

The Castro County News

76th year—No. 51

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, March 22, 2001

50¢

14 pages plus supplements

In proposed affiliation agreements

Local control not at risk, CCHD says

In a Town Hall meeting Tuesday night, Castro County Hospital District officials emphasized that a proposed affiliation with two regional health-care systems would not threaten local control.

The board distributed copies of the five-page affiliation agreement that it proposes to sign with the Lubbock-based Covenant Health System and the Amarillo-based Northwest Texas Healthcare System.

On hand to join the board in a public airing of the proposed agreement were the regional service coordinators for the two metro systems — Jim Bullard of Covenant and Jeff Barnhart of Northwest Texas.

The Town Hall meeting drew only a small crowd to the Dimmitt city hall. Most of those attending were associated in some way with the local health-care system.

The main concern of local trustees and administrators seemed to be that residents here might think that the hospital district was giving up local control.

In fact, they said, the proposed agreement is a "cooperation pact"

intended to benefit all parties by sharing resources, information, common experiences, training, etc.

"This is a very loose affiliation, and is in no way to be considered a takeover or a merger for the control of our facility by either one of these regional systems," Board Chairman Henry Ramaekers said. "It will in no way override any sort of a patient choice that a patient might have if they want to go to another facility."

Barnhart explained how Northwest Texas Hospital decided to develop a regional outreach program with rural hospitals in the Panhandle.

"I noticed that we were losing a lot of business to BSA (Baptist St. Anthony's) next door, and with that in mind, I went to our administration and said, 'Look, I think we need to get somebody out on the road to work with these hospitals and regional doctors' to attract more patients from outside Amarillo."

"Basically, this is all going to come down to customer service,"

Barnhart said.

He explained that the Northwest Texas system "is owned by the third largest conglomerate in the United States," so it has lots of resources it can share.

"We changed our mission statement recently at Northwest to include the region," he said. "We want to be a partner to the region, and want to be the patient's choice when it comes to receiving health care (beyond the capabilities of the local district)."

"We don't want to come in and run your hospital. We're not interested in that at all," Barnhart said.

Bullard explained that Covenant is a three-year-old system that resulted from the merger of Methodist Hospital and St. Mary of the Plains Hospital in Lubbock.

Both of those hospitals had a "regional presence" before the merger
(Continued on Page 2)

1:1

By Don Nelson

The article on Page 4 gives an unbalanced account of the event.

In an effort to compensate for sexism in our social pages, here's the rest of the story:

In a formal, double-ring ceremony Saturday afternoon in the First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt, Justin Levi Conway of Cheyenne, Okla., became the bridegroom of Lacy Louder of Dimmitt.

The groom's parents are Tom and Janice Conway of Cheyenne. Parents of the bride are Lance and Terri Louder of Dimmitt.

Officiating at the ceremony were the bride's grandfather, Dr. William R. Fleming of Lubbock, a retired Methodist minister, and Rev. Rusty Dickerson, pastor of the local church.

Dr. Fleming was attired in a John Wesley doctoral robe in cathedral gray with black velvet chevrons, and a white embroidered stole. Rev. Dickerson wore a John Wesley master's robe in traditional black, with black velvet chevrons, and also chose a white embroidered stole.

Ushers were Jake Louder, the bride's brother, Gabriel Juarez, Laramie Wood and Moi Garcia. They wore black cotton slacks and black cotton/polyester shirts with monochromatic, waist-length traditional ties in bright red or bright yellow. Each wore a boutonniere of a single confetti rose.

Marcella Jennings, organist, and Adeana Carlyle, pianist, performed "Always" by Berlin during the seating of the grandparents and parents.

The bride's mother, a former humor columnist for *The Castro County News*, was escorted to her seat by her son, Jake, who received an unwelcome kiss which he wiped off of his cheek as he recessed.

The bride's mother wore a yellow dress and the groom's mother wore red. Grandmothers of the groom and bride also dressed up for the occasion.

Accompanied to the altar by the officiants, best man and groomsman, the bridegroom wore a traditional tuxedo of blended wool with black evening coat.

