10 (Schilling 4, Wethington 3); Laneville 9 (Polk, Brent Brantley and Devoy Brantley 2).  
**FOULS:** Nazareth 15; Laneville 15.  
**FOULED OUT:** Bowens, Laneville.  
**ATTENDANCE:** 9,056.

### State Finals

**Swifts 60, Lipan 62**  
 Nazareth 11 11 17 21 — 60  
 Lipan 8 22 15 17 — 62  
**NAZARETH:** Gaylon Schilling 5-12 4-5—14; Scott Brockman 2-11 0-0—4; Nick Johnson 6-17 3-5 — 19; Justin Wethington 5-12 1-2 — 12; Colby Pohlmeier 2-8 4-4—8; Brad Keel 0-4 0-0—0;

Trampas Ball 0-0 0-0—0; Joey Schacher 1-2 0-0—3. **TOTALS:** 21-66 12-16—60.  
**LIPAN:** Cody Chandler 9-19 8-13—26; Chris Tarpley 2-6 2-4 — 6; T.J. Bleeker 5-9 0-0—12; Jeremy Pierson 3-7 2-2—8; Eric Szostek 0-3 0-0—0; Clint Ledbetter 5-10 0-4—10; Wade Redwine 0-0 0-0—0; Johnny Spikes 0-0 0-0—0. **TOTALS:** 24-54 12-23—62.

**FIELD GOALS:** Nazareth 21-of-66 (31.8%); Lipan 24-of-54 (44.4%).  
**THREE-POINT GOALS:** Nazareth 6-of-25 (25%); Lipan 2-of-8 (25%).  
**FREE THROWS:** Nazareth 12-of-16 (75%); Lipan 12-of-23 (52.2%).  
**REBOUNDS:** Nazareth 44 (Johnson 11, Pohlmeier 9); Lipan 46 (Ledbetter 10, Pierson 9).  
**ASSISTS:** Nazareth 9 (Johnson 4, Wethington 3); Lipan 12 (Tarpley 5, Chandler 3).  
**TURNOVERS:** Nazareth 9 (Brockman 3); Lipan 12 (Tarpley 4, Pierson 3).  
**BLOCKED SHOTS:** Nazareth 2 (Johnson 2); Lipan 4 (Ledbetter 2).  
**STEALS:** Nazareth 7 (Schilling 4); Lipan 5 (Tarpley 4).  
**FOULS:** Nazareth 20; Lipan 17.  
**FOULED OUT:** Wethington and Schilling, Nazareth.  
**ATTENDANCE:** 12,727.

### Baseball

**Plainview Tournament**  
 Bobcats 8, Idalou 0  
 Dimmitt 0 3 2 0 3 — 8 6 2  
 Idalou 0 0 0 0 0 — 0 4 7  
 Jason Nino and Gerald Barrios. Flores and Garcia. WP—Nino.  
 Muleshoe 9, Bobcats 4  
 Muleshoe 0 7 2 0 — 9 3 1  
 Dimmitt 2 0 2 0 — 4 5 2  
 Toscano and McClanahan. Matthews, E.

Nino (3) and Barrios. WP—Toscano. LP—Matthews.

### Track

**Hornet Relays at Tulla Boys**  
 Team totals: 1. Tulla 114; 2. River Road 96; 3. Dumas 88; 4. Happy 64; 5. Borger 61; 6. Frlona 51; 7. Pampa 47; 8. Dimmitt 28; 9. Littlefield 6; 10. (tie) Abernathy 1, Tulla JV 1.  
 800: 1. Flores, 2:02.68.

### Girls

Team totals: 1. Borger 139; 2. Canyon 116; 3. Hereford 75; 4. Caprock 74; 5. Dimmitt 68; 6. Dumas 48; 7. Tulla 39; 8. Randall 29; 9. Abernathy 7; 10. River Road 4; 11. Happy 0.  
 High Jump: 2. Vick, Dimmitt, 5-0.  
 Long Jump: 3. Vick, Dimmitt, 15-2 1/2.  
 3,200: Harman, Dimmitt, 13:09.00.  
 800: 2. Ethridge, Dimmitt, 2:28.69.  
 400: 1. Thomas, Dimmitt, 62.20.  
 1600 Relay: 1. Dimmitt, 4:20.44.

### Highland Park Relays Boys

Team totals: 1. Boys Ranch 179; 2. Panhandle 153; 3. Dalhart 67; 4. Highland Park 60; 5. Amarillo High JV 54; 6. Hart 24; 7. Claude 6; 8. Miami 1.  
 High Jump: 3. Card, Hart, 5-8.

### Girls

Team totals: 1. Panhandle 138; 2. Dalhart 117; 3. Hart 102; 4. Amarillo High JV 74; 5. Claude 53; 6. Boys Ranch 44; 7. Highland Park 34; 8. Vega 11.  
 Shot: Dozal, Hart, 32-1/4.  
 Long Jump: 3. Mayhew, Hart, 15-7 1/2.  
 800: 1. Robledo, Hart, 2:44.59.  
 100 hurdles: 1. Bennett, Hart, 16.72.  
 400: 1. Garcia, Hart, 69.00; 3. Reyna, Hart, 71.68.  
 300 hurdles: 2. Bennett, 52.85.  
 1600: 1. Robledo, 6:13.42.  
 1600 Relay: 3. Hart, 4:44.16.

"Hey Buddy, Where'd You Learn To Drive!"



Being upset won't help if you're in an accident, but being sure you have proper coverage will. See us to be sure your coverage is up to date.

**Jones-Rawlings Agency**  
 121 E. Bedford  
 Dimmitt  
 647-5244

**Pebsworth Insurance Agency**  
 409 Broadway  
 Hart  
 938-2604

## TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

**SEVEN X CATTLE FEEDERS, INC.** has made application with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission for Air Quality Permit No. 23979 to construct a Cattle Feedlot in Summerfield, Castro County, Texas. The location of the existing facility is 2 miles south on FM 1057 and 1 mile east on County Road 604 from Summerfield, at the intersection of County Road 604 and County Road 503. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper. This notice is to be published on March 17 and March 24, 1994.



I want to thank all of you who supported me in the Democratic Primary election. I am sincerely grateful for the encouragement you've given me. I also wish to express my respect and admiration for all voters who braved the bad weather on March 8 to get out and vote for the candidates of your choice, because that is what makes democracy work. I'm looking forward to the General Election in November, and will appreciate your continued support.

IRENE MILLER

## THANK YOU

THANK YOU LORD, FOR ANSWERING MINE AND MANY OTHERS' PRAYERS—TO BE ABLE TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF CASTRO COUNTY AND THEN HAVING THE PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH THE PEOPLE OF CASTRO COUNTY ANOTHER FOUR YEARS.

THANK YOU to my many friends for your help—the ads in the newspapers (The CASTRO COUNTY NEWS and the HART BEAT), the sign that was made, the many flyers that were printed, the cards that were addressed, the many donations that were given, but also the many that talked to others for me. Also thank you to the ones that paid for the radio announcements for me. Without all of you, this victory could not have been possible.

Thank you for the many telephone calls after the election. This increased my feelings of gratitude for all that had been accomplished during my campaign.

Thank each of you that used your Right To Vote seriously and voted early, but also to those of you that took the time on a cold, bad weather day to get out to vote.

I APPRECIATE EACH ONE OF YOU AND WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW I WILL CONTINUE TO DO MY BEST AS YOUR COUNTY TREASURER. IT WILL BE AN HONOR TO SERVE AND WORK FOR YOU ANOTHER FOUR YEARS.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS OUR LITTLE TOWNS AND OUR COUNTY.

Oleta Raper

# Baseball

## Good Luck, Bobcats!

★  
**Varsity Bobcats vs. Morton**

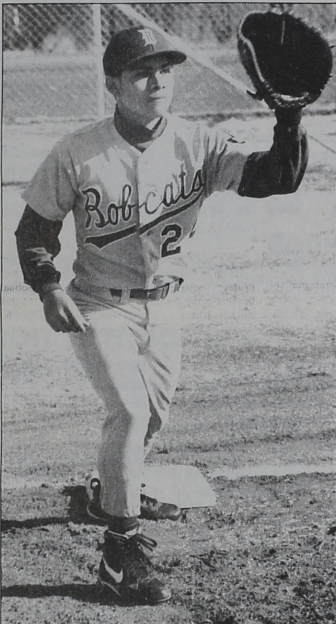
Friday, Here, 3 p.m.

★  
**Varsity Bobcats vs. Hale Center**

Tuesday, There, 5 p.m.

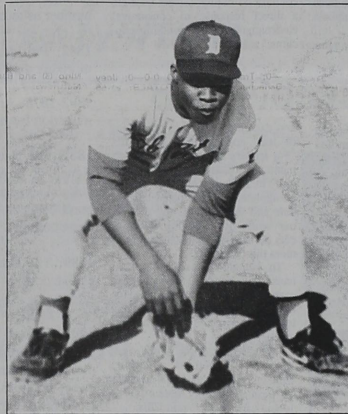
★  
**JV Bobcats vs. Bovina Varsity**

Tuesday, There, 5 p.m.



JOE JUAREZ, Junior First Baseman

**LET'S PLAY BALL!**



DERRICK THOMAS, Junior Outfielder

*These Boosters Support Our Schools, Teams and Community!*

**American Maize-Products Co.**

- B&W Aerial Spray
- Cargill, Inc., Molasses
- Castro Co-op Gin, Inc.
- Castro County News
- Castro Oil & Gas, Inc.
- Circle M Irrigation
- Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.
- Dimmitt Consumers
- Dimmitt Feed Yards
- Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply
- Dimmitt Ready Mix
- El Sombrero Restaurant
- Farm Bureau Insurance
- First State Bank of Dimmitt

**Flagg Fertilizer**

- Gary's Engine & Machine
- Don Hargrove, Contractor
- Hereford Federal Credit Union
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.
- J&H Equipment Co.
- Jones-Rawlings Insurance Agency
- John David King, Attorney
- Liquid Blenders, Inc.
- Lockhart Pharmacy
- Look Cattle Feeders
- Modern Carpet & Furniture
- Nelson Drilling & Pump Service
- The North Gin of Dimmitt, Inc.
- Paxton Tire & Service

**Pro-Ag, Inc.**

- Red X Travel Center
- Jimmy and Nancy Ross
- Schaeffer, Sutton & Schaeffer
- Terra International
- Thrasher's Auto Sales
- Thriftway/IGA Supermarkets
- Tidwell Spraying Service
- Town & Country Insurance
- Tri-State Communications, Inc.
- Dr. Morris Webb
- Westex Federal Land Bank
- Wright & Sons Produce

# ABI Agriculture Business Industry

## MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS



By DON TAYLOR

### Persistence pays

As a small boy, I watched a pile-driving machine at work. The operator pulled a huge weight to the top and turned it loose to come crashing down on the steel column. Though the impact shook the ground under my bare feet, the piling hardly moved at all. I soon tired of watching the machine make noise but apparently accomplish little else.

It was not until some years later that I began to understand and appreciate the pile-driving process. Its results are cumulative. The pile-driver must keep pounding away, even if it isn't making any visible progress. Persistence pays off in the long run.

For small businesses, persistence is one of the basic ingredients for prospering. Persistence is the continual striving toward the goal that ultimately guarantees your success. At times, you may feel that you aren't getting anywhere. When you feel this way, just remember the pile-driver. Keep hammering away until you have built a

firm foundation. It is steadfastness of purpose that drives many businesses to prosperity.

### Plan the work, work the plan

One of the ways you can make continual progress as an entrepreneur is to stay focused on where you are going. Only when you have an achievable goal in sight can you measure your success.

I believe you should write your goals into a formal business plan. The planning process is a prerequisite to success. Plan the work, then work the plan.

The conquering of Mount Everest in 1953 is a good example of planning and persistence. Although only two men made the final assault on the summit, their success was the culmination of months of preparation. The project team included more than 300 packers, climbers and support personnel. They established supply bases at strategic points and stockpiled tons of supplies and equipment. Sir Edmund's team didn't just decide to go for a hike that

day; they had a plan. Their success in reaching the top was a direct result of following the plan.

You will be more likely to reach the summit of personal and financial success if you first determine a course for your business. If you stay focused on that course, persistence will allow you to accomplish the most difficult objectives.

### Fight one more round

"Gentleman Jim" Corbett was one of the toughest bare-fisted boxers ever to enter the ring. His personal motto, "Fight one more round," became a tribute to his persistence.

Corbett said, "When your feet are so tired you have to shuffle back to the center of the ring--fight one more round. When your arms are so tired that you can hardly lift your hands to come on guard--fight one more round. When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so tired you wish your opponent would crack you on the jaw and put you to sleep--fight one more round--remembering that the man

who always fights one more round is never whipped."

Corbett practiced persistence. He won his first fight in the 28th round!

When business drags you down and you feel like quitting, keep on trying. Think of the pile-driver, Sir Edmund and Gentleman Jim, and keep hammering away.

Take a moment and reflect on some of America's great examples of persistence. Remember Thomas Edison who had hundreds of failures before he lit up our lives. Remember Abraham Lincoln who failed in business and lost several elections before becoming President of the United States. Remember Colonel Sanders who was 66 and nearly penniless when he founded Kentucky Fried Chicken.

And, of course, don't forget Tommy Puttzer. Who is he, you ask? Tommy is the guy who only tried a couple of times, then gave up.

You may write to Don Taylor in care of "Minding Your Own Business," PO Box 67, Amarillo 79105.

# National Agriculture Day honors America's providers

America is honoring men and women who provide us with bountiful food and fiber this week during National Agriculture Week (March 14-20) and on National Agriculture Day, which is Sunday (March 20).

"American agriculture deserves special recognition for its incredible achievements in feeding, clothing and sheltering our country. We in the agriculture industry are constantly changing to meet the changing needs of our ultimate customers — American consumers," said Elroy Webster, chairman of the Agriculture Council of America.

In Washington, D.C., a national proclamation recognizing the food and fiber industry for its outstanding contributions has been signed by President Clinton. This proclamation and similar state proclamations will be displayed at the US Congressional Agriculture Day re-

ception, where congressional members, trade and commodity groups and others will gather to remind legislators of the important role the industry plays in their state and the nation. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy will host the reception and serve as honorary chairperson of National Agriculture Day.

With less than 2% of Americans living on farms these days, National Agriculture Day spokespersons remind people of the important role American food and agriculture play in daily life. Yet corn, wheat, soybeans and other crops are more than just food and fiber, they have become staples for consumer products like biodegradable plastic, cosmetics and ink. In many instances, agricultural products directly replace non-renewable resources and are much more environment-friendly.

"The economic and environmen-

tal benefits of these new uses for agricultural products are astounding and provide promise for developing rural communities," said Bob J.

Nash, USDA undersecretary for rural development. "Now many crops can be produced and processed all in the same community, and that means jobs. American producers are truly 'growing better every day,' and new uses are an important part of that growth."

Ysleta Ball of the local Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE) group, said National Ag Day helps bridge the gap between consumers and producers through two-way communication.

"By listening and responding to consumers' needs, agriculture will continue to improve. New uses are a direct response to consumers' environmental and economic concerns," said Ball.

## Historical High Points of Agriculture

1790: 90% of Americans are gainfully employed in agriculture.

1793: The cotton gin is invented.

1796: George Washington suggests to Congress the establishment of a national board of agriculture.

1837: John Deere and Leonard Andrus begin manufacturing steel plows.

1860: The number of farms in the US reaches two million — about the same number as today.

1862: President Lincoln signs the act authorizing the US Dept. of Agriculture.

1862-1875: American agriculture makes the transition from handpower to horses.

1887: The Hatch Experiment Station Act is signed. It provides federal grants for agricultural experimentation and a cooperative bond between USDA and the nation's land grant colleges.

1889: The Commissioner of Agriculture is elevated to a cabinet-level secretary position.

1905: George Washington Carver, head of agriculture research at Tuskegee Institute, pioneers in finding new uses for peanuts, sweet potatoes and soybeans, thus helping to diversify agriculture.

1938: The Agricultural Adjustment Act is passed, the first major step in expansion of utilization research with four regional research laboratories.

1943: Airplane fabrics, some cloth and plastics are made from casein of milk.

1943: USDA scientists discover a way to mass-produce penicillin, making it widely available for the first time.

1947: General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) establishes working procedures that have since substantially reduced tariffs between member nations.

1954: The number of tractors on farms exceeds the number of horses and mules for the first time.

1960: Productivity gains and mechanization reduce the number of farmers by half in a 20-year period, while farm output increases by more than 50%.

1970: The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to Norman Borlaug for developing high-yielding wheat varieties.

1980: Biotechnology becomes a viable technique for improving crop and livestock products.

1994: USDA declares year of new uses for agricultural products.

## WTRTC plans annual meeting

West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. will hold its annual membership meeting Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Hereford Bull Barn.

Three directors will be elected, including one for Hub, Parmer and Dawn.

A meal will be served to those present and door prizes will be given away.

Registration and the meal will begin at 6 p.m. and the business session will begin at 7 p.m.

## FmHA accepts FSB

The First State Bank of Dimmitt has been accepted as a certified lender in a new Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) plan to streamline its guaranteed loans for farmers, according to George Ellis, state director of FmHA.

Under the program, FmHA guarantees farm operating and ownership loans made by commercial lenders against a certain percentage of loss.

"The Certified Lender Program was created to reduce paperwork

and expedite the actual processing of loan applications," said Ellis. "For lenders that meet our requirements, we pledge to give them a reply in 14 days when they send us an application. This helps the lenders and the farmers, and it keeps our work flow moving faster. It cuts the normal processing time by more than one half."

To become a certified lender, banks must have a certain level of experience in making farm loans, have designated staff for those loans, and agree to certain training practices.

"We welcome the First State Bank of Dimmitt as a certified lender because this helps us serve the farm community more efficiently and effectively," said Ellis.

# JOHN DEERE

## WE INSPECT FOR THE UNEXPECTED

**Here's the Deal**

Our preseason "inspection-only" special checks both combine and header for the unexpected, assures you're ready to roll and adjust your combine for peak performance. Call today to schedule your appointment.

**Just \$350**

**Save 10% on All Installed Parts**

Have our factory-trained service technicians install genuine John Deere parts and save 10 percent off list. Now 'til April 30, 1994.



Before long, things will get real busy at your place. And you'll expect your combine to be ready to roll. That's reason enough to have our experienced service staff inspect for the unexpected, today. If you need a better reason, take advantage of our preseason specials.

**Go With The Green Service**


ASK US ABOUT INTEREST FREE DEFERRED BILLING

## J&H Equipment Co.

806-647-3324  
P.O. Box 1068/South Hwy. 385, Dimmitt, TX 79027

# PARTICIPATE

## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS.




There is a difference between Swisher Electric Cooperative and other electric utilities — and that's good news for you.

As a member of one of Texas' 76 electric distribution cooperatives, you are fortunate enough to have a say in how the utility is run.

You, and other co-op members like you, can participate in the business of your Electric Cooperative by attending annual meetings and electing directors you feel will do the best job of guiding its operations. The directors you elect are members of the Co-Op just like you. They have a double interest in how Swisher Electric Cooperative is run because it affects their service and electric bills as well.

Take advantage of your "ownership" — attend your annual meeting and vote for directors. Get to know your business and how it's run. Participate!



## Annual Membership Meeting

### Thursday, March 24, 1994 • 6:30 p.m.

Ezra Jones School Cafeteria  
501 NE 4th Street  
Tulia

6:30 p.m. — Meal, Brisket and Chicken  
7:30 p.m. — Elections and Business  
8:30 p.m. — Door Prize Drawings

# TCPB approves research projects

Texas Corn Producers Board has approved \$120,000 to be spent on corn and insect research in 1994.

Mite research in Castro and surrounding counties, and in other Panhandle-South Plains counties, accounts for \$32,500 of the appropriation. Another \$10,000 has been earmarked for investigation of the mysterious affliction that struck area corn last summer and area wheat last fall.

The money is from the half-cent-per-bushel corn checkoff program overseen by TCPB.

Intense study of mite problems in Castro, Lamb, Swisher, Hale, Bailey and Parmer counties will be carried out by Extension Service officials.

"These counties have always been in the heart of Texas' largest corn producing area," said Carl King, TCPB executive director. "About one-third of the state crop comes from these counties. TCPB is dedicated to making sure that efforts to control and hopefully alleviate major corn insect problems receive the utmost attention. That is made possible by the statewide checkoff program.

Pest management programs will include:

--Evaluation of miticides for spider mite control using aerial and

chemigation applications. Evaluations will look at mixtures of dimethane and Capture and dimethane and Asan, and early season applications of Comite.

--Monitoring the flight of Southwestern corn borer moths through the use of 20 pheromone traps. Information from this and other monitoring programs will be reported weekly in an area Extension pest management newsletter.

--Monitoring of potential infestations of European corn borer using more labor-intensive blacklight traps.

--Data collection to meet requirements for a potential Section 18 temporary clearnace for Capture. Last year, each county in which Capture was used was allowed to certify that at least one field was economically infested. Additional data collected this year could help meet more stringent requirements.

--Monitoring corn earworm adults using traps. This is a continuation program due to the sometimes high populations of earworms in the region.

--Evaluation of Western corn rootworm insecticides, namely a trial using Furadan 4F as a post-emergence rescue treatment will be evaluated if rootworm pressure is great enough.

--Corn herbicides will be evaluated in Castro and Lamb counties to determine if both broadleaf and grass weeds can be treated by preplant, pre-emergence and post-emergence applications from both ground-rig and chemigation applications.

Also funding the six-county program is the Texas Pest Management Association, which matched the \$7,500 checkoff contribution.

In other areas, three mite-control projects will include a major study of the emergence pattern of Banks grass mite. It will be conducted by Robert Glodt of Agri-Search Research and Consulting, Inc., of Plainview and Dr. F.E. Gilstrap of College Station.

"Though much is known about controlling spider mites, we know very little about their movement," said Glodt. "It seems that the mites move each year from wheat of CRP land to corn in the spring. This research seeks to develop understanding of this movement between plants and to document the role of natural enemies (predators)."

Wheat, roadside grasses and corn will be sampled intensively for mites and mite predators this spring. Comite, commonly used in mite control, will be applied in part of the

research to determine its impact on predators.

Another phase of the program will focus on research done by Dr. Tom Archer, a research entomologist at the Texas A&M station at Lubbock. Archer is looking into mite-resistant corn varieties. Mite-resistant crosses have produced good yields in initial A&M tests, Archer said.