His ivory shirt was of pure cotton with pleated front panel, formal wingtip collar, long sleeves and French cuffs. The collar was fastened with a circular mother-of-pearl button, and the shirt front was secured by silver studs, with matching silver cufflinks at the wrists.

(Continued on Page 6B)



READY TO RALLY—Plans are being made for the second annual Relay for Life in Dimmitt and the kick-off Rally has been set for Wednesday (March 28) at noon at Dimmitt's First United Methodist Church. The Relay is held as a fund-raising effort for the American Cancer Society. Helping with the planning and lending support are (standing, from left) Castro County Judge Irene Miller, Gwen

Bryant, chairman of the Castro County Chapter of the ACS, Barbara Bain, Relay for Life publicity chairman, and Beth Buckley, co-chairman of the Relay for Life; and (seated, from left) Nazareth Mayor Ralph Brockman and Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins. Lori Wilhite, Relay co-chairman, and Hart Mayor Marguerite McLain were not available for the photo.
Photo by Linda Maxwell

Relay for Life Rally set for Wednesday

The Castro County Chapter of the American Cancer Society will hold a rally Wednesday (March 28) at noon at Dimmitt's First United Methodist Church and all interested persons are urged to attend.

A free lunch will be served, door prizes will be given away, and participants will learn about the Relay for Life event, which is scheduled for June.

This will be the second Relay for

Life event in Castro County. It will benefit the research programs of the ACS.

"It is a unique, challenging and fun way to raise community awareness and to raise money for the American Cancer Society," said Barbara Bain, publicity chairman for the event. "It is a nation-wide event for the ACS."

Bain said that in addition to being a fund-raiser, the event brings fami-

lies and friends together to celebrate those who have survived cancer and to remember those who have not.

"Last year's event was a great success and was enjoyed by participants and spectators alike," she said.

The event raised over \$22,000, with 289 walkers participating on 23 teams. There were 56 cancer survivors honored and a couple hundred others were named on the luminarias lining the high school track, where the event was held.

Write-in candidate deadline is Monday

Monday is the last day that write-in candidates may file for positions on local governing boards, subject to the May 5 elections. Candidates may sign up at the administrative offices of the entity they wish to serve.

Write-in candidates have until Monday to sign up, but they will not be listed on the ballots.

Candidates will draw for a place on the ballots on Friday, and Tuesday is the earliest an election may be canceled. Elections may be canceled if all candidates are unopposed and there are no referendum items on the ballot.

Applications for early ballots by mail will continue to be accepted through April 27.

Early voting will be held April 18-May 1.

Positions that are expiring for the various governing entities are listed below, along with any candidates who may have already filed.

Castro County Hospital District

Terms are expiring for Henry Ramaekers, Carolyn Sides, and Jerry Annen. Sides and Ramaekers have filed for re-election. Frank Mendoza also has filed as a candidate.

Dimmitt

City: Terms are expiring for Mayor Wayne Collins and the three at-large council members, Trish Elliott, Bobby Murdock and Clint Seward. Incumbents Collins and Murdock have filed. Diane Parker also has filed as a candidate.

DISD: Those whose terms are expiring are Rick Wright in Place 2 and Paul Garcia in Place 4. Wright has filed for re-election.

Hart

City: The terms of Mayor Marguerite McLain and Aldermen Doyle K. Davis and Harvey Perez are expiring. Incumbents McLain and Davis have filed.

HISD: Those whose terms are ending are Daniel Higgins and Sandy Farris. Both incumbents have already

filed for re-election.

Nazareth

City: City Commissioner Joel Gerber is the only one facing an expiring term, and he has filed for re-election.

NISD: Terms are expiring for Keith Hoelting and Patti Kern. Also, the two-year unexpired term for the place vacated by Mike Huseman must be filled. Incumbents Hoelting and Kern have filed.

Unregistered persons may register by April 5 and still be eligible to vote in the May 5 elections.

Residents who have not registered to vote may do so at any time by filling out a voter registration application and returning it to the office of Voter Registrar Billy Hackleman in the Castro County Courthouse.

Also, voters who have had a change of address need to notify Hackleman's office so that they may receive a corrected voter's registration card.