Other research projects include:

--\$13,500 to fund a study on the feasibility of growing dryland corn.

--\$9,000 to evaluate the cooking and dry milling properties of prospective food corn hybrids.

--\$4,000 to help evaluate how corn yields are affected by the application of phosphorous to fields already high in phosphorous.

--\$3,000 to help develop computer software that will communicate with regional weather stations and provide instant information on when to schedule irrigation.

--\$10,000 to aid in the development of ethanol as an alternative fuel source for newly-designed rotary valve engines.

--\$5,000 for further development of an electric car by Texas Tech University. The car, which will be entered in a national competition, uses ethanol for auxiliary power.



**NELSON WINS BARROW CHAMPIONSHIP**—Jana Nelson of Dimmitt won the championship in the Chester White division of the barrow show at the Houston Livestock Show this year.

Courtesy photo



**HILL WINS SHORTHORN SHOW**—Beau Hill, right, of Dimmitt, won the shorthorn championship at the Houston Livestock Show recently. With him are the steer's buyers, Renee Cruchon and Louise Kircheng.

Courtesy photo

## Hill, Nelson win honors

"Priceless" proved his worth March 4 in the Shorthorn division of the Junior Market Steer Show at the 1994 Houston Livestock Show.

"Priceless" was driven to the top division honor by Beau Hill, 13, of Dimmitt. He's the son of Terry and Belinda Hill.

He was one of two youngsters who won division honors from Dimmitt, as Jana Nelson drove her medium

weight barrow to the top of the Chester White show.

It was Hill's second year at Houston.

"My dad has shown livestock here before," Beau, a Dimmitt Middle School student, said. "So I thought it would be fun to show here, too."

Hill's steer won the top of the medium weight class before going on to top honors. The judge was Jim Newsome of Jackson, Miss.

Nelson's barrow was judged top in the Chester White field by Dr. Bob Hines of Kansas State University. She bought the hog in Oklahoma.

"It's exciting," said Nelson, also 13. She said "Okie" was the first pig she had raised "from a baby."

Her dad, Donny, said Jana faithfully raised the animal.

"She goes out and feeds Okie every morning before school and every evening when she comes in," he said.

## Swisher Electric sets meeting

Swisher Electric Cooperative will break with tradition and hold its annual membership meeting on a Thursday evening instead of on a Saturday, with the 1994 meeting on March 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ezra Jones High School Cafeteria, 501 NE Fourth in Tulia.

Jack Middleton, appointed Oct. 10, 1975 to fill W.A. Jordan's unexpired term, will retire from Swisher Electric's board at the meeting. Middleton, who lives northwest of Tulia, will retire after being elected to six terms. Gaylord Cogburn and Paul Louis Irlbeck have been nominated by the coop's nominating committee for the position. Directors Guinn Fitzgerald and Gene Latham are seeking re-election to their seats.

A catered meal of brisket and fried chicken will be served at 6:30 p.m. Coffee mugs commemorating Swisher Electric's 55th anniversary will be one of three attendance prizes for members who register for the meeting.

A one hour business meeting will immediately follow the meal. The meeting will include the board election and reports from the auditor and manager Charles Castleberry. Drawings for door prizes, including a cordless electric lawn mower as the grand prize, will follow the business meeting.

## Seminar set by WTAMU

A joint agriculture seminar program which began in the fall will continue this semester at West Texas A&M University.

"Wind Energy for Pumping Water for Livestock" will be the subject of a seminar March 25 at 3 p.m. It will be held in the auditorium at the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West in Amarillo. The seminar will be conducted by Dr. Noland

Clark, director of the USDA-ARS at Bushland.

The seminars are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served prior to each seminar at 2:45 p.m. Additional seminars are planned for April 22 and May 6.

The program is sponsored by WTAMU's Division of Agriculture, US Dept. of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

## Carpenter gets second in state NCGA contest

Donny Carpenter of D&D Farms of Dimmitt has captured second place in the Irrigated Division of the National Corn Growers Association 1993 National Corn Yield contest in Texas. Carpenter achieved a yield of 250.75 bushels per acre with Pioneer 3162.

Carpenter's winning entry was in a

field that was also planted in corn in 1992. It was planted in 30-inch rows at a rate of 36,000 seeds per acre last April 12. The crop was watered with a sprinkler and was harvested last Sept. 23 at 18.9% moisture.

Carpenter also applied 30 pounds of nitrogen, 72 pounds of phosphate and 24 pounds of potash per acre.

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**PCG Cotton Talks**

The director of the Soil Conservation Service is tentatively scheduled to speak at the 37th annual meeting of the Plains Cotton Growers on April 8.

Paul Johnson is expected to be joined by Norma Trolinder, plant physiologist at the USDA-ARS Plant Stress Lab at Lubbock, at the meeting. The convention will be held in Room 107 of the Lubbock Civic Center as part of the Texas Cotton Ginners Association Convention and Trade Show.

The TCGA convention begins at 9 a.m. on April 8 and concludes April 9. About 5,000 persons go to Lubbock for the meeting, which is recognized as one of Texas' largest yearly gatherings of cotton people.

The PCG meeting is expected to provide timely insight into

biotechnology and soil and water conservation issues. Bill Lovelady, chairman of the National Cotton Council's Producer Steering Committee, will briefly discuss legislative and regulatory issues facing the industry.

Also scheduled to address the meeting is Steve Verett, executive director of the Texas Food and Fiber Commission. Verett will discuss the future of that agency and the role it plays in the food and fiber industry.

"We are very pleased that Paul Johnson and Norma Trolinder have expressed an interest in speaking at our annual meeting this year," said Donald Johnson, PCG executive vice president.

New officers will also be elected.

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**When is the application deadline?**

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 1994 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

**Do you need to reapply annually?**

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

**Castro County Appraisal District**  
204 S.E. 3rd (Rear), Dimmitt, TX 79027  
806-647-5131

We'll be happy to answer your questions and provide you a free copy of

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Or contact:  
**Comptroller's Property Tax Division**  
P.O. Box 13528  
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### WANT TO LEASE

The US Dept. of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Castro County offices presently occupy 6,104 net usable square feet of office space at 114 W. Belsher Street in Dimmitt, Texas. ASCS, SCS and FmHA are interested in signing a succeeding lease for this space, but it will consider relocating if economically advantageous to ASCS, SCS and FmHA. Occupancy is required by July 1, 1994. Any lease entered into will be for a period of one year. A long-term lease cannot be entered into until the issue of restructuring USDA is settled. Anyone interested should call Sooty M. Abbott at 806/647-2153 for more information. 4-48-2tc

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### 21—Wanted, Misc.

I WOULD LIKE TO BUY your used gold jewelry—broken, worn out or otherwise. Call 647-3250, evenings. 21-1-tfx

### 23—Lost and Found

Reward offered for lost woman's engagement ring. The ring was lost in Dimmitt sometime Friday, Feb. 18, or Saturday, Feb. 19, at Colonial Inn, Town and Country, Coleman's, Lockhart's, Running M Bath Shop, or somewhere in between. No questions will be asked. The ring's dollar value is not as important and the emotional attachment involved, which is priceless. If you have seen our ring, or know where it is, please let us know. Call 647-2206, 647-3123 or 374-9922. Thank you.

### Reward

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Artisan Fence & Construction ANY TYPE FENCING SPECIALIZING IN QUALITY Fence and Fence Repairs For an estimate call GENE SANDERS 352-4188

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ROOFING SYSTEMS: For quality hail-resistant roofing, call Robert Duke at 647-5517. 18-44-tfx

Artisan Fence & Construction ANY TYPE FENCING SPECIALIZING IN QUALITY Fence and Fence Repairs For an estimate call GENE SANDERS 352-4188

1-hour photo service Sheffy's Western & Casual Wear 119 SE 2nd, Dimmitt

22—Notices

25—Legal Notices

25—Legal Notices

25—Legal Notices

**CONSTRUCTION PERMIT TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

You are hereby notified that SEVEN X CATTLE FEEDERS, INC. has applied for Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) Air Quality Permit No. 23979. This permit, if approved, will authorize construction of a cattle feedlot in Summerfield, Castro County, Texas. The location of the existing facility is 2 miles south on FM 1057 and 1 mile east on County Road 604 from Summerfield (at the intersection of County Road 604 and County Road 503). This facility will emit the following air contaminants: particulate matter, nitrogen oxides from the combustion of natural gas fuel, and odors.

A copy of all materials in the public file is available for inspection and reproduction at the TNRCC Amarillo Regional Office, Air Program, located at 3918 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79109-4996, telephone (806) 353-9251, and at the TNRCC Central Office, 12124 Park 35 Circle, Austin, Texas 78753, telephone (512) 239-1000. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the regional office of the TNRCC. Inquiries about the permit application and any information concerning any technical aspect of this application can be obtained by writing Kevin Ellis, TNRCC Office of Air Quality New Source Review Program in Austin or the TNRCC Amarillo Regional Office.

You may submit written comments concerning the permit application to the Office of Air Quality, New Source Review Section in Austin. All written comments received within 30 days after the second publication of this notice shall be considered by the Executive Director in determining whether to issue or not issue the permit. All written comments will be made available for public inspection at the TNRCC Central Office in Austin. This notice is to be published on March 17 and March 24, 1994.

Any person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the proposed facility may request the Commission to hold an informal public meeting and/or contested case hearing on the permit application pursuant to Section 382.056(d) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The Commission is not required to hold a contested case hearing if the basis of a request is determined to be unreasonable. All requests for a contested case hearing must be received in writing within the 30-day comment period regardless of whether an informal public meeting has been held or scheduled on this matter. If you wish to request a public hearing, you must submit your request in writing. You must state (1) your name, mailing address and daytime phone number; (2) the permit number or other recognizable reference to this application; (3) the statement "I/we request a public hearing"; (4) a brief description of how you, or the persons you represent, would be adversely affected by the granting of the application; (5) a description of the location of your property relative to the applicant's operations; and (6) your proposed adjustment to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns and cause you to withdraw your request for a hearing. Requests for a public hearing on this application should be submitted in writing to Bill Ehret, Assistant Chief Hearings Examiner, Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, telephone (512) 239-1772.

Before a permit can be issued for this facility, the applicant must demonstrate that all emission sources are in compliance with all TNRCC air quality rules and regulations and all applicable Federal Regulations. This includes the application of "best available control technology" to each new or modified emission source and compliance with all ambient air quality standards.

22-49-2tc

WEIGHT WATCHERS is now meeting every Monday in Dimmitt. For more information, please call 1-800-359-3131.

22-40-1tc

24—Card Of Thanks

**CARD OF THANKS**

Dear friends,  
We want to thank everyone who called, sent a card or even said a special prayer or thought during my surgery and recovery. I appreciate the care and concern shown to me by the doctors and nurses in the emergency room and during my short stay in the hospital. I thank God we have our hospital and our medical staff.

SANDRA BAGWELL  
24-49-1tc

**CARD OF THANKS**

Thank you for your prayers for Kami during her recent illness. Kami's recovery is proof of the power of prayer. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.  
Also, Don and I appreciate the love, friendship and concern you have shown to us.

DON & SHIRLEY CORNETT  
24-49-1tc

**CARD OF THANKS**

Thank you for the tremendous amount of kindness and love shown to us during Kami's illness. We appreciated the cards, calls and especially the prayers. Please continue to keep Kami in your prayers as she returns to Children's Medical Center in Dallas for heart surgery on March 23.

WILLIE, BRENDA, JAKE, LANDON & KAMI  
24-49-1tc

**BUY IT. SELL IT. FIND IT. CLASSIFIED**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

BE IT KNOWN that the following Ordinance was passed and approved by the City Council of the City of Dimmitt, Texas, at its regular meeting on Monday, March 7, A.D. 1994, to-wit:

**MINOR CURFEW ORDINANCE ORDINANCE NO. 512**  
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING "CURFEW HOURS FOR MINORS"; DEFINING TERMS; CREATING OFFENSES FOR MINORS, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF MINORS, AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS VIOLATING CURFEW REGULATIONS; PROVIDING DEFENSES; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR WAIVER BY THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF JURISDICTION OVER A MINOR WHEN REQUIRED UNDER THE TEXAS FAMILY CODE; PROVIDING FOR A REVIEW OF THIS ORDINANCE BY THE CITY SECRETARY; PROVIDING A PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$500; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Dimmitt has determined that there has been an increase in juvenile violence, juvenile gang activity, and crime by persons under the age of 17 in the City of Dimmitt; and,

WHEREAS, persons under the age of 17 are particularly susceptible by their lack of maturity and experience to participate in unlawful and gang-related activities and to be victims of older perpetrators of crime; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Dimmitt has an obligation to provide for protection of minors from each other and from other persons, for the enforcement of parental control over and responsibility for children, for the protection of the general public, and for the reduction of the incidence of juvenile criminal activities; and,

WHEREAS, a curfew for those under the age of 17 will be in the interest of the public health, safety, and general welfare and will help to attain the foregoing objectives and to diminish the undesirable impact of such conduct on the citizens of the City of Dimmitt; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIMMITT:

SECTION 1. That the Dimmitt City Code 1977, as amended, of the City of Dimmitt be amended by adding the following CHAPTER 19, "Curfew Hours for Minors," to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 19 CURFEW HOURS FOR MINORS**

**Sec. 19-1. Definitions.**

In this Chapter:

**CURFEW HOURS** means:

(A) 10:59 p.m. on any Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday that immediately precedes or is designated as a school attendance day for the Dimmitt Independent School District, until 5:30 a.m. of the next following day.

(B) 11:59 p.m. on any Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday that does not immediately precede or is designated as a school attendance day for the Dimmitt Independent School District, until 5:30 a.m. of the following day; and,

(C) 12:59 a.m. until 5:30 a.m. on any Saturday or Sunday.

**DESIGNATED SCHOOL DAY** means:

A day or part thereof during which all students (grades 1-12) are required to attend classes at a Dimmitt ISD campus.

**EMERGENCY** means:

An unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting state that calls for immediate action. The term includes, but is not limited to a fire, a natural disaster, an automobile accident, or any situation requiring immediate action to prevent serious bodily injury or loss of life.

**ESTABLISHMENT** means:

Any privately-owned place of business operated for a profit to which the public is invited, including but not limited to any place of amusement or entertainment.

**GUARDIAN** means:

(A) A person who, under court order, is the guardian of the person of a minor; or,

(B) A public or private agency with whom a minor has been placed by a court.

**MINOR** means:

Any person under 17 years of age.

**OPERATOR** means:

Any individual, firm, association, partnership, or corporation operating, managing, or conducting any establishment. The term includes the members or partners of an association or partnership and the officers of a corporation.

**PARENT** means a person who is:

(A) A natural parent, adoptive parent, or step-parent of another person; or,

(B) At least 18 years of age and authorized by a parent or guardian to have the care and custody of a minor.

**PUBLIC PLACE** means:

Any place to which the public or a substantial group of the public has access and includes, but is not limited to streets, highways and the common areas of schools, hospitals, apartment houses, office buildings, transport facilities and shops.

**REMAIN** means to:

(A) Linger or stay; or,

(B) Fail to leave premises when requested to do so by a police officer or the owners, operator, or other person in control of the premises.

**SERIOUS BODILY INJURY** means:

Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death or that causes death, serious permanent disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.

**Sec. 19-2. Offenses.**

(1) A minor commits an offense if he remains in any public place or on the premises of any establishment within the city during curfew hours.

(2) A parent or guardian of a minor commits an offense if he knowingly permits, or by insufficient control allows, the minor to remain in any public place or on the premises of any establishment within the city during curfew hours.

(3) The owner, operator, or any employee of an establishment commits an offense if he knowingly allows a minor to remain upon the premises of the establishment during curfew hours.

**Sec. 19-3. Defenses.**

(1) It is a defense to prosecution under Sec. 19-2 (1) that the minor was:

(A) Accompanied by the minor's parent or guardian;

(B) On an errand at the direction of the minor's parent or guardian, without a detour or stop;

(C) In a motor vehicle involved in interstate travel;

(D) Engaged in an employment activity or going to or returning home from an employment activity, without any detour or stop;

(E) Involved in an emergency;

(F) On the sidewalk abutting the minor's residence or abutting the residence of a next-door neighbor if the neighbor did complain to the police department about the minor's presence;

(G) Attending an official school, religious, or other recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the City of Dimmitt, a civic organization, or another similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor, or going to or returning home from, without any detour or stop, an official school, religious, or other recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the City of Dimmitt, a civic organization, or another similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor;

(H) Exercising First Amendment rights protected by the United States Constitution, such as the free exercise of religion, freedom of speech and the right of assembly; or,

(I) Married or has been married or had disabilities of minority removed in accordance with Chapter 31 of the Texas Family Code.

(2) It is a defense to prosecution under Sec. 19-2 (3) that the owner, operator or employee of an establishment promptly notified the police department that a minor was present on the premises of the establishment during curfew hours and refused to leave.

**Sec. 19-4. Enforcement.**

Before taking any enforcement action under this section, a police officer shall ask the apparent offender's age and reason for being in the public place. The officer shall not issue a citation or make an arrest under this section unless the officer reasonably believes that an offense has occurred and that, based on any response and other circumstances, no defense in Section 19-3 is present.

**Sec. 19-5. Penalty.**

(A) A person who violates a provision of this chapter is guilty of a separate offense for each day or part of a day during which the violation is committed, continued or permitted.

(B) Each offense, upon conviction is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.

**Sec. 19-6. Waiver of Jurisdiction of Minors.**

When required by Section 51.08 of the Texas Family Code, as amended, the Municipal Court shall waive original jurisdiction over a minor who violates Sec. 19-2 (1) of this Chapter and shall refer the minor to the Castro County Juvenile Court.

SECTION 2. That within six months after the initial enforcement of this Ordinance, the City Secretary shall review this Ordinance and report and make recommendations to the City Council concerning the effectiveness of and the continuing need for the Ordinance. The City Secretary's report shall specifically include the following information:

(A) The practicality of enforcing the Ordinance and problems with enforcement identified by the police department;

(B) The impact of the Ordinance on crime statistics;

(C) The number of persons successfully prosecuted for a violation of the Ordinance; and,

(D) The City's net cost of enforcing the Ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are severable and are governed by Section 10-11 of CHAPTER 10 of the Dimmitt City Code 1977, as amended.

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dimmitt, and it is accordingly so ordained.

PASSED on first reading, at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Dimmitt, Texas, held on Feb. 21, 1994, by a majority, affirmative vote of five (5) for and 0 against.

PASSED AND APPROVED on final reading at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Dimmitt, Texas, held on March 7, 1994, by a majority, affirmative vote of four (4) for and 0 against.

CITY OF DIMMITT, TEXAS  
BY: WAYNE COLLINS, MAYOR

ATTEST BY: REEFORD BURROUS,  
CITY SECRETARY  
25-49-1tc

*Thank you for shopping Dimmitt!*

**LEGAL NOTICE**

NO. 2141

THE ESTATE OF C.C. GRAEF, DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CASTRO COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF C.C. GRAEF, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that the original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of C.C. GRAEF were issued on the 9th day of March, 1993, in Cause No. 2141, in the proceedings of The Estate of C.C. GRAEF, Deceased, pending in the County Court of Castro County, Texas, to EDITH GRAEF, 702 West Lee Street, Dimmitt, Texas 79027. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered in the County Court of Castro County, Texas, are required to send the same to me, at the above address, within the time and within the manner prescribed by law.

EDITH GRAEF  
Independent Executrix  
of the Estate of  
C.C. GRAEF, Deceased  
25-49-1tc

**BID NOTICE**

The City of Dimmitt is accepting bids for a track loader for the sanitary landfill. Specifications may be acquired by calling 806/647-2155 or at the City Manager's office at 200 East Jones Street. Bids will be opened Monday, March 21, 1994, at 6:30 p.m. The City of Dimmitt reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

CITY MANAGER

REEFORD BURROUS  
25-48-2tc

A Gift to the AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY MEMORIAL PROGRAM can make a big difference in cancer control. 1-800-ACS-2345. Credit Cards Accepted.

**Sunnyside**

By Teeny Bowden

Lynette Darlin of Sunnyside lost her life March 9 just before 8 a.m. when a semi tanker truck from Hereford hit the car broadside on the passenger side. The truck driver was not seriously hurt. They sent for the Jaws of Life from Dimmitt and from Earth; it took almost an hour to get her body out of the car. The men who were standing by continued to look in the car, but they couldn't see because it was crushed so bad.

They were looking for her daughter, Megan Bolinger, five, who until recently was driven by her mother every morning to Pybus Day Care in Dimmitt. Recently, a friend began picking her up and driving her in, but the men didn't know that. Her next oldest daughter, Tracy Hightower, had ridden the bus as usual to Dimmitt High School. Mary Cluck and Stanley Nelson went to the schools and took both girls to La Wanda Wilson's. Randy Bolinger, Megan's father, wanted to keep her with him that night. Gary Hightower, Tracy's dad, arranged for Tracy to fly to Marble Falls. Randy and Megan took Tracy to the plane.

Lynette had worked for Sunnyside Feed Yards for about a year and was well liked in the church and community. The services and burial were in Rosenberg, which is near Houston. Mark and Tami Cluck attended the services. Tracy will be staying with her father at least through spring break. She would like to come back and finish school in Dimmitt.

Services were held Friday in Dimmitt for Sam Gilbreath at First United Methodist Church. He died

Tuesday night in Hereford. He had lived in the Sunnyside Community for much of his life. He and his twin brother, J.T. (Casey), were born in Dimmitt.

The family and the twins moved, when the boys were two, into the house that is now the first unit of construction at the museum. They spent their youth at Sunnyside. Jeff Gilbreath left a lot of history for his family, and Sam followed in his footsteps.

There was 85 inch of moisture in the rain gauge Saturday with all ice melted, and another .20 more was in the gauge later Saturday.

Tanner Furr of Earth attended church services with his great-grandparents, Bess and R.V. Bills, Sunday morning. Rev. Anthony Sisemore of Plainview was well enough to go to classes at Wayland, but he skipped his classes when he learned of the wreck. Sunday, Lori had to stay home with the baby, who was ill again.

WESTERN ASIA is believed to be the home of the gong, which reached China in the sixth century and Java by the eighth century. Originally, gongs seem to have afforded protection against evil spirits; even today the Iban people of Borneo beat them during a storm. —New Britannica

*Classifieds gets results!*

**ALLSUP'S 1.5 LB. LOAF SANDWICH BREAD 69¢ EACH OR 2\$1 FOR**

**ALLSUP'S MONEY ORDERS UP TO \$299.00 FOR ONLY 19¢**

**COOKED FOODS SPECIAL OF THE WEEK ALLSUP'S CORN DOG AND A 20 OZ. NR COKE FOR ONLY 99¢**

**March Into Spring SALE**

**ALL TYPES COCA-COLA 12 OZ. CANS, 6 PACK \$1.99**

**SAUSAGE & BISCUIT FOR ONLY 79¢**

**SAUSAGE ON A STICK FOR ONLY 99¢**

**SLICED MELLO-CRISP BACON 1 LB. PKG. 99¢**

**LIBBY'S POTTED MEAT 3 OZ. CAN 39¢**

**CUT LEAF SHURFINE SPINACH 15 OZ. CAN 49¢**

**SHURFINE SWEET PEAS 17 OZ. CAN 39¢**

**SHURFINE FACIAL TISSUE 175 CT. \$1.19**

**SHURFINE CORN FLAKES CEREAL 24 OZ. \$2.19**

**HORMEL LITTLE, 12 OZ. SIZZLERS 99¢**

**LAUNDRY DETERGENT ULTRA TIDE 98 OZ. BOX \$6.99**

**FOLGER'S COFFEE 12 OZ. CAN \$1.99**

**IDAHO POTATOES 10 LB. BAG \$1.59**

**DECKER MEAT FRANKS 12 OZ. PKG. 69¢**

**PRICES EFFECTIVE THROUGH MARCH 19, 1994 PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLY LASTS**

**DIMITT, HALE CENTER, OLTON & PLAINVIEW**

**ALLSUP'S**

## More about

### Federal charges filed in case...

(Continued from Page 1)

Attorney's Office, the FBI and the Inspector General's office became involved in the case.

When Imperial arrived for another meeting with Monk, he was instead arrested by Sunnyvale police. Imperial confessed to possessing material from NSI. Imperial alleged he began working as a consultant with

## Reception to honor Pete Laney

The Bailey County "Friends of Pete Laney" will hold an appreciation night for Laney, who is Texas Speaker of the House and Representative from the 85th District, Monday night from 7 to 9 at the Bailey County Coliseum in Muleshoe.

The event will provide an opportunity for residents of the 85th District, which includes Castro County, to express their appreciation to Laney.

## Earth UMC plans revival

The Rev. Jimmy Nunn of Lubbock and Robbie Hawkins of Hart will lead a revival Sunday through Wednesday at Earth United Methodist Church.

Sunday morning's service is at 11 a.m., with evening services at 7 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday. Breakfast will be Monday through Wednesday at 7 a.m.

Nunn is a former pastor of the church and is the current associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Lubbock. He serves in evangelism, pastoral care, missions, education and children's ministries.

Hawkins is the song leader at First United Methodist Church in Hart. He is a certified lay speaker in the Plainview District and has filled pulpits of churches in the area with his witness and song.

## Police Calls

A pit bull was killed by Dimmitt police Tuesday after it attacked a youth in the 200 block of Front.

The girl was trying to restrain the family dog when it turned on her. Police and animal control officers were called to the scene, where the dog had already torn a gash in the girl's leg and was reportedly about to go after the girl's throat.

She was able to wrench free from the dog, and an animal control officer fired three shots with a tranquilizer gun at the dog. The tranquilizer shots missed, and Dimmitt Police Chief Dewayne Haney fired a shotgun at the dog, killing it.

The girl was taken to Plains Memorial Hospital, where she received treatment for her severe leg wound. The dog was taken to Dimmitt Veterinary Clinic for testing.

It was one of two incidents concerning dogs in the same area on Tuesday. Just a few minutes earlier, a Dimmitt man was almost attacked by another dog in the 200 block of Front.

Dimmitt police arrested a 30-year-old Dimmitt woman on Monday on theft by check warrants from three counties.

Police also arrested a 38-year-old man Sunday evening for public

Serv-Air and alleged Dr. Zarleno was a software expert in on the deal. Imperial, according to an affidavit, said Dr. Zarleno was entirely responsible for software support for the stolen information. Imperial said NSI material was used to develop software portions of the proposals, and that NSI material was valuable because it explained technical issues that would otherwise not be accessible.

According to federal documents, Imperial made a call to Dr. Zarleno on Feb. 3; during the conversation, Imperial told Zarleno that he had been asked to collect all information related to the Serv-Air proposals. Zarleno told Imperial he had the NSI information on his computer.

When the guns and silencers were

## More about

### Deputy...

(Continued from Page 1)

the deputy said. "I took the baby and headed for my car, and the dad got in on the passenger side. We headed for the hospital."

They were just four blocks away, and turned onto Halsell just as the ambulance was leaving the hospital. Frieda pulled into the new emergency entrance and raced the baby inside. There, hospital personnel used equipment to make sure the baby's airway was unblocked.

"Rick Hunter (EMS director) called me later that day and told me the baby was doing just fine and Brian had saved the baby's life," said Sheriff CD Fitzgerald. "Rick told me if it hadn't been for Brian, the child might not have survived."

For Frieda, it was all in a day's work.

"It was what I'm supposed to do, I guess," Frieda said. "I do ambulance work when I'm not on duty here, and I've never really been involved in something quite like that."

Frieda said he had not been back in touch with the child's parents.

taken from the Zarleno house, officials also took a Macintosh computer, hundreds of diskettes, facsimile documents relating to Serv-Air and NASA, and 17 documents relating to NASA and Serv-Air proposals, according to authorities.

## Young Farmers to eye changes in show rules

The Dimmitt Young Farmers will discuss possible changes in rules for the Castro County Junior Livestock Show when they meet tonight (Thursday) at 8 in the Dimmitt High School Vo - Ag Dept. building.

The public is invited to the discussion phase of the meeting, according to Kent Kirby, president.

The Young Farmers produce and coordinate the annual livestock show for the county's FFA and 4-H youngsters.

## Stores plan 'Spring Win' sales event

Dimmitt businesses will hold a three-day "Spring Win" promotion next week as a prelude to the Chamber of Commerce "Casino Fun Night" March 26.

"You're a Winner When You Shop in Dimmitt!" will be the theme of the business promotion. Participating merchants will offer "Spring Win" specials in their stores, and also will give customers free bonus chip coupons worth an extra \$10 in fun-chips at the Casino Fun Night.

The "Spring Win" promotion will begin next Thursday and run through Saturday, March 26.

The event is coordinated by the chamber's Merchants Committee, headed by Tots and Teens owner Sandra Clark.

intoxication in the 600 block of SW Third.

Other incidents reported over the past week include:

--An 18-year-old student was assaulted in the 500 block of SW Fifth.

--A 68-year-old Dimmitt woman was found lying on the floor in her home in the 500 block of NW Eighth on Saturday afternoon. Police originally feared foul play was involved, but no attack was committed. The woman remains in High Plains Baptist Hospital.

--A wire hubcap, worth \$175, was taken from a car in the 100 block of NW 11th.

--A purse was taken from a vehicle at Dimmitt Middle School on March 8.

Two Dimmitt persons were ticketed for no liability insurance after a wreck March 9 at Belsher and Broadway in Dimmitt.

A westbound 1973 Plymouth Fury was attempting to make a left-hand turn onto Broadway when it struck an eastbound 1994 Metro. The driver of the Fury said he didn't see the other car because of the sun.

Police were also called to the Dairy Queen where a man backed into a parked pickup.

## Commissioners hear reports

Castro County commissioners approved a donation for tickets to the Running Water Soil and Water Conservation District's annual banquet and okayed a water line across a county road in Pct. 4 during the court's regular meeting Monday.

The commissioners heard status reports from county offices but refused to hear former commissioner Harold Smith. Smith requested to speak to commissioners during a break between department heads. County Judge Polly Simpson told Smith he was not on the agenda.

"Do any of the rest of you want to hear him?" she asked other commissioners.

"I don't," said Pct. 3 Commissioner Jeff Robertson.

With that, Smith left. Commissioners approved a \$100 donation to RWSWCD for tickets to the upcoming banquet. The court has bought tickets for several years, and usually distributes them to road crew workers.

Commissioners also learned the county jail will be inspected today (Thursday), and were reminded of the West Texas Judges and Commissioners Conference today through Saturday in Odessa.

Following the meeting, commissioners toured the former Cobb's Dept. Store building. The building may be used to house Texas Dept. of Health, if funds are approved.

# Obituaries

## Sam Gilbreath

J.C. "Sam" Gilbreath, 84, died March 8.

Services were Friday at First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Johnny Robertson, pastor, and the Rev. Lanny Wheeler, chaplain at King's Manor Methodist Home in Hereford, officiating. Burial was in Castro Memorial Gardens by Foskey Funeral Home.

Mr. Gilbreath was born May 12, 1909 in Dimmitt. He married Virginia Stovall on Dec. 27, 1933 in Nara Visa, N.M.

Mr. Gilbreath was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Dimmitt, where he served on many boards. He was a 1927 graduate of Hereford High School and received his degree in agricultural engineering in 1931 from Texas A&M University. He was a past member of the Dimmitt school board and the board of directors of Dimmitt Wheat Growers. He was a charter member of the National Grain Sorghum Producers Board, the US Feed Grains Council and the Dimmitt Domino Club. He worked with the Civilian Conservation Corps in Memphis in 1935, and was a retired farmer-stockman. He had lived in Hereford the past 18 months.

He was preceded in death by a son, John Gilbreath, in 1983.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Zay William Gilbreath of Amarillo; two brothers, J.T. "Casey" Gilbreath and W.W. "Punk" Gilbreath, both of Hereford; three sisters, Lucille Posey of Hereford, Lois Petersen of Amarillo and Sallie Kirby of Las Cruces, N.M.; six grandsons; and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials to the John Gilbreath Scholarship Fund, c/o First United Methodist Church,

110 SW Third, Dimmitt, or King's Manor Methodist Home, Box 1999, Hereford 79045.

## Lynette Darlin

Lynette Wilson Darlin, 39, of Dimmitt, died March 9.

Services were Saturday in Rosenberg at Davis Funeral Home with John Oliver officiating. Burial was in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Darlin was born Feb. 2, 1955 in Wharton. She grew up in Wharton and was a Wharton High School graduate.

Survivors include three daughters, Kimberley Hightower of Marble Falls, Traci Hightower of Dimmitt and Megan Bolinger of Dimmitt; her parents, Weldon and Nettie Lou Wilson of Freer; a brother, Charles Howard Wilson of Cuero; and her maternal grandmother, Daisy Howard of Rosenberg.

A fund to assist her children has been established at the First State Bank in Dimmitt.

## Kenneth Jackson

Kenneth Jackson, 56, of Lubbock, died March 9.

Private services were held, with the Rev. Jerry D. Graham, pastor of Skyline Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was in Idalou Cemetery by Franklin-Bartley Funeral Home.

Mr. Jackson was born April 18, 1937 in Wichita Falls. He had lived in Lubbock since 1984, moving there from Bedford. He married Barbara Wood on March 15, 1967, in Carlsbad, N.M. He was a US Army veteran and served with the 82nd Airborne Division. He was a Baptist, a member of the Lubbock Lions Club and was an amateur radio operator.

He was a 1990 graduate of Texas Tech University.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Shari Murchison of Lubbock and Denise Schilling of Dimmitt; two sisters, Jessie Morehead of Cabool, Mo., and Dortha Harrington of Clarksville, Miss.; and two grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Lubbock Lions Club.

## Justice Vasquez

Justice K. Vasquez, infant son of Kevin Polk and Marcie Vasquez of Lubbock, died Sunday.

Graveside services were Monday in Plainview Memorial Park with the Rev. Carl Pelphrey, pastor of Calvary Church, officiating, assisted by the Rev. Bob Winkler of Trinity Church of Lubbock. Arrangements were by Lemons Funeral Home of Plainview. Justice was born March 1 in Lubbock.

Survivors include his parents; his paternal grandparents, Will and Barbara Finch of Hart; his maternal grandparents, Oscar and Sylvia Chavez of Plainview and Mr. and Mrs. Lucio Vasquez of Floydada; and his great-grandparents, Raymond and Mercy Cortez of Bridgeport, Juanita Vasquez of Floydada and Minnie Mae Washington of Plainview.

Thank you for reading The Castro County News!

# Back to Basics SALE

For Him	Regular	SALE	For Her	Regular	SALE
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Levi's® 550® Relaxed Fit Jeans .....	35.99	29.99	Stuffed Shirt® & Vivaldi® Denim Skirts .....	29.99 to \$32	22.99
Levi's® 517® Prewashed Jeans .....	26.99	21.99	Lee® Twill Pants .....	31.99	24.99
Wrangler® 13MWZ® and 936® in Indigo .....	\$20 & \$21	17.99	Chic® No Iron Twill Pants .....	21.99	15.99
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Hanes® 3-Pack Briefs .....	5.99	4.99	Donnkenny® Pull-On Pants .....	14.99	9.99
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## Church Happenings

### Ministerial Alliance

Claude Hendricks will lead the Castro County Ministerial Alliance in a study of Revelation 4:1-11 on Tuesday at the Assembly of God Church in Dimmitt.

### Presbyterian Church

Sunday school classes will meet Sunday morning at 10.

"Why People Suffer" will be the subject of Pastor Edward D. Freeman's sermon at the Sunday morning worship service, which will begin at 11.

"Praying in the Spirit" will be the subject of the Lenten mid-week Bible study Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the manse.

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# Country Trader



The West Texas Country Trader is a Supplement of:

Thursday, March 17, 1994

Abernathy  
Weekly Review  
The Canyon News

The Castro County News  
The Clarendon News

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The ostrich industry is an exciting and profitable agriculture diversification, whose meat, leather and feathers have been proven commodities for decades. Current U.S. price for slaughter ostrich is \$4 per lb. live weight. An average 12-14 month old weighing 250 lbs. will produce approximately 80-100 lbs. of boneless red meat, lower in fat, calories, and cholesterol than chicken or turkey, with a taste very similar to beef. Restaurant requests to add ostrich to their menus are running very high, despite the retail price of \$20-\$30 per lb. The same 250 lb. bird will also produce 12-14 sq. ft. of hide which the American boot companies are currently paying in excess of \$30 per sq. ft. The ostrich feather is used to make costumes and dusters. General Motors currently uses giant ostrich feather rollers to remove dust from vehicles prior to painting.

An adult pair of ostrich lays an average of 40-60 eggs per year for 30-40 years. From one adult pair we can raise 20-30 offspring per year. At today's prices of \$5,000-\$6000 per pair at 3-4 months of age the producer can generate \$50,000-\$90,000 per year.

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# AgReview



South Plains

## Ag News

March 18-20

**OLD TRACTOR SHOW IN PLAINVIEW** — The second annual Plainview Old Tractor Show will be held at Ollie Liner Center, with unloading and set up set for the 18th.

March 23

**TEXAS COMMERCIAL EGG CLINIC** — Ramada Inn, College Station.

March 27

**TEXAS & SOUTHWESTERN CATTLE RAISERS** — Will hold 117th Annual Convention in the Tarrant County Convention Center in Fort Worth.

March 29

**PECAN SHORTCOURSE** — Set for the Goldthwaite Civic Center in Goldthwaite.

April 16-17

**COTTON GIN FESTIVAL** — The 4th Annual Cotton Gin Festival will be held in Burton in South Central Texas featuring cotton gin, antique farm equipment, folklife demonstrations, parade, contests, kids stuff, entertainment and arts and crafts.

May 6-8

**PAWNEE, OKLA., OLD TRACTOR SHOW** — Typical old tractor event. Call 405-282-7008.

## BIRD BREEDING

The market for this flightless bird means profit along with a risk

### SIDELIGHTS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE:

Texas shift worker-turned rancher hatches plot to supplement his income.

Market for ostrich meat foreseen in United States.

How the ostrich market crashed.

### Accident-prone ostriches have often met a 'fowl' fate

Many ostrich owners like Robin St. John are learning just how fragile their costly fowl can be.

In December, the Florida woman's \$9,500 blunneck ostrich Agnes tripped over a neighbor's Vietnamese potbellied pig and broke its leg.

Agnes died on the operating table from shock and loss of blood, her owner said.

"It was traumatic — she was a pet," St. John said in a call from New Port Richey, Fla. "We're taking (the neighbors) to court. Everyone else thought it was hysterical. If you're not financially or emotionally involved, it is a funny story." To make matters worse, Agnes' death put her mate put her mate Stanley off his feed.

St. John, who with her husband repairs mobile homes for a living, dipped into their savings and replaced Agnes with another female blunneck.

Adult birds have a better

See Mishaps, Page 5



Joyce Marshall

# Ostrich . oasis

By Barry Schlachter

C. '94 Fort Worth Star-Telegram

**B**ELTON — They've been rustled and smuggled, even sold when they don't exist.

The market for ostriches is feverish.

Numerous legitimate, large-scale breeding operations have been generated, many of them in Texas, now the country's biggest producers with 800 farmers.

So have pie-in-the-sky investments, including ostrich-backed IRA plans offering 200 percent profits. They target an eager, but generally ostrich-ignorant public.

"The investors are almost at blame because they don't go far enough to check those deals out," said Hugh Briscoe, 62, a Denton County breeder who was partially singed on a \$109,900 order for chicks.

"It's not all golden eggs," said Briscoe, who nonetheless figures that only a tiny percentage of ostrich opportunities are flimflam.

Briscoe, who was a full-time independent oilman, and Lockheed assembly worker David Ray of Fort Worth say ostrich farming, even on a small scale, can be profitable. Approaching it methodically, they said, can provide an economic hedge for those in such precarious industries as oil and defense.

It's according to the work you do," said Briscoe who, after starting with one breeding pair, is expanding

More on OSTRICHES, Page 5

## Underlying forces continue to strengthen prices

Because of tight world stocks, the underlying market forces remain supportive to strong prices. The key indicator to the market is to maintain weekly export shipment levels that can reach the 6.5 million bale 1993/94 target. The "talk" that China may purchase some 500,000 bales from the 1993/94 crop and a million from the 1994/95 season continues to surface. But, dampening expectations that they will buy more cotton are reports of expansion in man-made fiber production. Also, to encourage 1994/95 production, the Chinese government has increased their subsidy to cotton and grain producers substantially.

With foreign cotton stocks tight, the market is keeping an eye on weather conditions that will affect the 1994 U.S. crop. Around 3 million acres of West Texas dryland cotton acreage that is normally planted in May and June remains the driest in years. May rainfall and planting conditions will be the focal point. Planting, however, is progressing well in South Texas and moving into the Coastal Bend area. Given current moisture and potential for adequate spring rainfall, conditions are promising for a good Texas crop.

Remember, if the market rallies and you find contracts scarce, you can buy a put at-the-money or slightly out-of-the-money and possibly contract later. The advantage of puts is they protect against a price decline but allow benefits from



## COTTON MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Carl Anderson

higher prices. If you contract and want to protect against a possible strong planting time rally due to weather scares, you can buy a call option.

There are several pricing strategies to fit varied market plans. Also, grouping or pooling acreage helps to attract more interest from cotton buyers. The use of market advisors or joining a cooperative that offers marketing services are viable considerations, depending upon your marketing skill. The difference between planting time prices and lower harvest time prices could be substantial. With the "A." Index over 80 cents, a "POP" or marketing loan deficiency pay-

ment is not expected.

The U.S. expectations for 1994/95 look like a 17 to 17.5 million bale crop with total usage about 17 million. Domestic demand has turned slightly sluggish but exports look strong. These expectations suggest fairly tight supplies for the next 12 months. However, producer prices at 70 cents per pound and higher will encourage more acreage worldwide and discourage usage. Indications already suggest 13.3 million U.S. acres by June and a crop of 17.5 million.

Cotton contracting for forward delivery is active in Texas and across the Cotton Belt. Contract prices to producers are running from slightly over 70 cents per pound in the southern growing areas of Texas to around 65 cents in North Central and for irrigated West Texas cotton. These contracts are based on October and December futures prices, ranging from 70 to 74 cents per pound. Be sure to read the "fine print" of a contract before signing to understand the terms of the contract such as quality discounts, delivery costs and delivery dates. As more cotton is contracted, the less buyers will need at harvest. Thus, a weak market may be the result this fall.

(Dr. Carl Anderson, Texas A&M Cotton Marketing Specialist, is a noted authority on the cotton markets.)

Butchers making

# A 'steak' in Ostrich, Emu



Irene Hernandez with ostrich meat.

Among the 'first' in U.S. to regularly process ratites

**FLOYDADA** — The John Hernandezes believe they grabbed the brass ring when they started their family-owned meat company away from its traditional focus and into ostrich processing in late 1993.

As of March 10 they had already commercially slaughtered more than 50 ostriches — possibly more than any other processor in the United States last year.

"I think we are probably in the 50s, and we're averaging 10 a month," said Hernandez. "The count is probably around 50 to 55 already."

At present, most of the slaughtering and processing is being done for a meat company in Bowie that specializes in supplying restaurants, and in mail order. He also does work on the side for individual ostrich growers in the Texas Panhandle.

"We've processed couple of other birds for individuals, they break their legs...and have to be slaughtered," he explained. "Just two weeks ago we did one for an owner at Kress," Hernandez said.

Three weeks ago he killed three ostriches to be served at the annual convention of

the American Ostrich Association in San Diego.

Hernandez said he likes working with ostrich, and hopes the industry will grow, along with his ostrich processing.

"We've got the knowledge about it so far," he said. "There will be other plants if this thing takes off but, hopefully, we will have a head start on it."

Most every serious ostrich raiser is talking about heading in the slaughter direction, Hernandez explained. And the general public is taking an interest.

"The curiosity about ostrich meat is getting the best of a lot of people," says Hernandez, who occasionally offers samples of ostrich jerky for acquaintances to sample.

"The market is getting so saturated, it is going to go to a big market for eating," believes the meat processor.

The rural West Texas couple is, today, one of the few specialty ostrich slaughter operations in America — certainly a pioneer in Texas.

And it's paying dividends for the agribusiness, the Hernandezes report. They like being in on a meat that has such an enthusiastic, though highly specialized following.

"Everybody likes the cholesterol angle, it's so much leaner," remarked Irene Hernandez, who first became acquainted with ostrich processing in June.

Their firm, Caprock Meat Company, processes about two ostriches a week on a

regular basis. The birds dress out at nearly 100 pounds of red, mostly fat free meat which sells at up to \$40 a pound.

It's all done on contract with Bowie ostrich raiser Randy Reaves of Breezy Hill Farms, which ships about half to gourmet restaurants in Fort Worth and Dallas and the rest to mail order customers around the nation.