Counterfeit money warning is issued

Local law enforcement personnel are cautioning citizens to be on the look out for counterfeit money.

A suspect attempted to pass a counterfeit \$20-bill at Higginbotham-Bartlett Co. in Dimmitt Monday around 3:45 p.m., according to Dimmitt Police Chief Ray Aleman.

He said the suspect was described as a white male, age 40 to 45, driving a white Ford pickup with extended

cab, decorated with a sticker that said Nebraska.

"We attempted to locate the suspect, but we were unable to," Aleman said. He said that the report was given to the Sheriff's office and they also helped in the search and radioed to Hereford to watch for the pickup.

Aleman said the manager at Higginbotham did not take the \$20-
(Continued on Page 2)

Post Office supporting 9-1-1 addressing system

Those in Castro County who have a rural address are being notified by the 9-1-1 addressing authority what their physical address is. They should begin using that address immediately, according to Dimmitt Postmaster Karen Martin.

Martin said a few addresses within the city limits have changed, too, including those on South US 385 and those on South Front Street or "Cemetery Road."

Those receiving the new addresses are asked to begin notifying all their correspondents and publishers. In addition, they also should notify utility service providers, especially their telephone company, and request that their service address be updated.

"Mail that shows your old address will continue to be delivered for up to 12 months from the date of your notification," Martin said. "This is deemed a reasonable time to exhaust stationery supplies on hand bearing your old address and to notify your correspondents of your new address."

Martin said rural residents should display the new address on their houses or driveway entrances with three-inch or larger reflective numbers so that it will be clearly visible to emergency personnel from the road.

"This will enable emergency personnel to locate you easily in the event you require their assistance," Martin said.

Martin suggests that residents also display the new address on their mailboxes, using letters and numbers that are at least one inch high. The address should be displayed on the side of the box the mail carrier would see on his or her approach.

If several boxes are grouped together, Martin said the addresses should be displayed on the door of each mailbox.

"If you have been sharing a mailbox with another address, you should install your own mailbox showing your new individual address," Martin said.

"Some people have been complaining that the new addressing is an 'invasion of privacy' because now other people will be able to locate them out in the country, but it is to everyone's advantage, especially in cases of emergencies," Martin said.

Another thing that could help speed mail delivery for all postal patrons would be using the ZIP-plus four code for individual addresses, Martin said.

"You can call the Post Office to find out what your Zip-plus four is," Martin said.



APRICOTS OR NOT?—Trees all across the county are full of blooms, but they may not last long if predicted cold weather hits in the coming week. These blossoms are on a tree in the 400 block of Southwest Sixth in Dimmitt.
Photo by Linda Maxwell

Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	69	31	
Friday	51	16	
Saturday	51	21	
Sunday	42	32	.73
Monday	42	28	
Tuesday	58	29	
Wednesday	70	20	

March Moisture 2.76
2001 Moisture 5.00

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

On the Go with Dorothy Hopson, 647-4579

Once again, this is the time of year that our Gideon Bible Ministry comes to churches in Dimmitt to share experiences.

Guests in the First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt were Randy Morgan of Dimmitt and Tom Carter of Amarillo.

There are 172 countries that the Gideon Ministry is carried on—Bibles are distributed in hospitals, hotels and schools.

The Bill Sava family enjoyed having their family from Colorado spend a few days with them. Their family visit included Capt. Greg Sava, his wife, Becky, and their three children, Sarah, Anna and Dallas Ann.

This was the big occasion for the baptism of Dallas Ann, and it was held at a church in Amarillo attended by Greg's sister and brother-in-law, Debra and Bill Bridenbaugh. Several other family members were present

including Becky's mother, Vernie Schacher of Lazbuddie.

Bill and Jacque Sava have fond memories of Jacque's mother, Rose Freymuth, and some of her activities in Tucumcari, N.M., so during the spring break they journeyed to Tucumcari to attend the St. Patrick's Day festivities in Rose's church.

Some of the interesting things were centered around special foods made by church members, and the many games that were played.

Before returning to Dimmitt, the Savas visited the family grave sites.