Sought after ostrich quill hides go to major Texas manufacturers who turn them into handsome ostrich quill cowboy boots.

Cattle, hogs and seasonal slaughter of deer and other game is still important to Hernandez, don't get him wrong. But, since families raise fewer and fewer livestock of their own these days, sidelines like ostrich slaughtering is seen as a real opportunity to latch onto by Hernandez.

"Since numbers of beef hogs and sheep are going down, we had to look at alternative business," explains Irene Hernandez. The couple had to make a few adjustments when he began handling ostrich — which

he describes as not white like turkey or chicken, but very dark, red meat.

"You have to seam it all out, take the gristle and tendons out—so you end up with 100 percent meat," Hernandez explained. He compares it to venison or elk—meat he handles for hunters during hunting season.

One spin-off of dealing with exotic meats like ostrich has been the opportunity to slaughter other exotic game, like a water buffalo he dresses out. "A guy in Cleburne was test marketing it," Hernandez says. "It looks like beef, but I don't know if it will ever take off. It is similar to beef, but a little leaner."

Hernandez grew up in Wilson. After stints with Safeway, and later Furrs stores, in Midland and Lubbock, he made a decision to get back to a small community setting. The attention his ostrich meat is getting him has been good for Hernandez as he attempts to establish his business.

"This is helping us get our name around," said Hernandez, a lifelong butcher.



**BIG DRUMSTICKS** — Randy Reaves with ostrich carcass at Floydada's Caprock Meat Company.

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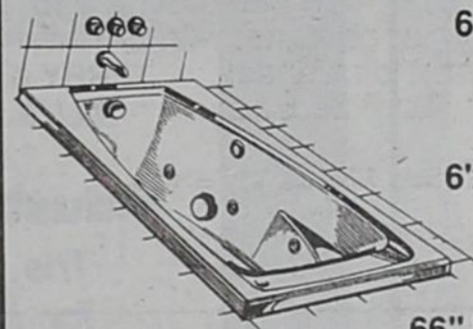


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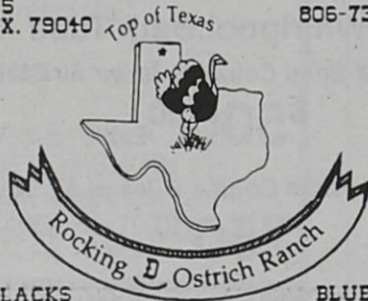
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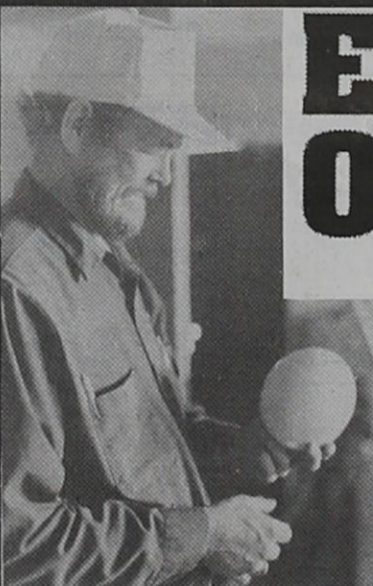


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**Continued from Page 2**

from a 10-acre farm to a 700-acre spread complete with slaughterhouse. "It is a very forgiving business. You can pay too much and you can still come out if you just hang in there and work. I am living proof.... We are making money."

The hot "breeders" market, where farmers and speculators buy and sell ostriches to one another until there are enough to supply butchers, has whipped up prices for a pair of proven producing birds as high as \$100,000. A 6-month-old chick can bring \$10,000.

The ostrich's red meat is touted as the healthy alternative because it tests lower in fat than chicken breast or turkey and tastes remarkably like the best cuts of beef. Predictions vary — maybe five years, maybe 10 — on when Americans will find gourmet shops stocking ostrich hamburger and steak at \$10 to \$12 a pound as the Swiss and Belgians do now.

By the time that happens, ostrich farmers say, they expect the price for an adult bird to have dropped gradually to \$350-\$1,000. Many figure that would still allow them to turn a profit.

That is based on the presumption that South Africa, the world's top producer, would still be prohibited under U.S. import restrictions from flooding the market with ostrich meat.

Even with South Africa out of the picture, some predict a dark future for the industry. Bronx Zoo ostrich expert Don Bruning, in an April 1993 interview with Barron's weekly, derided the industry as a "pyramid game," saying that only those who had slipped in early can expect to cash out.

Others, including Texas A&M University agricultural economist Jim Mjelde, say critics such as Bruning overstate the case. Mjelde likens ostrich investments to junk bonds—high profit, but high risk.

Some critics, recalling the misplaced interest in chinchillas and potbellied pigs — whose price crashed to \$150 from \$3,500— expect the bubble to soon burst.

"It won't burst," insists Fort Worth entrepreneur Tom Mantzel, 47, a founder of the American Ostrich Association. "It's going to feather out."

"Even if it drops overnight, you'll still have your producing birds that have an intrinsic value—not like potbellied pigs that never had a market other than as a pet," he said. "Chinchillas were never, ever an industry. Ostriches have been one for 50 years and in our lifetime we're not going to supply the demand for [ostrich] meat."

For the time being, the bubble is intact. The Texas Department of Agriculture has given its stamp of approval by guaranteeing \$1.3 million in loans to farmers who raise the flightless, 350-pound birds and their smaller Australian cousin, the emu. A Louisiana breeder, Pacesetter Ostrich Farm, has floated \$4 million worth of stock on the



**STUD** — J.R. is stud ostrich on Diamond D Ranch, owned by Greg and Cyndi Donald of Tucumcari, N.M.

NASDAQ exchange. The Fort Worth-based ostrich association has grown from nothing in 1987 to nearly 3,000 members today.

But will they be there when prices moderate?

"I don't think 60 to 80 percent of these people will be in the ostrich market in 10 years if we really do make it to the slaughter market because they won't see big returns," said Dr. David R. Huff, one of two full-time veterinarians at Belton's 900-bird Chisholm Trail Ostrich Farm, among the largest in Texas.

"But I see real marketability and viability in the [ostrich] slaughter market, and that's why I am in it for life," said Huff, 30, who moved to Central Texas from a smaller ostrich operation in North Carolina.

Much of the current ostrich market's strategy is based on the calculation that enough people will enter the industry to grow enough birds to annually supply the 150,000 birds that the Fort Worth-based ostrich association estimates the eventual slaughter market will require and Americans would eat.

Even if the industry has the staying power, the global marketplace might intervene beforehand.

South Africa currently controls the world ostrich product trade, keeping prices high since 1959 through the Klein Karoo Agricultural Co-Operative, which has been to ostrich skin, feathers and meat what the DeBeers marketing cartel is to diamonds.

Under pressure from farmers wanting more sales outlets, the South African government stripped Klein Karoo of its legal monopoly in October. Now there's pressure to lift a

**See OSTRICHES, Page 6**

**Mishaps, Continued from Page 2**

chance of surviving than chicks — for which a 50 percent survival rate is considered good on some farms. But adults are accident-prone, said David Ray, 46, a Fort Worth ostrich farmer.

"Nine out of 10 adult deaths are due to accidents or impaction," he said. Impaction is the blocking of the intestinal tract with stones, metal bolts, nails or anything the bird can swallow. "When you transport them, they stress out, and start eating everything they're on."

Accidents can be expensive. In mid-January, Belton's Chisholm Trail Ostrich Farm lost Wilma's mate Fred, a seven-year breeder worth \$18,000, when it charged a fence, dislocating its cervical vertebrae and severing its spinal cord, dying instantly.

"They get nervous and run into the fence," said Dr. Jim D. Clark, 34, one of the farm's two veterinarians who plan to barbecue Fred's remains. "But I don't believe they're that fragile — not more than any other animal."

If Fred delivers the average amount of meat, it will come at a cost of \$240 per pound.

Closer to home, a breeder in Acton near Granbury is suing the Anheuser-Busch Co. for \$148,500 in a Fort Worth federal court, as setting that the Bud One blimp on May 13, 1992, scared two pairs of breeders into year-long infertility. No court date has been set.

The St. Louis-based brewery and the Florida blimp company are disputing David Winingham's contention that the low-flying blimp turned Bowlegs, Baby Doll, Flat Foot and Floozy off sex—a costly proposition to breeders.

"It was so low I could have hit it with a rock," said Winingham, who figured he had lost at least 39 eggs. "I don't want a million dollars or anything like that. I just want to be treated fair."

After a year of celibacy, the two pairs regained an ardent love interest in each other and were sold to a North Carolina farmer, who is proud of the birds' notoriety, Winingham said. He quoted the buyer as saying: "Hey, I'll be famous. I got the birds the blimp busted."

In far south Fort Worth, Sandra McGlothlin also is suing, maintaining that the same blimp made "my birds go crazy. They were bouncing off the fences. They stopped laying. And the next season, George would not breed." George had to be replaced by another adult male ostrich, costing \$15,000.

"I knew they were sensitive to some noises, but the blimp was just too low, just over the treeline," McGlothlin said. "We've had helicopters and planes go over, but not so close down."

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**Continued from Page 5**

long-standing export ban on eggs and live birds.

Saag Jonker, 52, considered South Africa's biggest ostrich farmer, whose Homestead operation slaughtered 25,000 birds last year — equal to almost half the entire U.S. ostrich population — said the ban could be lifted within a year. If so, it could wipe out U.S. breeders banking on selling eggs to start-up farmers, he said.

"I don't want to scare people off with what I'm saying, but it depends on if South Africa opens or not," Jonker said. "The genie's out of the bottle," he said of the push to lift the restriction. "We see [neighboring Zimbabwe and Namibia] selling birds and eggs. Everybody's cashing in and we're watching from the sideline."

Even taking into account the costs of shipping, incubation and quarantine, the price difference is clear: A South African egg goes for \$20, compared with \$1,000 for domestic eggs and \$250 for those imported from Namibia.

"The American farmer who bought breeders at \$50,000 a pair with the idea of selling eggs at \$1,000 wouldn't be able to compete," Jonker said in a call from Oudtschoorn, the center of South Africa's ostrich industry. "I am giving true farmer's advice."

On the other hand, collapse of the highflying breeders' market wouldn't necessarily spell the end of the fledgling U.S. industry, Jonker said. Large-scale operations, buying chicks and eggs at realistic world prices, would be able to compete with South Africa and Israel, he said.

In Fort Worth, Mantzel dismissed Jonker's prediction of an early demise to the U.S. breeders' market.

Mantzel, who breeds ostriches in Tanzania and has business interests in South Africa, said that the free export of South African and chicks faces not only political hurdles at home but also strict U.S. Department of Agriculture restrictions.

Even if that protective barrier should drop, U.S. producers will be internationally competitive by the time the slaughter market here opens, Mantzel predicted. "The numbers can still work because of our economies of scale and high-tech approach."

The high value now placed on the ostrich by the breeders' market hasn't been lost on the criminal element.

Ostrich rustling in the early 1990s was stemmed only after the intervention of the FBI and the Texas Rangers, the purchase of costly electronic security devices and the implanting of microchip IDs into the birds' necks. C.B. Wiley, a Canton-based private detective specializing in exotic game theft, estimated that \$500,000 worth of ostriches were stolen in Texas during two months in 1992.

"When the birds started going for five figures, it was going to bring in the opportunists," said William Jones, 47, a Conroe-based FBI agent who worked a number of ostrich



**CURIOS** — Ostriches mug the camera

cases.

The ostrich rustler has been replaced by the scam artist, particularly telemarketers who offer chicks at several thousand dollars a pair but never deliver, Jones said.

"The problem with these operations is that there are so many of them, it's hard for prosecutors to go in and go prosecute everyone. You just don't have the manpower, and crooks are aware of that," he said. "I am aware of 20-25 complaints."

In Colorado, one case was successfully prosecuted. Gary and Debra Peterson of Colorado Springs were convicted in August 1992 of bilking \$222,000 from investors by repeatedly selling the same six ostriches.

Gary Peterson got 12 years' probation for felony theft, eight years in a work-release program and, together with his wife, who got a six-year probation, was ordered to pay back clients. Instead, the couple fled to Oklahoma City, where they were arrested in early January. Earlier this month, Gary Peterson was sentenced to eight- and 12-year prison terms to run concurrently. Debra Peterson was to be sentenced March 11.

Then there are the smugglers. Government restrictions, including a 30-day quarantine in a monitored facility that could cost as much as \$1 million to build, make smuggling ostrich eggs from Africa a profitable, if illegal, activity.

Los Angeles-based Customs Service agents notified the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1991 when they discovered 200 ostrich eggs, each packaged in a Cadbury chocolate box in a crate declared to contain "roof thatching" materials from Botswana, which borders South Africa. A shipment of 250 eggs, declared as South African wine, was seized separately.

Wildlife agents allowed a controlled delivery of the "thatching" to a San Diego ostrich ranch, where they arrested an illegal South African immigrant named Philip A.R. Sargent, said Herb Curry, a Fish and Wildlife special agent.

Sargent agreed to leave the country, but turned up at an ostrich association convention in Las Vegas, where he was re-arrested on smuggling and transportation of illegal wildlife charges. Pleading guilty, the South African was fined \$50,000 and accepted the judge's recommendation that he leave the country, said Curry, who speculated that smuggling was continuing.

Industry figures such as Pat Keel, a Chisholm Trail vice president and ostrich association director, had expected that the fringe element would have faded from the scene by now.

"They haven't," Keel said. "Those are the few. Ninety-nine percent of those involved are good, hardworking people."

Blaming its old bylaws, association officials said they couldn't police the industry, she said. But in late February at its annual convention in San Diego, the group adopted in principal a new code of conduct, which sets clear against deceptive business practices. An April review by attorneys will determine whether the group could expel violators, said Chuck Ball, its executive director.

Keel cautioned would-be ostrich farmers to move cautiously in any deal.

"If you're contemplating going into a McDonald's franchise or a used-car lot, do your homework, investigate who you are doing business with."

## How the ostrich market plummeted

South Africa, currently the dominating producer, saw its ostrich industry suddenly collapse 80 years ago—along with scores of "feather barons" who had struck it rich on a prolonged 19th-century fashion fad.

At the height of the plume boom, Americans tried to cash in.

In 1902, a California breeder chartered a ship from Africa to Galveston to transport 50 birds. By the time the crash struck in 1914, some 8,000 ostriches were living in Arizona's Maricopa County.

The ostrich market failed for three reasons:

- The invention of the automobile, which made the wearing of feather-adorned headgear impractical.
- Concerted campaigns by animal rights activists, who said the removal of quills from ostriches was a painful process.
- The massive mobilizations and heavy losses of World War I made feathers appear frivolous, delivering a coup de grace to the fashion. It took the South African industry more than 30 years to recover.

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# TSCRA to be premier cattle event of 1994

FORT WORTH — All things considered, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's 117th annual convention, trade show and silent auction are shaping up to be the state's premier cattle event in 1994, says John W. Jones, TSCRA president from Brady.

More than 2,500 cattle producers and agribusiness people are expected to converge on Fort Worth, historically recognized as Cowtown, for the March 27-30 business and social extravaganza.

All activities will be held in the Tarrant County Convention Center and the Worthington Hotel in downtown Fort Worth.

TSCRA is a livestock trade association based in Fort Worth with approximately 15,000 cattle pro-

ducers as members in Texas, Oklahoma and surrounding states.

"Fort Worth has been TSCRA's home for more than a century," Jones said, "and we take great pride in sharing with our members and guests the western heritage and hospitality of our city."

The speaker lineup on Monday, March 28, now includes George W. Bush Jr., Texas gubernatorial candidate; Becky Terry, immediate past president of the American National Cattle Women Inc. from Alpine; Carlos Hank Gon-

zalez, Mexico's Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (invited) from Mexico City; Dan Koons, president of the national Catlemen's Association from Shirley, Ill.; and Tobin Armstrong, TSCRA director and member of the Beef Industry Long Range Task Force from Armstrong.

Scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, are Jones, Kay Bailey Hutchison, U.S. senator from Dallas; Gerald M. Finkel, the Columbia, S.C., attorney who won the Lucas vs. South Carolina "property takings" case

before the U.S. Supreme Court; Travis Leonard Passmore, retired Austin attorney; Jim Simons, chief executive of the National Finance Credit Corp. in Fort Worth; Rick Perry, Texas Agriculture Commissioner in Austin; and Sir Phillip Richardson, international futurist and economist.

On Wednesday, March 30, Pete Laney, Texas

Speaker of the House from Hale Center, will kick things off at the TSCRA PAC breakfast. Speaking at the final general session will be Jones; Anita Brown, president of the Texas Cattle Women Inc. from Wheeler; Don C. King, secretary-general manager from Fort Worth; Tom Beard, Resolutions Committee chairman from

Alpine; and James L. Powell, Nominating Committee chairman from Fort McKavett.

Election of new officers and a new board of directors will conclude the convention by Wednesday noon.

Also meeting in conjunction with TSCRA will be the Texas Cattle Women and the Texas Purebred Cattle Alliance, Jones said.

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# USDA tightens import controls

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an effort to prevent smuggling of a group of birds that includes ostriches and emus, the Agriculture Department is requiring that record-keeping and identification requirements be met in their country of origin.

Import requirements for ratites are strict because the birds can carry diseases that could devastate the poultry and livestock industries if introduced into the United States.

"These requirements provide us with sufficient information to ensure that imported ratites are not smuggled or otherwise unqualified for importation to the United States because they may have been exposed to communicable diseases," said Donald Luchsinger, acting deputy for veterinary services in USDA's Animal and Plant and Health Inspection Service.

Ratites are flightless birds such as ostriches and emus. An estimated 52,500 ratites and their eggs are expected to be imported into the United States this year. The total value of ratites released from USDA quarantine is estimated at \$34.5 million.

Before an import permit can be issued for ratites from another country, a health inspection service veterinarian must inspect the foreign farm to ensure that the flocks are pen-raised and contain a sufficient number of breeding pairs to produce the number of ratites or eggs intended for export.

The new rule requires that all pen-raised ratites from approved farms have microchip implants that identify them by number before shipment to the United States.

This microchip identification information will be

used by veterinary officials of the exporting country and health inspection service veterinarians to cross-reference the identities of the birds by flock in an effort to prevent smuggling.

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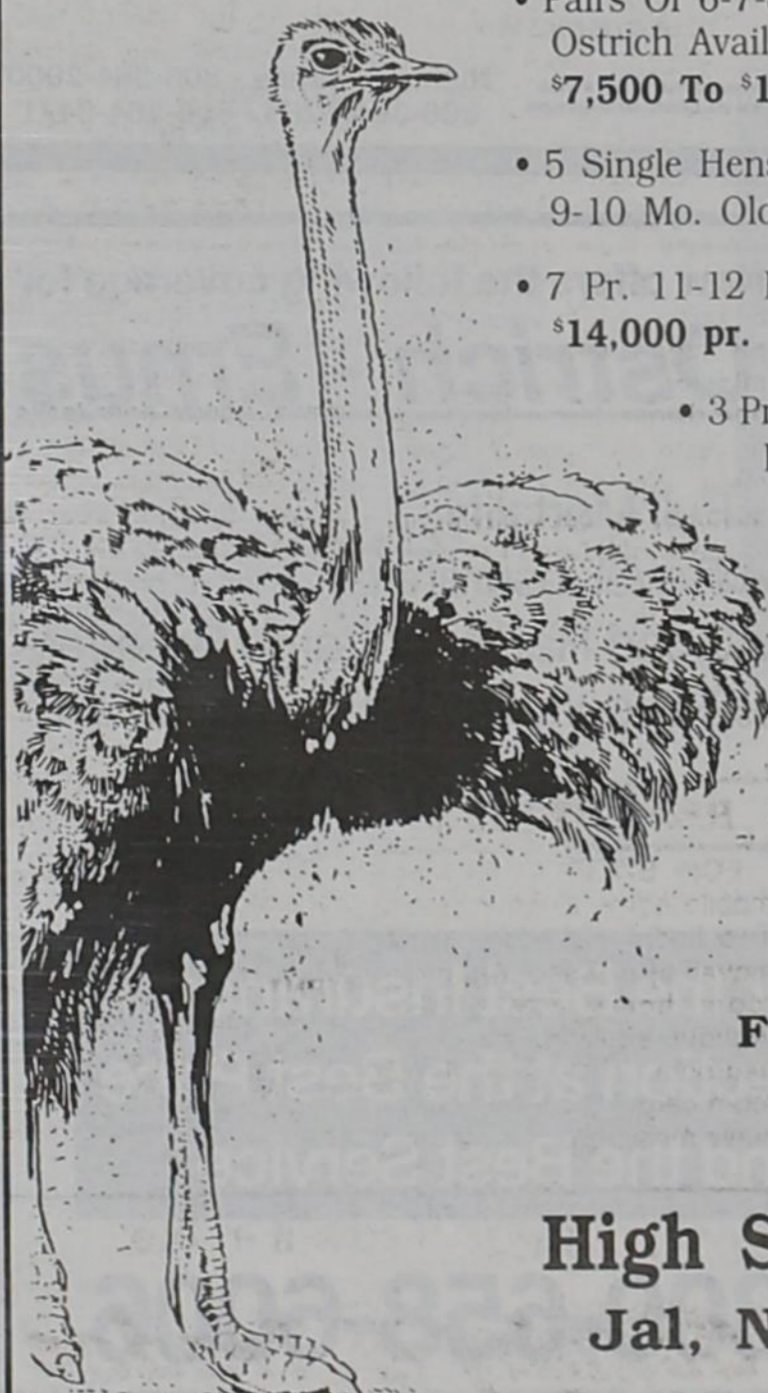
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# Porters' business started as 'nest egg'

By LINDA MAXWELL

Are you looking for a 'nest egg' investment?

How about investing IN a nest egg — or what comes out of them?

Mickey and Doak Porter say there is a lot of money to be made in the ostrich business, and they should know — they've been in it for going on four years, the last year in a really big way.

The father and son team, along with their wives, set up Porter's Ostrich Ranch a few miles south of Hereford alongside of US 385 last January and have been expanding ever since.

Mickey said he started investing in the birds as a supplement to his retirement, but now the business has almost "gotten out of hand."

The operation includes custom hatching, boarding, hauling, and brokerage.

Doak said he was in the grocery business for several years before he quit and went into the insurance business. He mainly wrote insurance policies for ostriches, and that was when he found out about the financial incentives of the industry.

He and his father bought their first ostriches almost four years ago, purchasing two birds that were only six months old, then sold them four months later at a substantial profit. They were hooked.

In the beginning, the two boarded their birds with other ostrich ranchers. Now their operation houses 30 birds, some of their own and some boarded for others, and there is room for more. Also, they are building additional pens and want to build a brooder barn soon.

Mickey said his son handles the hauling and brokerage aspects of the business now. He uses a computer to keep up with available birds for breeding and to match birds with interested buyers.

The Porters said the main area of loss in the business comes when the animals die.

The number one killer is related to management of the grounds on which the ostriches are kept, according to Doak. He said the birds will eat anything — sticks, glass, wire, nails.

"We can't leave anything laying around," Mickey said. The men said they also have to be careful not to leave any gaps in the fencing or between the fence and structures where a bird could get its head stuck and "pull its head off."

"They're not real smart," Doak said. "We have to treat them a lot like kids."

Doak said the birds also can be very destructive, having a powerful kick that can deliver a force of 400 pounds per square inch. He said they also use a hardened "plate" in the center of their chests to hammer on objects or each other.

"They can kill you," Doak said. "Their big toe can penetrate a car door. They are unbelievably strong."

For all their strength, ostriches live on very low rations compared with cattle or other livestock.

Mickey said he gives them three pounds of feed per day for each breeding pair. When two birds are selected as breeding mates they are kept penned separately from other birds to prevent fighting among the males.

The Porters have a male named "Red" who is extremely aggressive.

"He will come after us," Doak said.

Handling the animals is made easier by the use of ostrich hooks, similar to a shepherd's crook. Doak said the hook is used to catch a bird by the neck, but care has to be used to prevent neck injuries.

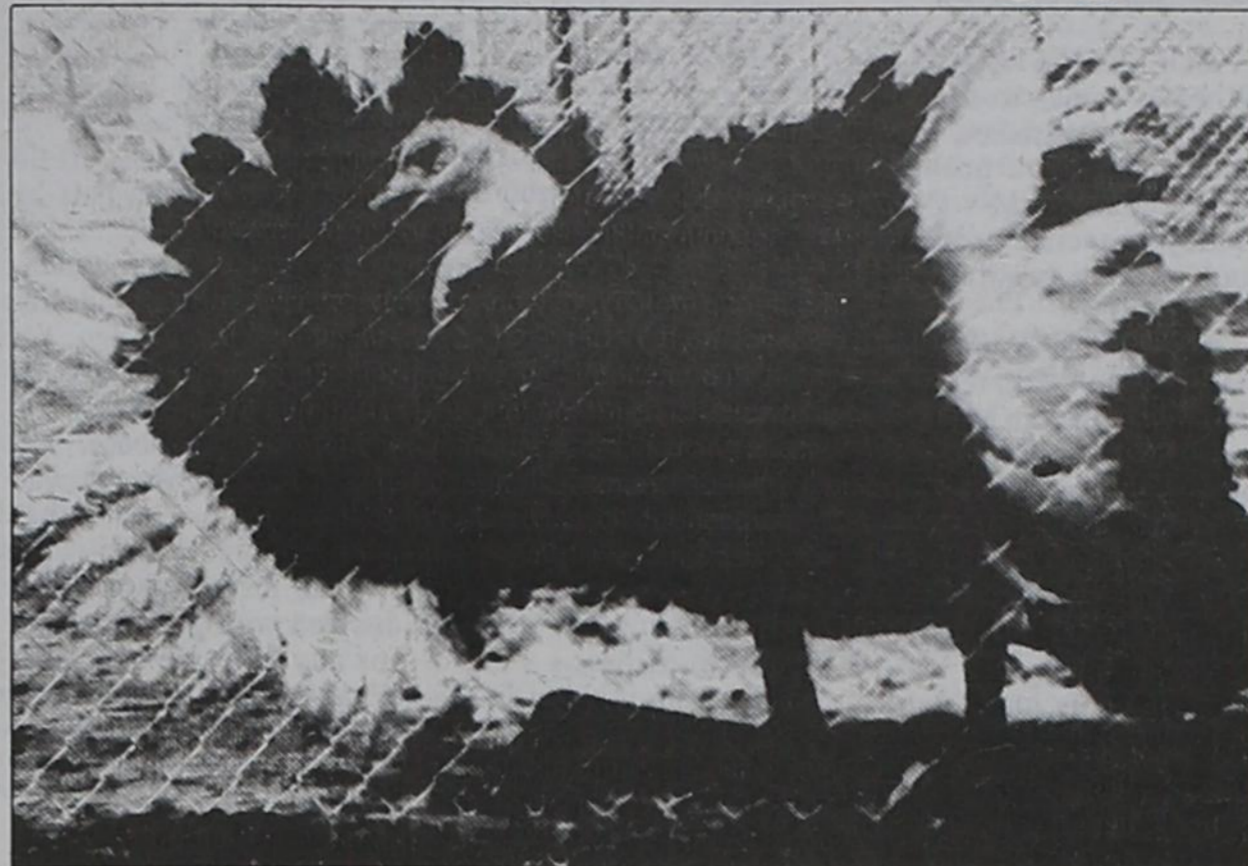
Doak said the handler will place a hood over his hand, then catch the bird's beak and slip the hood over the bird's head. The hood covers the bird's eyes so that it cannot see the handlers approaching, and it usually has a calming effect. They then push the ostrich in the direction they want it to go. Even then, the birds will sometimes sit down.

The Porters currently have five breeder pairs, and have an incubator. An incubator barn is almost ready for occupancy that will eventually quadruple their capacity for eggs.

The laying season for ostriches is usually from about April to late summer and the females start laying when they are about three years old. However, the Porters have a two-year-old female who delivered her first egg March 7.

Doak said the viability average for eggs is 50%—half of all eggs laid will eventually hatch, although some breeding pairs will have a much higher percentage. The gestation period is 42 days.

When the birds hatch they are about the size of a full-grown quail or larger. They reach their full-grown bone structure and height by the age of 12 to 14 months.



**FEATHER DANCING**—This male ostrich spreads his feathers and dances in an effort to impress his mate and scare off interlopers at the same time.

Photo By Linda Maxwell

Breeding is still the name of the game for the ostrich industry in the US, according to the Porters. Doak said when they first started, people were saying it would be five to seven years before the industry would reach the level of production to go into a slaughter industry. He said people are still saying it will be five to seven years.

Doak said that any birds they get that are unsuitable for breeding would be sold for slaughter. The main products from the slaughtered birds include the hides, feathers, and meat.

The hides are used for leather products such as boots. The feathers are in demand by General Motors for special dusters on the assembly line that cut down on static electricity and remove dust before a new car is painted. The meat is in great demand by Europeans.

Eggs that do not hatch also have alternate uses, mostly as decorative items.

Doak said the investment potential is very attractive in the industry, but there is still some risk.

Of course, they have insurance on all of their older birds, especially the breeding stock. Three-month old birds may sell for \$5,500 to \$6,500. In the six-month age range, birds may cost as much as \$7,500 to \$9,500. At one year, the value may jump to \$10,500 to \$18,000. A two-year-old could cost as much as \$20,000 to \$32,500. Proven breeders are priced anywhere from \$35,000 to \$80,000.

"Three to five breeder pair laying as many as 30 eggs each could bring in as much as \$150,000 a year, not counting expenses," Doak said.

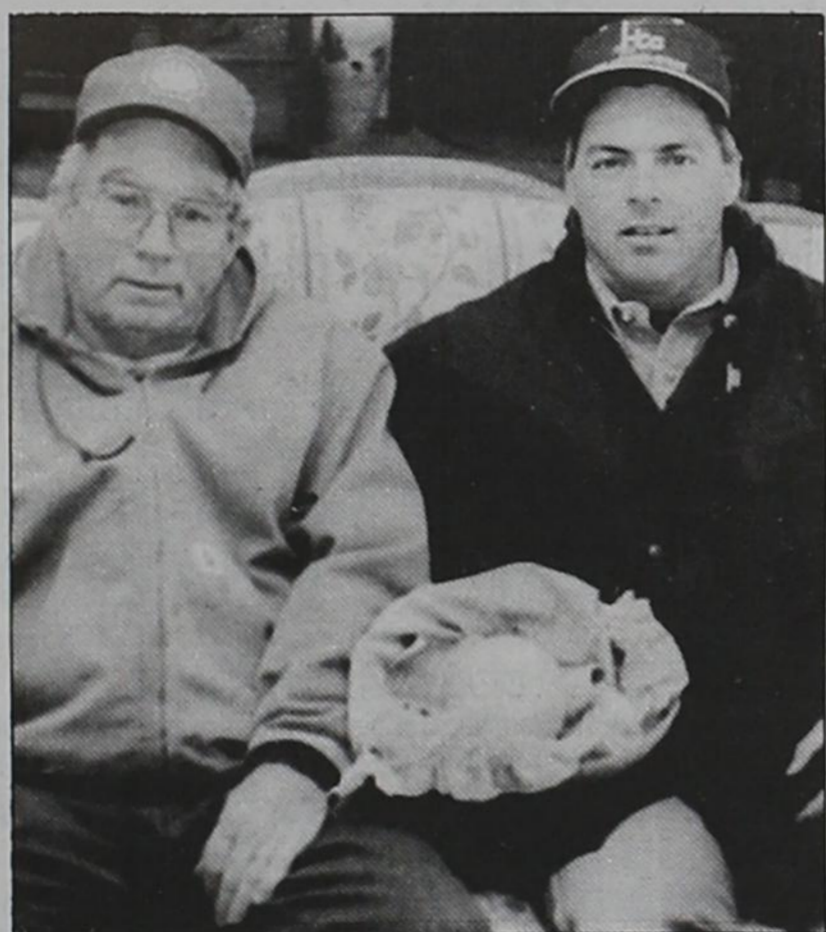
Mickey pointed out that the ostrich industry is not as land intensive as the cattle industry. Their operation is situated on only 31 acres.

"You couldn't run very many cattle on that," he said.



**THIS SIGN** greets visitors along the driveway to the Porter Ranch, although visitors are discouraged from calling during the breeding season—from now through late summer.

Photo By Linda Maxwell



**NEST EGG**—Mickey Porter (left) and his son, Doak, are holding a basket containing an egg that was laid recently by a two-year-old female ostrich on their ostrich ranch south of Hereford in Castro County.

Photo By Linda Maxwell

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# Research to enhance ratite industry suffers from lack of birds

By **STEVE HILL**  
A&M Extension Journalist

**COLLEGE STATION** — When it comes to funding research on ostriches, emus and rheas, not a problem says Texas A&M's Chris Bailey, associate professor and poultry specialist at Texas A&M.

But when it comes to getting birds to use in research, therein lies the rub he says.

One research project being underwritten by the industry is on holds, not able to get started last year because no birds became available to the research team.

But that is understandable to a Texas A&M scientist researching incubation and nutrition of ratites, or flightless birds without breastbones.

The fledgling ratite industry is in a Catch-22 situation — it needs more scientific knowledge but birds are hard to come by.

The birds are worth as much that people don't want to give them to a university," Bailey said in an interview about three years ago. And, since that interview, things have not changed much, he admits.

"They don't even want to give up the eggs, which can

be worth up to \$1,000," he said. "We want to help and will, but we need help, too."

Bailey and Dr. Roy Fanguy, also an associate poultry science professor at Texas A&M, are principal investigators for a team that has several research goals.

Those include finding which nutrients

best enhance ostrich reproduction and growth, determining how shell thickness and porosity effect hatchability and survivability of chicks, and ascertaining whether wire-cage flooring is preferable to packed-earth flooring for raising juvenile ostriches.

The team, formed in the fall, planned to focus primarily on ostriches, but so far has only a pair of emus and a few emu eggs to study.

Ostriches, emus and rheas are all similar in some respects with long necks and large bodies atop long, thin legs — but vary in size and a few other characteristics.

Rheas might grow to 5-1/2 feet and 55 pounds, while emus might be slightly taller and weigh 120 pounds. Ostriches, the largest birds, can attain heights of almost 10 feet and weights of 330 pounds.

The birds provide meat,

feathers and hides, and in the case of the emu, oil that can be used in cosmetics.

The Texas A&M scientists advertised in The Ostrich News asking for donations of birds to do research funded in part by the

Ratite Research Foundation egg. The Foundation, based in Lawton,

recently donated \$15,000 to the university's department of poultry science.

Reaction to the ad was immediate but not what Bailey sought.

"Our load of phone calls doubled with people asking for any help we can give. What we always tell them is that they have any extra eggs to please give them to us," he said

However, the team has no ostriches and only five ostrich eggs to study. That's a long way from the two breeding groups (a total of

two males and four females) they need to get started.

The eggs come from Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine, where a different group has four adult ostriches being studied for their reactions to veterinary medicine."

A female ostrich might produce 60 eggs in an average breeding season, which lasts from late spring to early fall. However, hatchability problems and high mortality rates in the first see to four months of chicks' lives plague the ostrich industry.

The birds often develop leg or foot problems that can cause death because of their heavy body weight in proportion to leg size.

The two emus Bailey and Fanguy have were donated by Franklin rancher Stan Weiner, one of the few willing to give up birds for study.

"You've got to be dedicated. People are just going to have to realize they need to put up animals," Weiner explained.

For now, that allows the team to study the breeding period of emus, from late fall to early spring — exactly opposite that of ostriches. The team hopes to check the effect of light, temperature and humidity on emu breeding and eventually find how to extend the breeding period and make them lay more eggs.

"To make these birds really pay off in the long run, to have year-round product production. We've got to find the trigger," Fanguy said.

The scientists would love to begin finding out why ostrich egg shells in the United States seem much thinner than those in South Africa. Bailey speculated it was because of too much calcium in U.S. feeds

They also hope to assess amino acid requirements in juvenile ostriches and evaluate the impact of vitamin B and other vitamins and nutrients on health of young ostriches.

But that's difficult' without eggs and birds. John Crawford, Ratite

Research Foundation managing director, said getting products to put their

See RESEARCH, Pg 11

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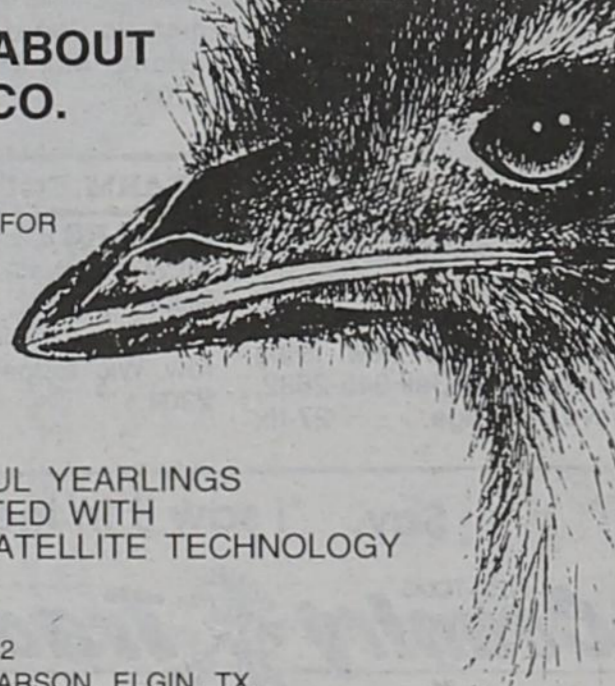


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Registration Opens at 7:00 A.M.  
Reception: Immediately Following the Conclusion of the Seminar  
*(Note: Seminar Attendees get reserved seats for Auction on Saturday and Sunday, May 14 & 15, 1994)*

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<p>GARY DEERER Attorney "Contracts"</p> <p>DR.s LESLIE THOMPSON, LINDA HOOVER, JINGER EBERSBACHER, Ph.D. Texas Tech University "Emu Meat Study Phase I, Emu Meat Study Phase 2, Emu Leather Study"</p> <p>TOMMY ENGELKE Assoc. V.P. of Texas Ag. Co-Op Council "Why Co-ops?"</p> <p>BETTYE ODLE Pres. Of Texas Emu Association. "What To Look For When Buying Emus"</p>	<p>DR.s JIM ROBINSON, JIM OLSON, Ph.D. Texas A&amp;M Dept. of Entomology "Black Flies and Buffalo Gnats"</p> <p>DR. BENNY GALLAWAY, Ph.D. LGL Ecological Genetics, Inc. "Genetics"</p> <p>DOUG ATKINSON Emu Rancher, Trainer for Dallas Mavericks "Use of Emu Oil as Sports Therapy"</p> <p>R.K. WILSON III The Tyler Exotic Dome L.L.C. "How To Buy In An Auction"</p>
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# World War I vet brings 'Flanders Fields' to Texas

GEORGETOWN (AP) — Thanks to a World War I veteran who had a magic touch with seeds, there's a touch of Flanders fields in Texas. Georgetown is the official "Red Poppy Capital of Texas," and it got that way

because Henry Purl "Okra" Compton brought back some red corn poppy seeds from France after the war and sprinkled them in his mother's garden. "In Flanders fields the poppies blow, Between the crosses, row

on row..." So went the famous lines by John McCrae, who captured the symbolism of solace that red poppies offered the soldiers in the trenches. Compton, a hero of the war (pinned down in a trench for 28 days without a gun,

he still managed to capture an enemy soldier), brought the seeds back as mementoes. The poppies blew, and just grew and grew, spreading along roadways, the railroad tracks, along College Street, from 8th Street

to San Gabriel Park. Every year they would spring up in new spots. As far as anyone knew, Georgetown was the only place in the country where these poppies made a permanent home, reseeding themselves year after year.

For Compton, history was repeating itself. As a boy, he had planted his father's cotton fields in okra and started an okra plague that covered the county for years. "I didn't join to fight," he said later of his decision.

## From Page 10

bucks where their beaks are won't be easy.

Ostrich or emu chicks often sell for \$1,500 each, he said. Yearling ostriches might go for \$5,000 and a good, breeding pair of ostriches might cost \$40,000.

In addition, Crawford said, the ratite market is still a breeders market instead of a slaughter market.

That means those in the market still are trying to build up herds of retirees, rather than producing the large numbers of birds needed to support a processing industry.

Potential processors need 100,000 ratites a year for slaughter in order to justify building a facility, Crawford said. But according to a 1990 Survey by The Ostrich News, the total number of birds older than 90 days among commercial producers was 20,740 ostriches, 12,830 emus and 4,960 rheas.

Some sources place today's breeding ostrich population at near 35,000 pair.

It could take from five to seven years before ostrich and emu stocks are built up enough to supply 100,000 birds annually, and rheas will take even longer, Crawford said.

The foundation has received several commitments for birds and eggs, but none have come through yet, he said.

"It's frustrating," he said. "We still don't even know how to ask for these things that well. And even if we got them, we're not sure how to get an egg from Oregon to Texas, for instance."

Meanwhile, Bailey and other researchers make do. In addition to the ratite foundation money, they have a commitment for matching funds from the Texas Department of Agriculture, but probably couldn't afford even a single breeding pair of ostriches.

There is only minimal lit-

erature on ratites, and most is old information. Crawford recalled the first ostrich seminar at Texas A&M — held in 1989 — and said much of the scientific data presented came from studies in Africa's Kalahari Desert in the 1910s. It is an established ratite industry, but South Africa has a been "Very tight-lipped" about sharing information.

Crawford said. Still, he added, American breeders may have surpassed South Africa in the ability to raise ostriches to maturity. About 17 percent of South African ostrich eggs produce birds that reach slaughter age, or about 14 months, he said. "From talking to them, I get the impression that we already are ahead of the South

Africans," he said. Meanwhile, the foundation and The Ostrich News will do what they can to support research. Establishing good research herds may take

three four years, Crawford said in that interview three years ago.

"We're really just starting from scratch" Fanguly added.



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## WT seminars continue

A joint agriculture seminar program which began in the fall will continue this semester. The seminars are sponsored by West Texas A&M University's Division of Agriculture and the USDA-Agricultural Research Service at Bushland, Texas Agriculture Experiment Station and the Texas Agriculture Extension Service.

The next seminar will be at 3 p.m. Friday, March 25 in the auditorium of the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Boulevard West in Amarillo. Dr. Noland Clark, director of the USDA-ARS at Bushland, will speak on "Wind Energy for Pumping Water for Livestock."

The seminars are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served prior to each seminar at 2:45 p.m. Additional seminars are

scheduled for April 22 and May 6. For more information contact the WTAMU Division of Agriculture at (806) 656-2550.

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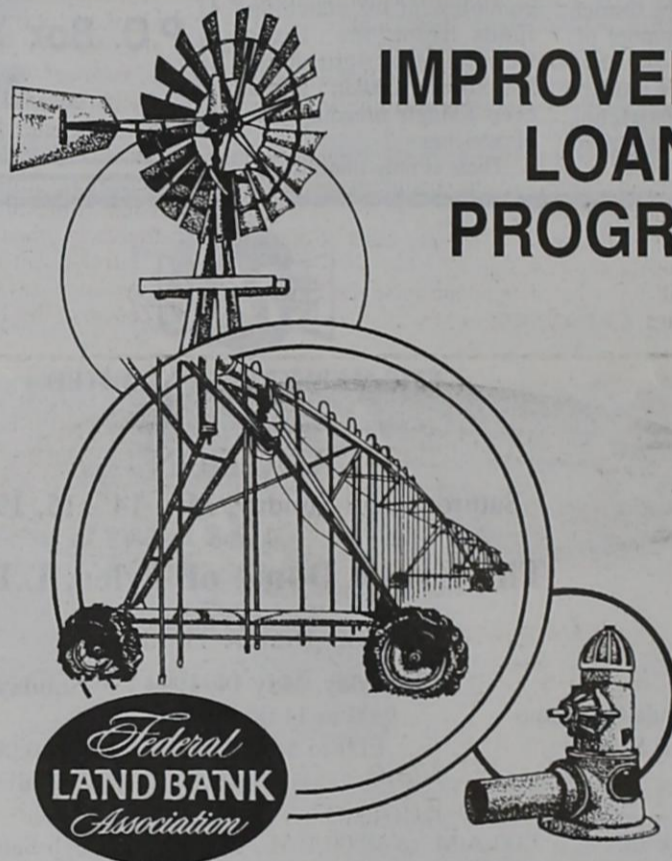
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# Exotic Fever

High Plains becomes home for ostrich, emu, rhea, llama

## AgReview

By GORDON ZEIGLER  
AgReview Writer

KRESS — Ed Rogers pursues the insurance business by trade and enjoys producing club lambs by avocation.