Mildred Bradford has just returned from California where she visited with her son, Kent, and his family. Mildred especially enjoyed the water front and sightseeing—and by the way, she just had a very important birthday! Congratulations, Mildred, you look younger than your years.

Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, was remembered by wedding vows for two Dimmitt families—The Lance Loudders' daughter, Lacy, was married to Justin Conway of Oklahoma and the service was held at the First United Methodist Church in Dimmitt. The second wedding united Karen Curl and Britt Boozer, son of Monty and Sue Boozer of Dimmitt. This wedding was held at the First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth.

Congratulations to the two newlywed couples. Next week you can

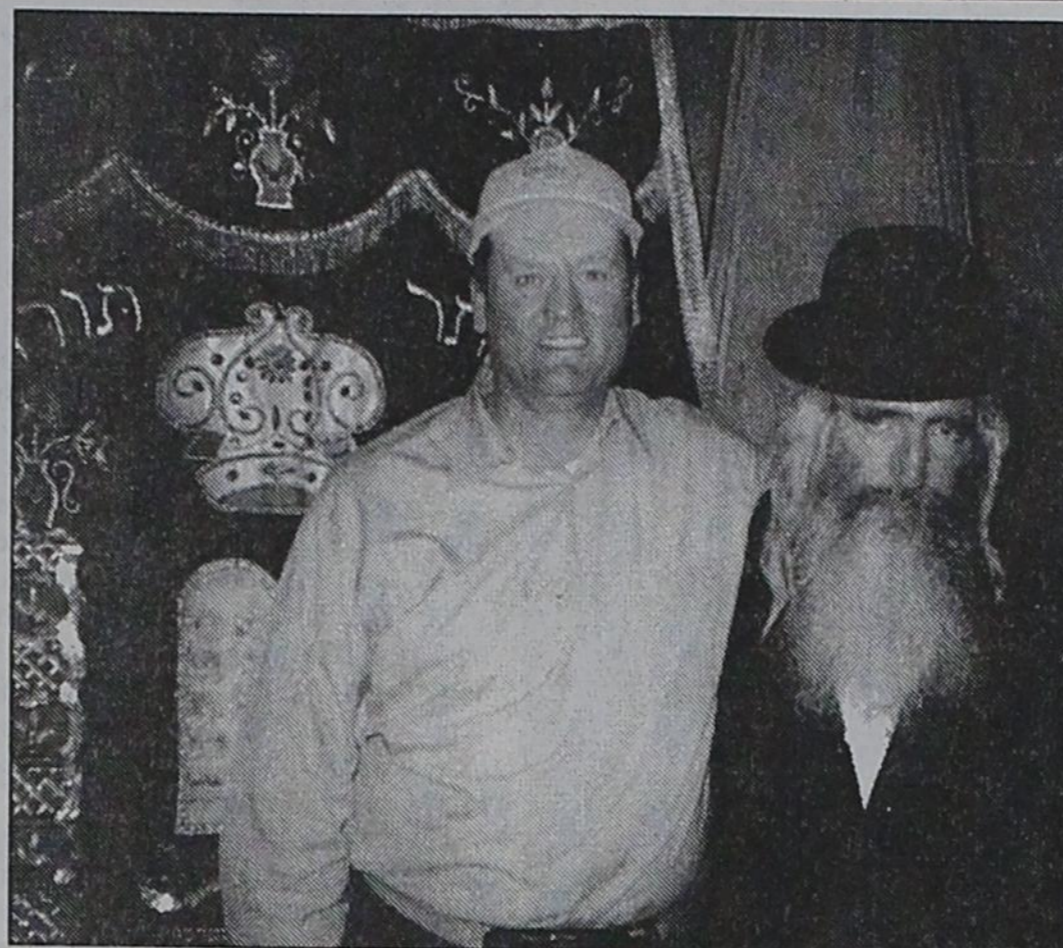
Red Cross plans disaster training

The Tri-County chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor a disaster training session on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Hereford.

The training is for individuals or groups concerned with community support during a disaster, and the class will be offered at the Red Cross office, 224 South Main in Hereford.

Topics covered in the training will be shelter operations and disaster functions.

Those interested in taking part in the training should register by calling 364-3761.