His livestock credentials include breeding lambs and serving as longtime Kress Stock Show superintendent — two things he's enjoyed doing for years.

Now, after spending lots of time in the traditional ag industry, he's taking his animal husbandry interests down a new, more uncharted road — into ostriches.

He'll continue with lambs, he says, but the ostriches are definitely taking up lots of his time for him and his wife, Barbara, these days.

And that's especially true this month. Any day now, with the approach of spring, the females will enter the laying season.

The perennial Kress High School booster that he is, Rogers decided to name his ranch "Black Gold".

Besides being an apt name for his ranch — it took on special meaning in Kangaroo country with KHS colors being black and gold — it was also a logical choice.

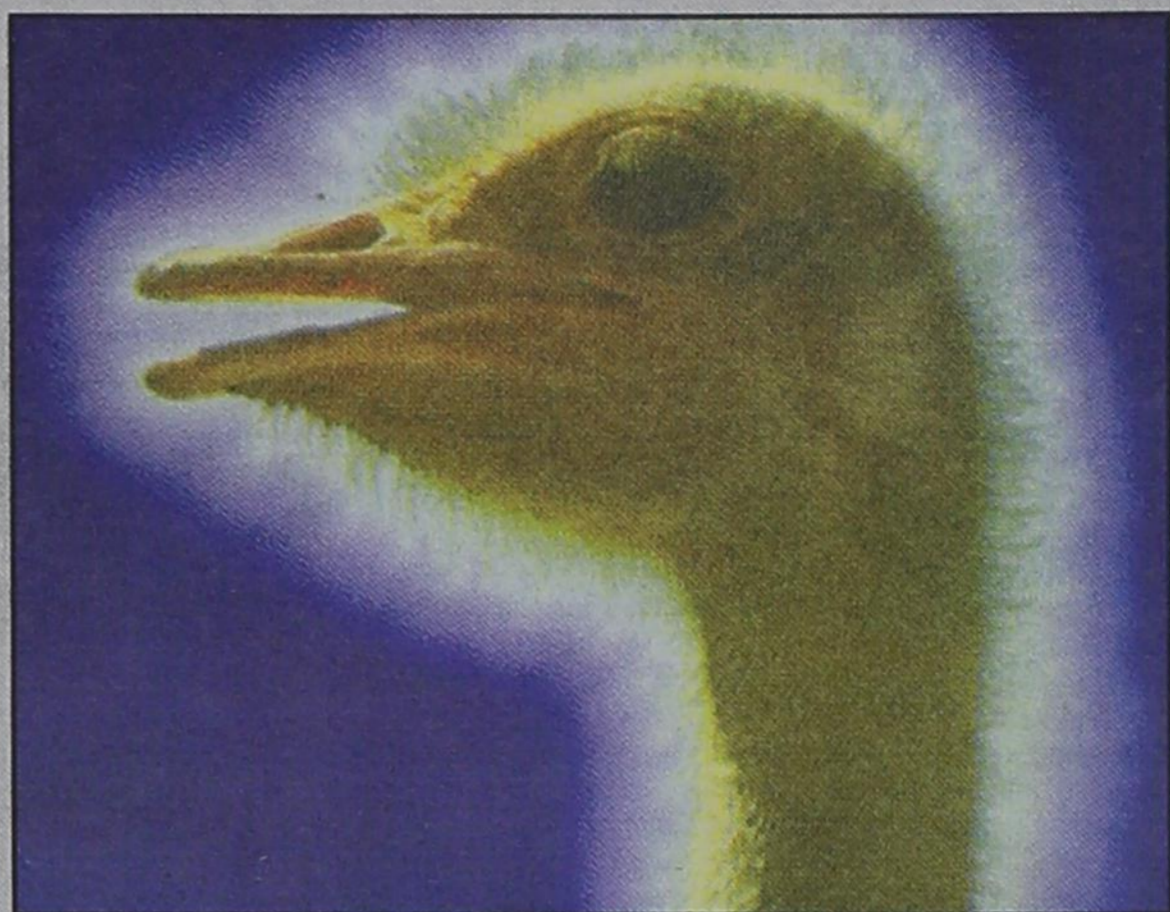
The striking birds fit the farm's name, owing to the natural black coloring of the mature males and the golden brown hues of the females.

"This is going to be our first year for most of our birds to lay," Mrs. Rogers said proudly.

The goal will be to hatch eggs and raise the birds until they are yearlings, then sell them.

**Flightless birds and exotic animals fill new live-stock niche for resourceful families intent on business diversity and making a profit...**

A face many have learned to love...



Courtesy Photo/Bluebonnet Feeds, Ardmore, Okla.

Whether it is the face of an ostrich, emu, rhea or another exotic specie, these animals are capturing the attention, and sometimes even the hearts, of Texans who are raising them for profit. Exotic animals are the hottest new ag endeavor of the 1990s.

"Ed purchased our first ostriches from a friend who had raised them but didn't want to build a hatchery," she explained.

Still enjoying the newness of their business, Ed and Barbara apparently are typical of many recent entries into the business of ostriches.

The Rogers have much in common with others who have become well versed in this new ag-related field:

Melvin Carroll, lifelong cotton producer in Brownfield, got into ostriches five years ago.

Having good luck with his first birds, Carroll said he added emus to his flock since it gives him year round production. Since their laying cycles follow one another, the ostriches lay, then the emus begin their cycle.

"I finish out one season, then start the next, we're always busy" says Carroll, who is immediate past president of Zone 6 of the Texas Emu Association.

Aside from these new entries, the Texas Panhandle also lays claim to what may be one of the oldest ostrich operations in Texas — Quail Ostrich Farm in Quail near Shamrock.

Don and Bonnie Hall got into ostriches 17 years ago, well ahead of the current popularity. A wildlife reserve near Lelia Lake gave them two chicks for helping hatch out eggs. Hall, then into traditional poultry, got into the business and it has grown steadily.

Don's community involvement in Quail has led him to donate a pair of ostriches to be raffled off to raise funds for the local volunteer fire department this spring.

Llamas drew the interest of Plainview attorney Ed Self several years ago. An avid backpacker and wilderness

See EXOTICS, Page 14

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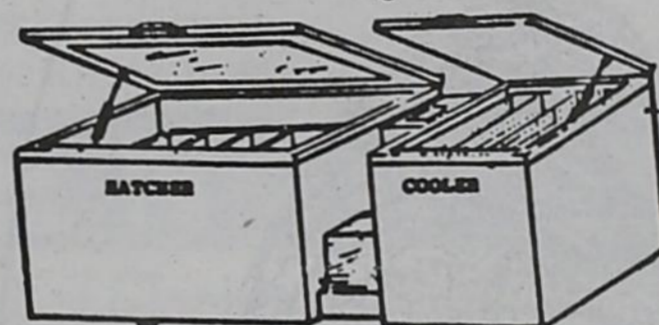
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Carrie J. Tisdale 806-793-7102 phone & fax

**EXOTICS, from Page 13**

camper, Self became interested in owning llamas for use as pack animals. Now he has become a dedicated breeder of that exotic animal, maintaining a breeding herd and following the llama show circuit.

Larry Golden, owner of Golden's Point farm near Aiken in Floyd County, has raised llamas for several years. Grace, a 7-month old progeny of his well-known sire Jazz was Grand Champion at both the Tulsa, Okla., and Albuquerque, N.M. state fairs in 1993.

Just across the New Mexico border in Tucumcari, ex-Air Force pilot and Desert Storm veteran Greg Donald of Diamond D Ranch is in his first year of business — which rests on the producing prowess of his brood male "J.R." and two females.

Donald says he entered ostrich business in his home state of Florida after his father suggested it as a good post-service business venture. He then moved to New Mexico because the dry climate is better for hatching healthy chicks. And, he says he likes his newfound business because, unlike Air Force flying, it keeps him home with his son and wife most of the time.

The young rancher says he intends to build his business on "honesty and hard work" and backed that up recently by replacing a chick free of charge after one of his first customers lost a bird.

He's involved with fellow ostrich and emu raisers in Quay County, N.M., in trying to develop his area as a hub of the industry. The recently hosted the city's industrial and civic boosters for a special fajita barbecue featuring ostrich — a public event promoting ostrich meat.

Richard Lee, owner of Walk About Creed Ostriches in Taloga, Okla., was a ranch employee just about four years ago, when he purchased his first birds. During an interview at the recent Southwest Ostrich Breeders Association meeting in Amarillo, Lee claims his business has met with enough success that he plans to expand from a two-acre tract to 300 acres in the near future.

Lee points with pride to the fact his high school-age daughter won the Star Greenhand Award in FFA, and that her projects were based on her experience caring for some of the family's ostriches.

Another Southwest Oklahoma Rancher, R.L. "Bob" Gore of Camargo says ostriches have been extremely good for his cattle ranch, on the same land he grew up on.

Ostriches do well on his 4,000-acre ranch, where during some profitable years of bird breeding he has been able to abandoned farming operations and put some native pasture grass in its place — thanks mostly to his success in ostrich breeding, he says. The grass has allowed him to increase the load on his land, he says, and the ostrich side of his business has become a respectable

revenue producer.

So, the Rogers are following in the footsteps of many like themselves.

As their business continues to develop and they enter a fraternity that has drawn fellowTexans, they continue to discover many joys of ostrich raising.

"We've had lots of children, from different classes from different towns, who have stopped out here to see the birds," commented Mrs. Rogers. "Now we can't have them come out, since it is breeding season."

Black Gold Ostrich farm located just east of Kress on Texas 145. After laying begins, no visitors will be allowed. The slightest upset can cause ostriches to stop laying.

Another precaution taken at the farm was planting of windbreak trees in front of the 60 by 200-foot-pens to block road noise.

The birds include Blue Necks and Black Israels, ranging in age from 18 months to 7 years. The older birds had been laying for several years before the Rogers acquired them. The young birds will be laying for the first time.

"We hope to expand to numerous layers in the future," Mrs. Rogers said.

So, in the critical weeks ahead, when it's best that ostriches are focused on the serious business of laying eggs, the Rogers will be busy logging in each new egg on a computer and placing each in an incubator.

"You definitely have to rely on a the computer," she said. "Each egg is documented. We keep track of which hen the egg came from, the hatch time. This begins a record on all birds."

Record keeping, done on computer, begins a process that will follow the chick the rest of its life.

The reason that activity on the farm has reached such a frenzy this year is because the Rogers are preparing to enter their very first hatching season.

They obtained their first pair from friends, a retired

couple that did not want to go to the trouble to install a hatchery to serve their breeding pair. The Rogers have built their flock since then, and their new hatchery was installed in early March.

Ostriches start laying eggs in March and continue through October. An ostrich can lay as many as 30 eggs or more. Birds lay every other day. Depending on their productiveness, hens can lay as many as 70 to 100 eggs, Mrs. Rogers said.

Ostriches require some extra special care at times, the Rogers have learned. This ranges from supplying a diet supplemented with fresh Alfalfa — which they finally located in the Clarendon area — to regular searches of the ostrich pens with magnets to rid their environment of wire and other materials the ostriches could injure themselves with if swallowed.

In recent months the Rogers have worked hard to improve the surroundings for their growing ostrich spread.

An interesting thing they've learned is that the hardy birds will not stay in a shelter in cold weather. They go inside to get food, then come right back out, even in a blizzard.

Their ostriches are being colonized in the natural way — grouping about two males and 3 or 4 females.

The Rogers continue their interest in boosting Kress youngsters, although their own children are grown.

Their son Mark of Kress and Tonda Jolly of Claytonville both showed animals in Kress during their high school years. And, they might even be showing ostriches if they had come along at the present time.

The Rogers farm continues to attract the interest of the local citizenry, and the couple notes there is no age limit on interest when it comes to big bird watching.

"It's funny how much of a novelty the birds are," Mrs. Rogers added. "The kids just love them. And, we also have a lot of adults who have to come out daily and sit on the road and watch."

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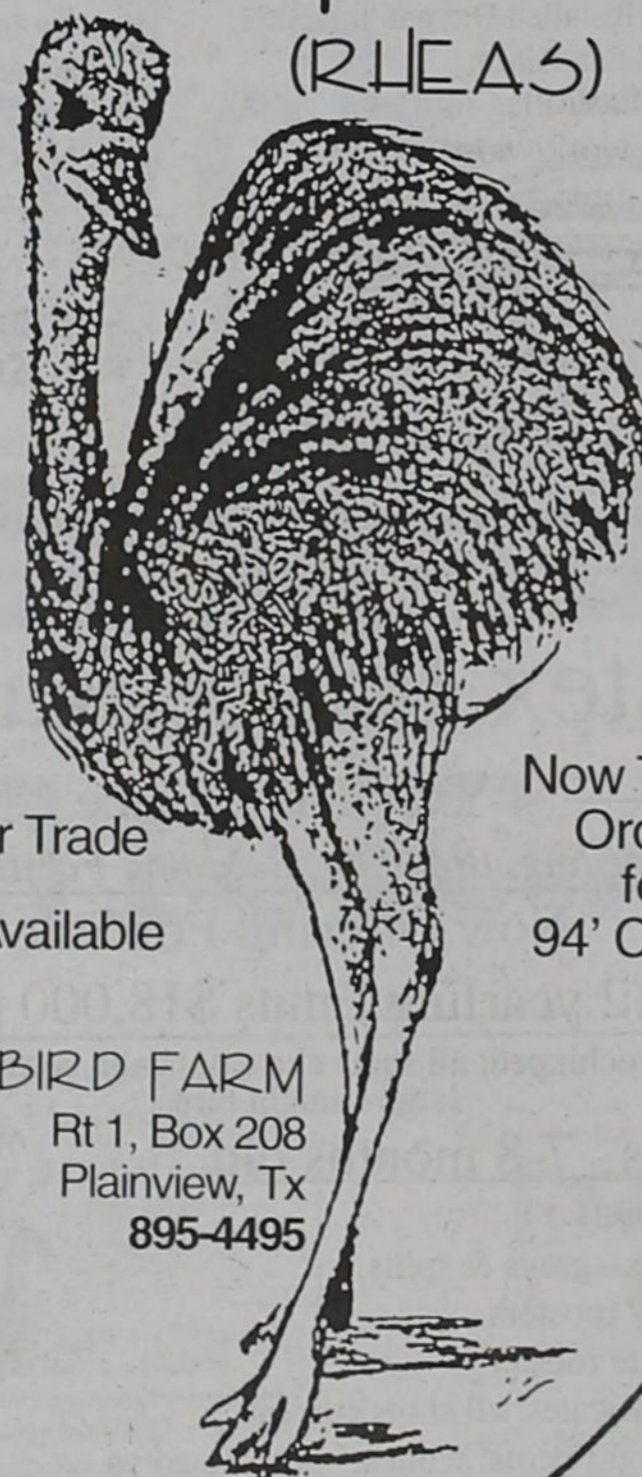
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# Texas ratite paper is world's largest

BOWIE — To go along with Texas' claim to be one of the major ostrich ranching states in the nation, this North Texas town also boasts that it is the home of the largest publication in the world dealing with the Ratite industry.

The Ratite Marketplace, owned by Judy and Lynn Morgan and edited by Joe Haid, is only four years old and is published every two weeks. It hits 13,000 subscribers around the world and its voluminous issues top 300 pages in size.

In its four year history, the publication has seen its size and circulation grow way beyond its publishers' expectations.

Twice a week, the newspaper is circulated to 13,000 subscribers in the U.S., Canada, Europe and elsewhere. It now has separate editions targeted to five different regions of the country.

"We are the largest in the world," explained Mrs. Morgan.

The publication was launched after a local ostrich rancher suggested there was a need for such a publication to serve the industry.

Since Texas is said to have more ostrich ranches than any other state, locating an industry publication such as Ratite Marketplace here made a lot of sense.

Giving Texas even more credibility as a leader was the establishment by The American Ostrich Association of its headquarters in Fort Worth. The National Emu Association has since located its offices in Dallas.

The Morgans, then publishing the Montague County Shopper, decided to take the plunge and entered the industry with an initial 16-page publication. After growing steadily, it now is devoted to thousands of inches of advertising plus informative articles concerning all aspects of the exotic bird and animal industry.



"Randy Reeves, a local ostrich raiser and owner of Breezy Hill ostrich meat company, was the instigator," explained Mrs. Morgan. "He just thought there was a need for a more frequently published periodical pertaining to ostrich raisers."

The publication has widened its appeal somewhat since its inception.

Now, it focuses on ostriches as well as emus and rheas (all members of the same Ratite family), plus it has expanded to exotic animals including llamas. In today's market, ostrich raisers are diversifying into other animals.

Many advertisements help link buyers and sellers of the birds.

"Many of our ranchers are raising both Ratites and exotics," explained the publisher.

The latest rage in exotic animals is raising hedgehogs, and the Ratite Marketplace recently published a separate issue devoted strictly to the hedgehog market, and it totaled more than 60 pages.

"Right now, the big thing is exotic pets," Ms. Morgan explained. "The hedgehog is getting hot . . . and others like the sugar glider, bush babies and wallabies. There is also big interest in miniature donkeys, zebras, pot-bellied pigs and llamas."

Advertisements in the Marketplace range from specialty services like ostrich hauling to sale of equipment like incubators, hatchers, legbands, identification microchips.

"The list goes on and on," explains Mrs. Morgan. "Mainly, the ostrich market is a breeders market right now. The advertisers are appealing to that."

To stay tuned into the industry, the Morgans take their publication on the road to trade shows. They attended the annual American Ostrich Association Convention in late February in San Diego, an event that drew more than 2,000 convention-goers and more than 200 exhibitors.

This year's focus was a continued emphasis on all facets of production of chicks for the breeding market.

"Their ultimate goal is the slaughter mar-

ket, but until enough birds are available, that is not going to happen for several years down the line," Mrs. Morgan explained.

The Ratite Marketplace will also attend the convention of the American Emu Association in Nashville in early August.

Emus, a cousin of the ostrich, are becoming more popular. There is currently a growing demand from the cosmetic industry for U.S. birds to provide a sought-after oil produced by a oil gland. American growers would ultimately compete with Australia,

which has a well developed ostrich and emu industry.

A second major specialty publication of the Bowie firm is the Antique Trader.

Subscriptions to Ratite Marketplace are available for \$30 per year for 26 issues in the continental United States. The publication's phone number is 1-800-972-7730. They accept both Visa and Mastercard. Mailing address is PO Box 1613, Bowie, TX, 76230.

## Insurance now available for small-acre farms, including exotic bird operations

AUSTIN — Texans with emu and ostrich operations and other small acreage farms and ranches will find it easier to insure them in the future.

Insurance Commissioner J. Robert Hunter recently removed a 10-acre restriction on operations that can qualify for a farm and ranch owner's policy.

A farm and ranch owners policy — unlike a normal homeowners policy — allows a rural resident to insure more than a home and its contents. The resident can add barns, equipment, feed and livestock to the policy to protect them against loss from certain perils, such as fire, lightning and vandalism.

In the past, ranchers and farmers were unable to qualify for such policies if they owned less than 10 acres of land. They had to buy multiple policies - in some cases, one for their homes, another for

farm buildings and equipment and a third for feed and livestock — or endure gaps in coverage. Now, one farm and ranch owners policy will insure everything.

"The acreage requirement clearly prevented some farmers and ranchers from buying the insurance they needed," Hunter said. It was unnecessary, and we dropped it. That's one way you make government work for the people of Texas."

The new rule eliminates any reference to a 10-acre minimum. That minimum has been especially troublesome for emu and ostrich ranchers with tiny operations but valuable facilities, equipment and livestock to insure.

Continental Insurance, which sells farm and ranch policies in 32 states, initiated the hearing by asking that the requirement at least be reduced to three acres. Dudley Lloyd, with Continental's Dallas regional office, said that more of the Texas emu and ostrich farmers and ranchers seeking coverage from his company did not qualify because of the 10-acre minimum.

Lyndon Anderson, TDI associate commissioner for property and casualty, said, "There are, in fact, farming and ranching operations that are successful on less than 10 acres, and we really see no reason to have an acreage requirement at all."

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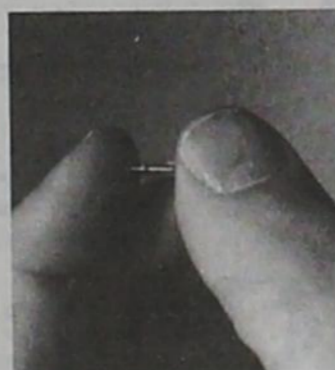
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## Publication helps bird industry sell wares

BOWIE — One of the newer entries into the field of exotic bird publications is The Ratite Trader, which inaugurated its bi-weekly product in 1993.

"We have articles on ostriches, emus and rheas, plus a household cookign column that helps the housewife learn how to prepare the meat," explained June Brown.

Toni Gardner, editor and publisher of the publication, introduced the newspaper to provide a mixture of informative articles and attractive classified and display advertising in which goods and services are made available to the ostrich industry.

Regular articles are authored by veterinarians specializing in ratite

treatment and other experts in their field.

"There is lots of good information," explained Ms. Brown.

Ms. Brown, who handles classified advertising for the publication, said Bowie was a natural location for such a newspaper since there is such a heavy concentration of ostrich ranches in the vicinity of Montague County, in a predominately farming and ranching region 60 miles northwest of Fort Worth and halfway between Fort Worth and Wichita Falls.

"This is a good area for ratites," she said. "There are a lot of people raising them here in this area. We are mainly farming and ranching and ostriches fit in excellently with that."

Advertising offerings in publication like the Ratite Trader run the gamut of ratite supplies and services.

"We are still in a breeders' market for breeding birds, and you find

mostly that type of interest," she said. "Then you have those products and services that go along with it — specialized fencing wire, incubators, specialty rations."

Fence material is a big item in ongoing advertising.

"You cannot contain ostriches like you can a cow or a horse," she explained. "And, humidity is very important."

Another specialty advertisement popular in Ratite Trader is the listing of real estate — much of it offering for sale ostrich ranches and retirement property in numerous states.

Subscriptions to the Ratite Trader, which ranges in size from 88 to 112 pages and publishes about 5,000 copies per issue, can be obtained at \$20 per year for third class mailings or \$48 for first class by calling 1-800-500-2473 or by writing PO Box 1247, Bowie, TX, 76230.



## A&M completes one of first U.S. studies of ostrich meat

COLLEGE STATION — Texas A&M is about to publish one of its first studies ever comparing ostrich with beef and other common meats.

"This was the first study, so far as we know, in the U.S. related to the slaughter and processing of ostrich," explained Dr. Jim Keeton, Professor of Meat Science at A&M.

Initial indications of the study bode well for the exotic meat product, which was accepted in consumer research as a near match for beef.

The first reporting was last year at the 1993 feb convention. We did another update at San Diego in which we reported on consumer acceptability data and new product development data.

"In terms of steaks and things like that, not much difference in that and a top loin steak from beef, in both appearance and acceptability," Keeton said. "There is quite a bit of similarity."

The study was funded by the American Ostrich Association, and its preliminary findings were reported at the group's 1993 annual meeting in Las Vegas.

We did a study for AOA, taking carcass data, nutrition on a profile on the muscles in order to determine nutritive data, product development of ostrich sausage and ham and information related to these three areas.

A follow up was given at the AOA convention in February in San Diego, Keeton said.

"The AOA arranged for donation of birds, we used about 20 in all," Keeton said. The birds were shipped to A&M from ostrich farms as far away as Indiana and California as well as Texas, he said.

Kelly Flynn of the AOA helped coordinate the study and reporting of data. Results will now be published in several professional and academic journals by A&M researchers.

Ostrich meat is at its optimum when cooked to medium done, Keeton said.

Some of the nation's larger ostrich raisers, who may figure in the future commercial meat market, were especially interested in results, A&M found.

"I personally think markets in the U.S. will be such niche markets as specialty shops, such as delicatessans where specialty meats are sold," Keeton said.

Keeton said there are currents in the industry leading toward future development of ostrich slaughtering. Some people are actually gearing up to slaughter the birds in government inspected plants," he said.

Texas restaurants including the Huntington and Galleria in the Dallas area have led the wave of establishments pushing the ostrich meat on their menus.

In working with sausage, Keeton said researchers learned it seemed necessary to use fat from other meat than ostrich.

"For some reason, we don't know why, the ostrich fat didn't seem as desirable as pork fat," he said.

## Hatches plan to raise ostrich part time

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

By day, David Ray assembles air intakes for F-16 fighters. In the evening, the Fort Worth resident tends a flock of ostriches.

"It's because I'm 46 years old and the jobs at Lockheed aren't going to last forever," he said. Ray is among thousands of Americans who believe that the ostrich has a dynamic future in the U.S. agricultural economy, perhaps even displacing some familiar barnyard faces.

"There's a real chance that the ostrich will one day replace the cow," Ray said evenly. "Its meat has less cholesterol than even turkey. Everything on it is viable. You know how much a pair of ostrich boots cost?"

Ray paid \$5,000 three years ago for his first ostrich couple, which produced 54 eggs during the last breeding year ending in September. Since November, there have

been 24 eggs, of which 16 have been sold. The eggs fetch \$1,000 apiece.

"It's paid for everything, and I've made a little money," said Ray, who has built an incubator house and a 60-by-170-foot fenced enclosure. "I've put all of it back into business." There have been setbacks and on-the-job learning.

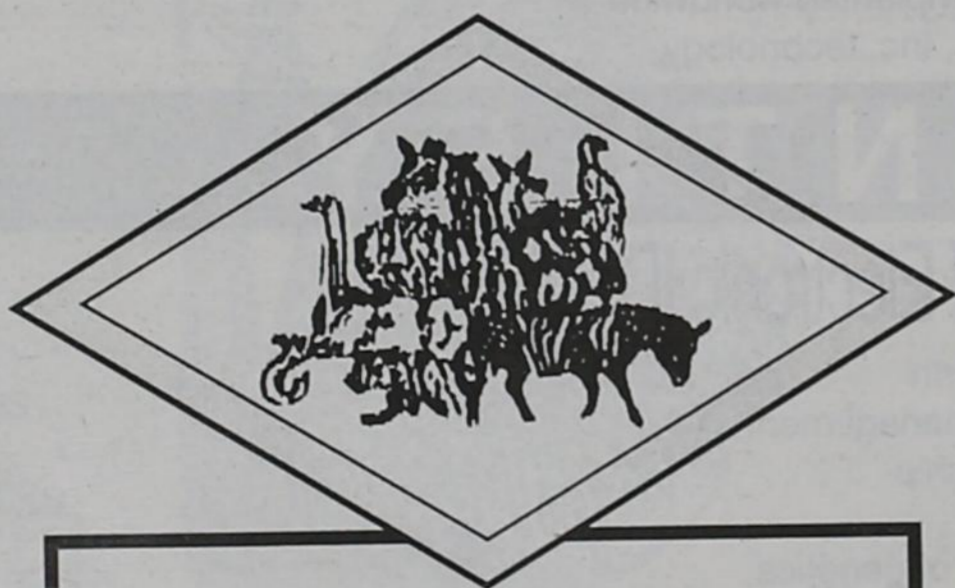
"When I went in, I didn't even know which end the ostrich ate out of," said Ray, whose first batch of 12 eggs produced 11 viable chicks but whose "last nine chicks died of different things."

"I don't think it will go the way of the potbellied pig or the llama, because there's no world market for those," Ray said of predictions that the ostrich market might fade.

Friends, he said, thought he was crazy to go into ostriches; now "They want in on the action."

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# Hereford man is ostrich pioneer; predicts a bright future for the industry

By **GEORGIA TYLER**

## The Hereford Brand

Breeding and raising ostriches is an industry that still is in its infancy . . . all those full-quill ostrich boots still are made from imported skins.

Ken Rogers, who has been in the business of breeding ostriches for about three years, believes the availability of ostrich meat and skin will begin to meet part of the demand in another year or two.

"The demand is there, now," said Rogers, one of the pioneers in raising ostriches in Deaf Smith County.

He and his partners have about 100, with 15 to 20 pairs of breeding birds, right now. Several other operators have a lesser number.

Raising ostriches can be a labor intensive business when the hens start laying eggs — Rogers said two hens at his place already are laying eggs — because of the care required. And, the laying season may extend well into fall.

The eggs are picked up from the pens and placed in incubators. Rogers' wife, Lucy, is the substitute mother for the chicks.

For 42 days, she weighs and candles each egg regularly, keeping records. When hatching time nears, she watches very closely and if the chick seems to be having trouble breaking through the shell, a gentle tap by Mrs. Rogers helps out.

At hatching, a chick may weigh from 1 3/4 pounds to 2 1/2 pounds, said Mrs. Rogers. During the first six months of life, the bird can grow a foot per month.

The hatchlings require special care. Mrs. Rogers feeds the birds by inserting a tube down the throat and forcing food through a syringe to the stomach.

By the time an ostrich reaches adulthood, the bird may be eight feet tall and weigh 400 pounds.

And, the strength of the ostrich, while sounding like legend, is indeed fact. Rogers said the ostrich does have a kick equal to a mule,



By **PHIL HAMILTON**

**CURIOS** — Ostrich checks out tourists observing it on Rotary Exchange trip to South Africa.

as many have claimed.

But, the ostrich can outrun other animals, eating up territory in 12-foot steps and traveling 40 to 50 miles per hour, Rogers added.

Still, the bird is fragile with long spindly legs and equally long neck. Rogers said the ostrich does not show an abundance of intelligence, though. After all, the head is very small, in comparison with other animals of similar size.

Since starting the ostrich business, Ken and Lucy Rogers have added a metal

building to their place north of Hereford, for ostrich pens. New equipment is installed as it is needed.

Demand for ostrich meat, Rogers believes, will only grow because of the nutritional value. A three-ounce serving is low in calories, 96.9, compared to turkey, 135; lean beefsteak, 240, and pork, 275.

Cholesterol-minded consumers will be interested to know that a three-ounce serving has 58 mg. Only turkey, 59 mg., is near that low figure. Chicken, beef and lamb are in the 70s and pork is in the 80s.

Ostrich-raising in the U.S. has come a long way since early attempts more than 75 years ago. When ostrich plume hats went the way of all fashion fads, there wasn't much demand for the big bird.

The growth of the industry in the last few years has given rise to optimism about the future. Research into disease and nutrition is beginning in several major universities.

Since a female ostrich may produce up to 70 eggs per year, the perception is that raising ostriches should be a simple matter.

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Manager: Jennifer Taylor  
**(210) 833-4563**

# Firm that broke the ice slaughtering ostrich in Texas on its way to being farmer-owned Co-Op

By GORDON ZEIGLER  
AgReview Writer

BOWIE — To prove its serious intentions to stimulate the ostrich slaughter market in the United States, a Texas meat company dealing in ostrich for several years has announced its evolution to a farmer-owned cooperative.

It will be dedicated to accelerating its own production of ostrich from about 100 birds last year to, hopefully, more than 500 in 1994, according to Galynn Burrus, spokesman for the firm.

Arrangements for the transition are currently under way, she said, with more details to be available in the near future.

"More and more ostrich breeders and ranchers are aiding the growth of the U.S. commercial market, by culling out their less than perfect ostrich for slaughter," she said.

She said efforts by Breezy Hill and others show that the commercial market in the U.S. is already a proven one. "It is a still growing market," she said, "But it is nonetheless commercial."

Her sales figures show volume increasing steadily over the past six months.

"What was 50/50 sales to restaurants versus mail order is now 65 percent to restaurants and 35 percent to mail order," she reported the first week in March.

Randy Reaves, founder of the firm an ostrich breeder himself, has sought to find a way to overcome the supply obstacle for ostrich meat, largely by offering \$1,000 a bird for so-called cull or commercial grade ostrich [as opposed to breeders].

"What's exciting is that are actually the only established firm marketing ostrich meat on a regular basis in the United States." Reaves' formula is simple.

He buys up suitable ostriches anywhere he can find them in Texas Oklahoma and New Mexico. He offers \$4 per pound live weight (which figures out somewhere around \$1,000). Most of these candidates have been injured or have undesirable qualities like a club foot or other conditions shunned by breeders.

That \$1,000 animal is later processed out yielding 100 pounds of boneless ostrich cuts, which are resold for around \$30 per pound wholesale—yielding as much as \$2,000 profit. And, sale of valued ostrich skins for leather boots adds

even more to the bottom line. Reaves has his birds processed by John Hernandez at Caprock Meat Company in Floydada.

Then he markets it through Breezy Hill Meat. To his knowledge, he was the first in the country to begin regular mail order ostrich meat sales and sales to Texas restaurants.

Besides catering to specialty restaurants, Reaves sells about half his supply to mail order customers who phone in.

"We stay mostly sold out," said the sales manager at Breezy Hill. "Our most popular item is boneless, filet steaks." Pricing is \$29.95 per pound for steak, \$24.95 for cutlets and \$19.95 a pound for ground ostrich, chili and fajita meat. Pre-cooked summer sausage goes for \$19.95 a pound.

"Until someone started importing pre-cooked ostrich products about a month ago, we were the only ones selling it that we know of," said a Breezy Hill spokeswoman.

Reaves says his volume of about two ostriches a week pales in the face of future potential for developing a market for ostrich meat in America.

"We need to be slaughtering 100,000 year," says Reaves. "South Africa, where the industry is over 100 years old, currently slaughters 150,000 a year. They supply to European countries. What we need is to build the U.S. slaughter market, and that is what I am out to do."

Reaves—who got out of farming and cattle raising several years ago because he says things were getting too tight—positioned himself to benefit if the U.S. ostrich industry ever makes the transition from a breeding to a slaughter market.

It may take a while, though. Reaves looks ahead to a day when ostrich ranching to provide the consumer market becomes a reality.

"It takes a lot fewer acres to raise an ostrich than it does cattle," explained Reeves. "And the profit is a lot more than you get from a \$500 to \$600 yearling calf." Reaves admits ostrich is one of the most highly specialized meat markets in the world—appealing mostly to the health conscious and patrons of exclusive restaurants.

He's supplied ostrich meat to the Dallas metroplex restaurants including the Weston Hotel at the Galleria, for about 16 months, and the Bella Italia West, which serves up exotic game of all types, for about eight months.

Reaves says his bid to raise ostrich has had its ups as well as its major downs. His first pair, on which he staked a major investment did not survive, forcing him to either get out or pick himself up by the bootstraps and try again. He gambled on another pair, a decision that finally paid off.



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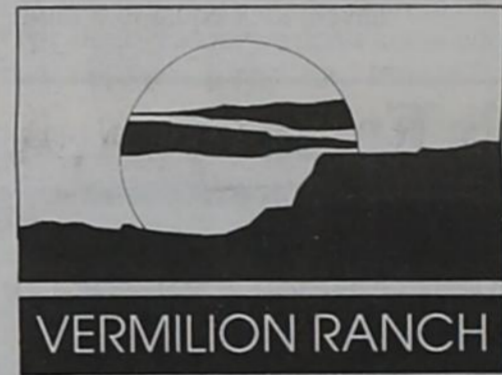
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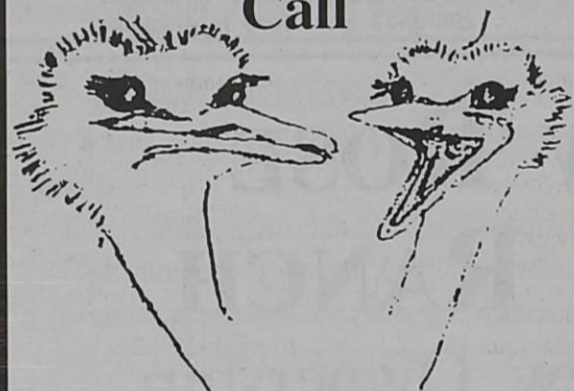
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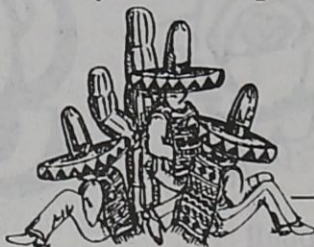
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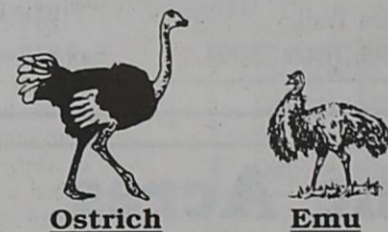
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How long do they live?	60 Years	30 years
How long do they reproduce?	35-40 years	20-25 years
How many eggs do they lay per year?	50-70	20-25
When do they reach slaughter age?	12-14 months	12-14 months
How much <u>meat</u> is obtained at slaughter?	70-75 pounds	20-25 pounds
How much leather?	12-15 sq. ft.	5-6 sq. ft.
How many were slaughtered commercially last year?	135,000	2,500
How long have they been commercially slaughtered?	over 125 years	2 years

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35-40 years	20-25 years
50-70	20-25
12-14 months	12-14 months
70-75 pounds	20-25 pounds
12-15 sq. ft.	5-6 sq. ft.
135,000	2,500
over 125 years	2 years

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# The Emu, close cousin of the Ostrich, has similar valuable uses

Special to AgReview

**T**HE EMU is the national bird of Australia and is the second largest member of the ratite family of flightless birds, which includes the ostrich, the rhea, the cassowary, and the kiwi.

Emus are native to Australia and were originally imported to the United States as breeding stock for American zoos.

In 1960 the Australian government placed a ban on all emu exportation, which is still in effect today. Emus being raised in the United States today are descendants of those original birds.

## Emu Marketability

Because of their growing popularity and marketability, emus are quickly becoming today's alternative livestock for the American farmer. The emu is totally usable, inside and out, and yields a number of marketable products.

Emu meat is seen as the meat of the future and is already a proven consumer favorite in Europe.

Emu is lower in cholesterol and fat, and higher in protein than beef, turkey and chicken, but it looks and tastes like beef. About 50 pounds of red, tender meat is available from each mature bird. Some American restaurants have begun serving emu meat as a delicacy and healthy alternative to beef.

Oil taken from the back of the emu is currently used in several skin care products. The oil is unsaturated, highly penetrating, and non-toxic. For centuries, aborigines have used emu oil for its healing properties. One market aged bird yields 5 to 6 liters of oil. The cosmetic and pharmaceutical potential of the oil is significant.

An adult bird can yield about 10 square feet of high quality leather. Ratite hide is widely used in upscale products such as boots, handbags, and clothing. The distinctive appearance of the emu hide makes it a premium exotic leather.

Emu feathers can be dyed and washed, then used to decorate designer evening wear. Even the eggs and toenails are used in making unique and decorative jewelry.

## About the Emu

By nature the emu is curious, docile, and more easily handled than other ratites. A mature adult will stand 5 to 6 feet tall and weigh 11.0 to 140 pounds. Emus are strong runners and can match speeds up to 40 miles per hour in short bursts. They are very hardy and can adapt well to temperature extremes in excess of 100 degrees to below zero.

Emu hens have been known to produce eggs for up to 20 years or more, and may lay as many as 20 to 50 eggs per season. They can begin laying as young as 18 months, but normally start laying at 2 to 3 years of age. Laying season begins in late November or December, but some wait until

January.

Emu eggs are about 4 or 5 inches long and are opaque green in color. Eggs are collected at night, and should be handled delicately, with no violent shaking. During laying season, hens normally lay every third or fourth night. Eggs should be collected as soon as possible.

Wiping mud and dirt from eggs is important, since dirt can clog pores in the egg and may prevent embryos from receiving enough oxygen. Eggs should always be marked and weighed. An egg will incubate for about 52 days before hatching.

New chicks should be kept in a brooder for several days. Brooders can be anything from a cardboard box to a box made from plywood and wire.

Since young chicks tend to huddle together and may smother each other, no more than 10 or 12 chicks should be in one brooder. Chicks are active, and should always have access to run from pen to pen. Exercise is healthy and necessary to a chick's development.

Feedings should be kept to the same time daily and in the same amounts. Since emus have no teeth, grit or small gravel may be added to their diet to aid digestion, but this should be done under the advice of a veterinarian. Major feed companies are creating new nutritionally balanced feed products for emus. An adult can consume 2 to 4 gallons of water daily, so fresh water is essential and should always be available.

It is important that shelter provide adequate shade and ventilation. Shelter should be about 6 feet high, and should provide a wind-break in winter and shade in summer. Barbed wire should never be used. Because emus are fence runners, posts should be placed on the outside to prevent injury. Chicks should be put up every night. A small mesh wire can safely keep chicks in and predators out. Successful breeding has been accomplished in pens that range in size from 25 feet by 40 feet and 25 feet by 100 feet.

Emus should be moved in an enclosed stock trailer in early evening during the summer to prevent heat stress. Darkness keeps the birds calm. Floors should be padded with matting or hay for footing to avoid muscle or leg injury.

## Getting Started

When getting started there are several options a new breeder should consider. Most existing farms and ranches have facilities easily adaptable to emu breeding and don't require extensive investment. An emu ranch requires less land than is needed for cattle.

There are many options for first time buyers. Purchasing fertile eggs is least expensive, but

requires knowledge of hatching by incubation and the purchase of an incubator. Since eggs can not be candied to guarantee fertility, make sure your contract guarantees a fertile egg. However, this option is risky since the age of the highest mortality rate is from 0 to 2 months.

Another option is the purchase of chicks that are 1 to 6 months old. With this option reproduction is 2 or 3 years away. Purchasing yearlings (young adults) is a more expensive course, but egg production could begin in within one year. Buying proven breeders is the most costly, but allows for production the next season.

## Buying Birds

When purchasing birds make a checklist of what to look for:

Be sure to buy unrelated birds. Ask to see the pairs charts and laying records showing they have laid before and total number of eggs hatched. Ask if the chicks have

grown to produce offspring of their own. Make sure your birds are bred in the U.S.

Check the legs. Are they straight? Avoid birds with splayed legs. Are the backs crooked? Are there any feathers missing? Both these factors can be a result of fighting, injury, or mistreatment.

Have the birds sexed several times for accurate results.

What is the temperament of the animal? A gentle hen will usually be a better layer. Does the bird appear listless, obese, or undernourished?

Inspect the facilities. Ask for guarantees in your contract. Ask for all records kept on the birds you are buying and get all agreements in writing. Determine in writing the point at which the birds actually become your property, how the birds will be shipped, who will deliver, and at what expense to you.

- o Get insurance.
- o And finally, verify all

microchips and tattoos to make sure the birds are not stolen.

The American Emu Association encourages anyone new to the industry to become a member as a way to gather information, keep abreast of industrial developments, and network.

The AEA was founded in May 1989 in Brenham and is a fast-growing national organization composed of emu professionals—AEA is the national database for the emu industry and can provide you with a breeders list, research information, sales and marketing development, and a list of industry publications. There are more than 4500 members in 47 states and 4 foreign countries.

To receive an information packet on the emu, send a \$10 check to the American Emu Association, PO Box 8174, Dallas, TX 75205. Or call 214-559-2321 for more information.

## Tech pioneers the U.S. effort to develop emu industry in region

### TTUs 'upscale' restaurant to serve gourmet emu dishes

LUBBOCK — Emu Marketing Unlimited (EMU), a national marketing cooperative association, announces teaming up with Texas Tech University in Lubbock to conduct the most extensive Emu Meat and Consumer Perception Study performed to date in the United States.

Hides — thought to have potential demand in the boot industry — will be donated to The Leather Institute at Tech for study, also.

Funding will be provided by EMU, Texas Emu Association Zone 4 and Zone 5, and the Mississippi Emu Association.

Additional funding will probably be provided by each of the other five zones of the Texas Emu Association and some of the other state affiliates.

EMU recognized that in order for Emu meat to be old in the mainstream meat market of the United States that scientific studies will have to be conducted to establish the basis for labeling approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Phase I of this project is a very crucial step, not just for the members of EMU, but for the entire emu industry, in obtaining such FDA approval.

Phase I also includes cooking and sensory evaluations, important steps in a future for USA emu meat. Phase II of the Texas Tech Project will be the most extensive and comprehensive consumer perception study of emu meat in the U.S.

EMU originally agreed to fund one-half of this project with Texas Tech securing matching funds from the Texas Department of Agriculture. The review panel at the Department of Agriculture, perhaps in need of education about how the emu can contribute to the Texas economy, decided that TDA will not fund this project at this time.

Hearing this, and realizing the importance of this study, by unanimous vote at a members meeting, Zone 5 of the Texas EMU Association agreed to fund one-seventh of the amount turned down by the TDA. That zone also challenged the other six TEA zones to follow suit and also fund one-seventh of the project. Zone 4 agreed to do so almost immediately. Mississippi has agreed to fund \$5,000 of the projects. It appears to be only a matter of time until the remaining Zones, and even state organizations,

follow suit and the project will be fully funded.

Phase I of the study, already under way, consists of processing 30 emus, performing accepted scientific analyses of different cuts of meat (muscle groups) to determine the fat, protein, ash, cholesterol, fatty acid and other trace minerals and vitamins necessary for FDA labeling.

Also, the calorie content will be calculated. Composition studies will be performed on both raw and cooked meat. Further, at the time of processing, micro biological studies will be performed to

determine salmonella presence, coliform contents and other similar types of data. Only one other study of this data is known, and the Tech study will verify and validate any duplication. The Tech study is designed to help our industry get the data needed to make emu meat a viable product in the future.

Another part of Phase I will determine the best temperature to cook the emu meat and begin a comprehensive consumer perception study. A trained panel will evaluate the sensory quality of the meat and compare it to other types of meat. Other types of evaluations included in the first phase will help us develop an effective approach to marketing emu meat.

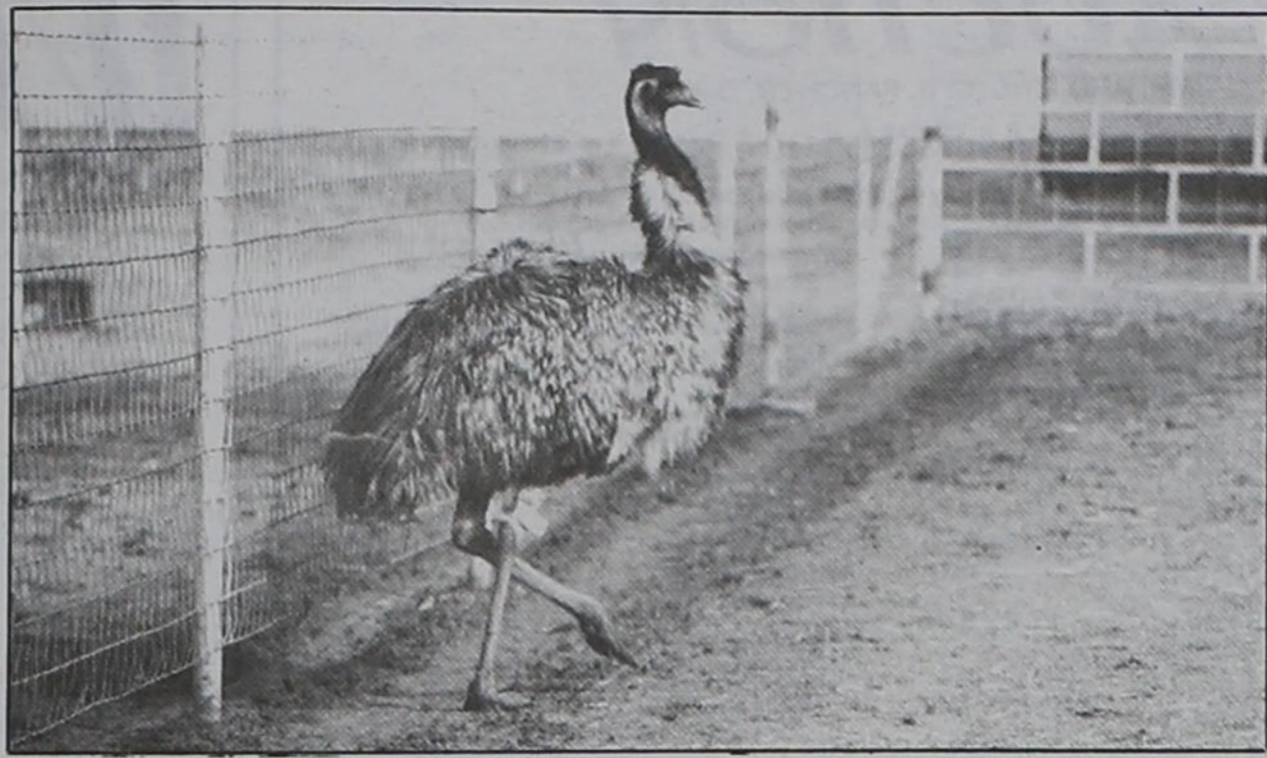
Phase II of the study concludes the consumer perception portion of the study. Part of the emu meat will be prepared in a variety of methods and served to a consumer panel to determine the consumer acceptance of the meat.

This phase will be conducted in the upscale restaurant operated by the University's Restaurant, Hotel and Institutional Management School.

The remainder of the meat will be served to the public in the restaurant, and will be prepared by three of the finest chefs in Lubbock. Data will be collected about participants' prior knowledge of emu and emu meat to evaluate the effect of their perceptions.

This type of information is thought to be invaluable in developing the emu industry's marketing approach to mainstream America's meat market. In addition to the meat studies, The Leather Institute, also located at Tech, will study effective ways of tanning hides for commercial use. These studies will focus on the use of vegetable products as tannins.

The commitment of EMU is to use only products obtained from American emus. A portion of the emus for the study can be non-breeder quality.



Majestic strutting of female Emu seen on Floyd County farm.

# AUCTION

MR. AND MRS. C. B. FANCHER, Owners

Time: 10:00 A.M. **Sat., MARCH 19, 1994** Terms: Cash

Location: 1 mile west on Highway 70 and 1 mile north of Olton, Texas.

The Fanchers are moving away from this part of the state and will sell the following at public auction:

### TRAVEL TRAILER AND JEEP

- 1- 1972 Avion TravelCator aluminum travel trailer, 28 ft., new battery and tires
- 1- 1985 Grand Wagoneer Jeep, 4x4, new rubber, battery, muffler; clean and nice

### APPLIANCES AND FURNITURE

- 1- Keivinator refrigerator - nice
- 1- G.E. refrigerator - apartment size
- 1- Large chest deep freeze
- 1- Ironite ironer
- 1- Kitchenaid dishwasher (needs soap dispenser)
- 1- Whirlpool washing machine
- 1- Whirlpool clothes dryer
- 1- Console humidifier, McGraw-Edison
- 1- RCA portable TV
- 1- Naugahyde sofa - long
- 1- Round pedestal table
- 2- End tables
- 1- Maple dining room suite, with three leaves and six chairs
- 1- Blond buffet
- 1- Birdseye maple bedroom suite, bed, dresser, and nitestand
- 1- Bedroom suite, bed, dresser, and chest
- 1- Set bunk beds - frame only
- 5- Bar stools
- 1- Lot table lamps
- 1- Set stainless flatware
- 1- Pressure cooker/canner
- 1- Lot small appliances: toasters, can openers, skillet, grill, waffle iron, corn popper, foot fixer, bean pot, spotlifter, iron, vegetable and fruit juicer, etc.

### SHOP TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

- 1- Gebro's air compressor, 1 h.p., 100 p.s.i.
- 1- 1 h.p. electric grinder
- 1- Alltrade air wrench
- 1- Electric air compressor, 115 volt
- 1- Craftsman gasoline chain saw
- 1- Electric chain saw, 12 volt
- 1- Black & Decker workmate
- 2- Wheelbarrows
- 1- Craftsman 2-drawer tool chest
- 1- KMC electric soldering iron
- 1- Craftsman jig saw
- 1- Skil saw, 7 1/2", 2-1/8 h.p., new
- 1- Electric screw driver
- 1- Come-a-long
- 1- Screw bumper jack
- 1- Lot work shelves and benches
- 1- Lot air hoses
- 1- Lot assorted small boxes
- 1- Lot gas cans
- 1- Lot bolts, nuts, pipe fittings
- 1- Lot hammers, pipe wrenches, chains
- 1- Lot grease guns, shovels, hoes, forks
- 1- Measuring wheel
- 1- Small air tank
- 1- Lot toolbar clamps
- 1- Chevrolet pickup muffler
- 1- Pair car ramps
- 1- Pair scissor jacks
- 1- Electric motor
- 1- 5-stage irrigation 12" pump bowls, rebuilt and run one year
- 1- Lot used tires
- 1- Lot used lumber

### LAWN MOWERS AND YARD EQUIPMENT

- 1- JD riding mower, 175 Hydro, like new
- 1- JD utility trailer for mower
- 1- Craftsman self-propelled lawn mower, 3 1/2 h.p., 22" blade, still in warranty
- 1- Range King self-propelled lawn mower, 3 1/2 h.p., 22" blade
- 1- Weed Eater, 12"
- 1- Weed Eater blower
- 1- Western Auto weeder, 12"
- 1- Electric lawn edger
- 1- Electric hedge trimmer
- 2- Traveling lawn sprinklers
- 1- Tree pruner
- 1- Lot garden hoses
- 2- Folding lawn chairs
- 2- Metal lawn chairs
- 1- 2 gallon hand sprayer

### MISCELLANEOUS

- 1- Lennox central heating system, 110,000 BTU input
- 1- Redwood picnic table
- 1- Brinkman smoker
- 1- Water heater for travel trailer, electric/butane
- 2- Iron pots
- 1- Lot tackle boxes and fishing equipment
- 1- Cotton scale
- 1- Aluminum cot
- 1- Schwinn bike, approximately 20"
- 2- Tarps, 1 small and one approximately 12x16'
- 2- Aluminum step ladders
- 1- 16' aluminum extension ladder
- 1- Small step ladder
- 1- Fluorescent desk lamp
- 2- Stereo speakers, SP300
- 1- Clarinet
- 1- Christmas tree and stand
- 1- Lot candles
- 1- Lot luggage
- 1- Lot books
- 1- Set Compton's encyclopedia year books
- 1- Ice cream freezer, hand crank
- 1- Set fireplace tools
- 1- Lot fruit jars
- 1- Lot freezer containers
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- 1- TV antenna
- 1- Wash tub
- 1- Chamber pot
- 1- Aquarium
- 1- Metal detector
- 1- Square table
- 1- Car vac
- 1- Lot extension cords
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- 1- Kitchen cart
- 2- Electric fans
- 1- Saw horse
- 1- Large pressure tank
- 1- Chrome high chair
- 1- Wall heater
- 1- Bissell easy sweep
- 1- Roll coaxial wire
- 1- Picnic basket
- 1- Lot trailer mirrors
- 1- Glue gun
- 1- CB radio
- 1- Lot pots and pans
- 1- Lot linens

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- 1- Lot gun cleaning equipment

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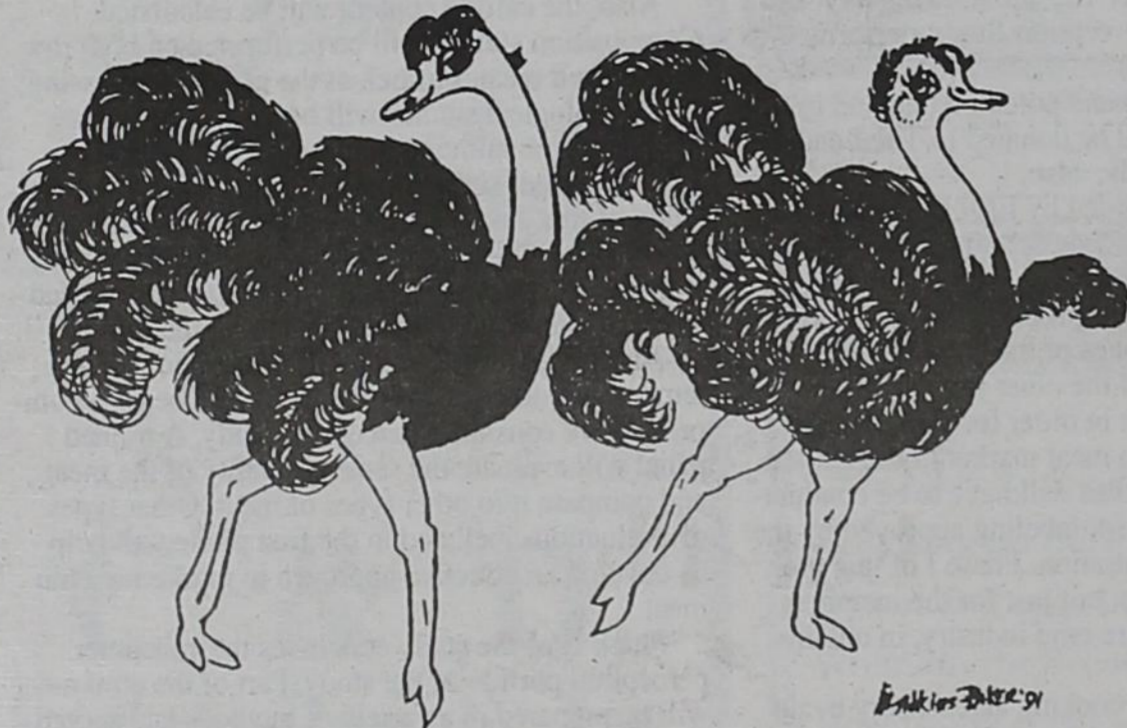
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# Emu raiser sees future potential for industry in West Texas

■ Carrie J. Tisdale markets her own line of emu oil cosmetics

LUBBOCK — Emu raisers like Carrie J. Tisdale of Lubbock are talking up their industry as one of the keys to future diversification of South Plains agriculture.

She likes to talk about big dreams for the future, like location of value-added processing industries in the West Texas area, dedicated to the processing of emu and ostrich leather, extraction of oils for cosmetics and other allied industries.

There has been talk of building tanneries in West Texas in the event this becomes a hub of emu production.

Dr. Ginger Eberspacher at Texas Tech's Leather Institute is one of the researchers looking into the potential for emu leather goods. Members of the emu organizations have agreed to donate birds to be used in the study.

But all these dreams will depend on expansion of emu growing, and continued research by entities like Texas Tech, which is launching one of the first emu marketing studies in the country this year.

"The whole key is diversification," says Ms. Tisdale, whose fellow members of the Texas Emu Association include a number of farm and ranch operators.

"We consider ourselves the new diversified ag industry," she said. "Nearly anyone can raise them. Put them on small plot of land. They can supplement existing cotton, cattle operations. It is something you can do and keep a fulltime job. But I also know those who quit a fulltime job to go into birds

full time." "The hail may come, the winds may blow and the rain may not fall, but you can still raise these birds," she says.

Tisdale got into the Emu business after working in the retail industry at a South Plains Mall outlet for several years.

A director of the Texas Emu Association, she is currently active in efforts to have Texas Tech University study the market potential for emu. She operates WesTex Ratite ranch as well as Kalaya [Aborigine for Emu] Enterprises, which markets emu based products.

She believes Texas is a logical place to concentrate the industry. Of the 4,500 members of the national emu association, half are located in Texas.

The Lubbock business woman also pushes the potential for selling emu meat.

"Everyone can benefit from a heart healthy red meat low in cholesterol, calories and fat," she says.

She cites the benefits of subcutaneous fat from the back of the emu, which is used as a skin moisturizer.

Other Texans now pushing the emu include Ardell Nelson, a San Antonio businessman who has store devoted almost sole-

ly to emu products — jackets to boots and leather goods.

Tisdale herself is involved in emu breeding and sales, the marketing of her own line of emu oil cosmetics and is active in boosting her industry.

"I've been doing this a little over four years," she explained. You have to understand, I have no background in agriculture."

Currently working on a master's degree at Texas Tech in counseling, she says she got interested in the Emu because of its many market potential that weren't being developed.

Her own interest in getting involved in developing emu markets first hand led her to introduce a new cosmetic product whose ingredients include emu oil.

The result of a product put together in cooperation with a Lubbock dermatologist, Alexander Zemtsov, is a product called "Beauty Skin by Alexander."

There are several distributors selling it across the United States, plus it is available Caprock Pharmacy at 50th and Boston in Lubbock. She hopes to break into markets like Nieman Marcus, a store which is handling other emu products, she said.

"Our particular product has no competi-

tion," she said. "It is the only one that combines emu oil, which is a deep penetrating lipid with the benefits of alpha hydroxyl acid — a natural chemical made from natural acids."

"Everyone that has used the product just loves it," says Ms. Tisdale. "They report significant improvement of appearance and texture of the skin. Ours is the only dermatologically-formulated and tested and approved product on the market."

Operator of WestTex Ratite Ranch, Ms. Tisdale has been impressed with the profit potential of the bird breeding business.

"I know several breeders who have raised cotton for 40 to 50 years and will tell you right off the bat they make more with birds than they can with cotton," she said. "I am not slamming cotton, it is the basis of our existence out here, but this is something you can supplement with, look forward to the future."

What has attracted many is the small number of acres needed to raise emus.

Tisdale notes that most raisers she knows are in it for the long haul, not as a novelty item.

Ms. Tisdale is a member of the board of directors of Zone 6 of the Texas Emu Association, which includes about 150 members concentrated in the Lubbock area or spreading out from there to the New Mexico and Oklahoma borders and east to Wichita Falls.

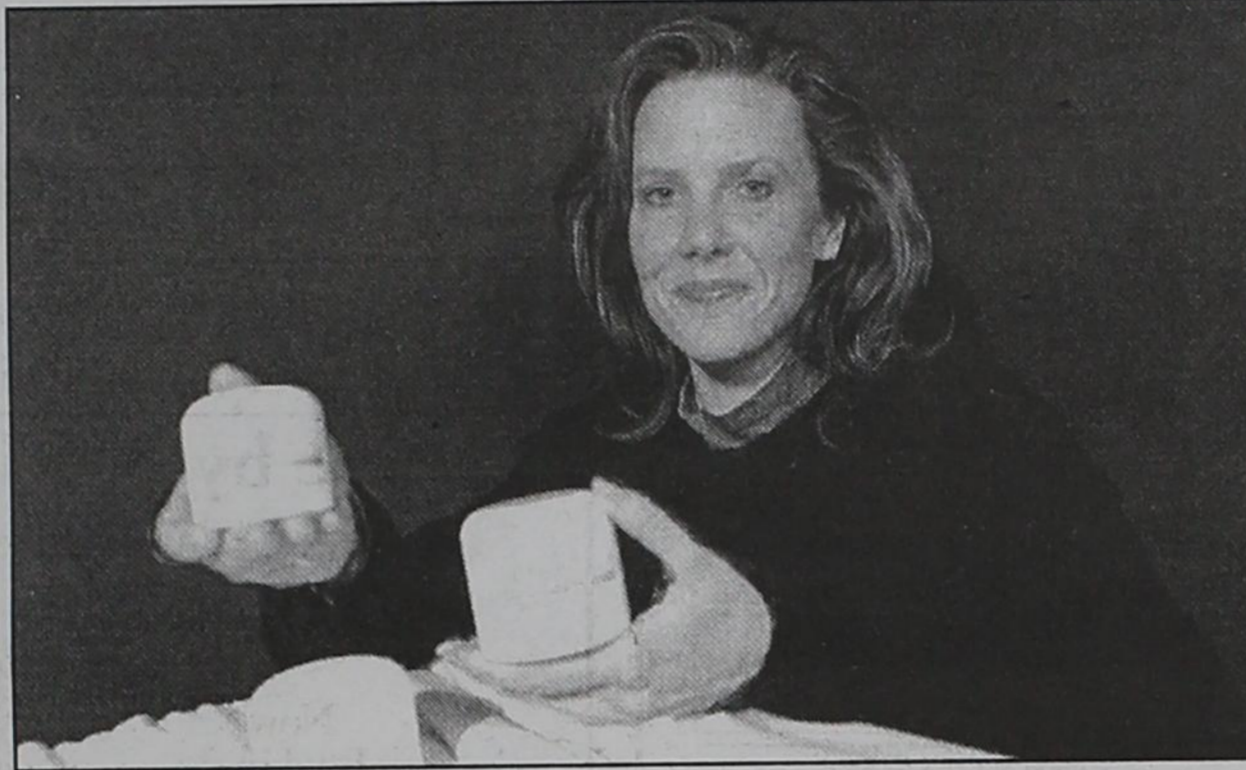
Its northern region meets regularly in the Sunray/Dumas area. The Lubbock region meets monthly. Darlee Foster of Lockney is the current zone vice president.

Emus have been raised in Texas for up to 10 years, Tisdale says. Many are raised in South America.

Some of the positive qualities of emus are their tameness and docile personalities.

Along with the interest in emus, some Panhandle residents are becoming interested in Rheas. The Rheas yield leather that is much like the emu, but whose looks is more like ostrich hide.

Much Rhea is marketed under the name of South American ostrich or baby ostrich, she said. Rhea also yields red meat that tastes like beef, she said.



Carrie J. Tisdale with *Beautiskin*, which contains emu oil.

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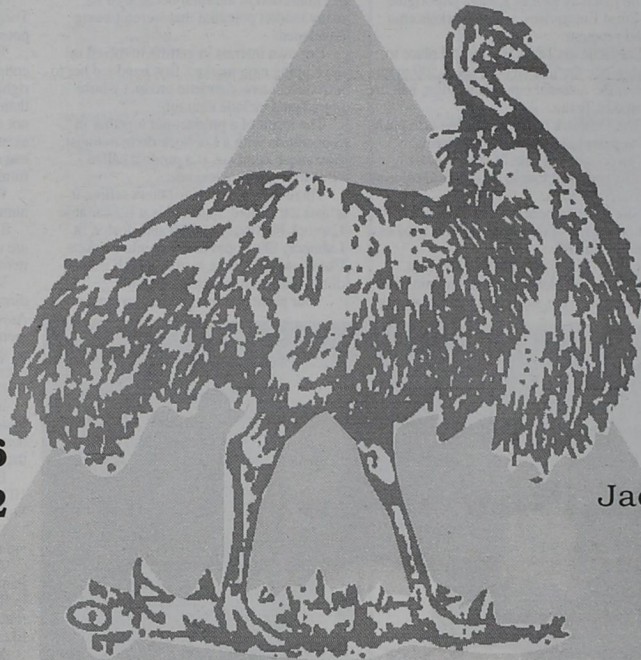
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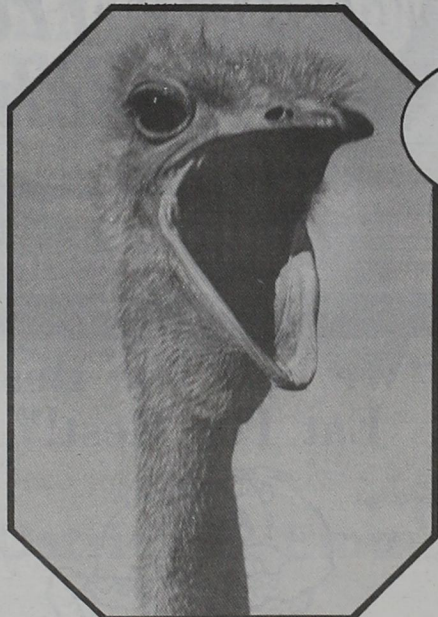
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