AT THE WAILING WALL—Rabbi Samuel (right) in Jerusalem poses for a picture with Randy Morgan of Dimmitt during a recent tour of the Holy Land enjoyed by Morgan and his wife, Renise Blair. The two men are standing in front of the cover that is put over some of the Torah scrolls in the synagogue that abuts the Western Wall portion of the Wailing Wall. There will be a detailed account of their trip in the March 29 issue of the News in "On the Go." Photo by Oscar Scott

read the details of these two beautiful weddings and all the highlights that make up special occasions.

Sunday, March 18, found Dale and Marie Winders celebrating 50 years of marriage. Friends and family members joined for the very western celebration at the Wootens' barn north of Dimmitt. The admission "fee" was to be dressed in boots and jeans. Thanks to Dale and Marie's children for the fun time everyone had.

Handweaver's Guild is meeting today

The Palo Duro Handweaver's Guild will hold its monthly meeting today (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m. in Amarillo.

Anyone who is interested in weaving, spinning, dyeing or fiber arts is welcome.

For the meeting location or more information, call Becky Martin at 358-2765.

of Harold and San Rhodes. When you drive by Worth's home on Highway 385, honk your horn to let him know you are thinking of him.

Donald McGrorey and family, Michelle, Marissa, Patrick, Donny, Eric and his friend, Gabriel Garcia, enjoyed a ski trip to Vail during the spring break. And they all returned without casualties!

Members of the Plains Memorial Hospital Auxiliary met on Wednesday, March 14, with Laquetta West presiding over the business meeting. Jackie Edwards read the minutes

and Gertie Waggoner gave the treasury report.

Joe Sloan was in charge of the program and he gave an informative report on the hospital. New members are Melody Brooks and Martha Jo Hyman.

Plans were discussed for an "Enlistment Tea," which will be held April 19 in the Plains Memorial Hospital Solarium. The come-and-go event will be held from 2 to 4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for the gift shop and bake sale.

The Hospital Auxiliary will sponsor the "Enlistment Tea," and the public is invited to attend.

Deadline set for writing competition

The 23rd annual Lubbock Arts Festival is currently accepting entries for the Young Writer's Competition, open to all students in K-12th grade in the Panhandle and South Plains of Texas.

Each year the festival encourages students to explore and increase their writing skills by composing original works in prose or poetry in English or Spanish.

The deadline for entries is March 30. Entries are accepted on any subject. The competition is sponsored by the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. Entry forms have been distributed to some schools and also will be printed twice during the month of March in the Avalanche-Journal.

For more information or entry forms, call 806-744-2787.

A hibernating animal sleeps through the cold winter months, but an estivating animal spends the hot dry summer in a cool moist place. The African lungfish, for example, lives inside a leathery cocoon surrounded by mud, through the long dry seasons of months and even years.

Computer Solutions
Of Dimmitt

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— ADVERTISEMENT —

"The Computer Class You Have Always Wanted" coming to Dimmitt

Ever feel like kicking your computer? Have you wondered how the twelve year old neighbor seems to instinctively know how to run your computer, even though he has never before seen it and has never glanced at the manual. What does the twelve year old know that you don't?

The "Computer Class You Have Always Wanted" will be presented in Dimmitt on Wednesday, March 28th, by Dan Cowan of Accelerated Learning Center.

"This new three hour course covers computer skills that everyone needs," says Mr. Cowan. "The goal of this class is to enable you to instinctively use any Windows based computer program. I will address core concepts ... concepts that almost all Windows based programs have in common.

In addition, you will learn how to maintain your computer with Scandisk, Defrag, and other utilities. I will also explain those weird error messages, and much more."

Accelerated Learning Center has taught thousands of computer students in over two dozen states, and always offers a full satisfaction, money-back guarantee. This hands-on class is all new subject matter; former students are encouraged to attend.

Two classes will be held in Dimmitt, an afternoon class and an evening class, at the Rhoads Memorial Library, 103 SW 2nd.

This new class has never before been offered in Dimmitt. It is suitable for all beginning and intermediate computer students. The cost is \$69 per person, payable at the door. Call (888) 320-5552 to reserve your seat or to have more information faxed to you.

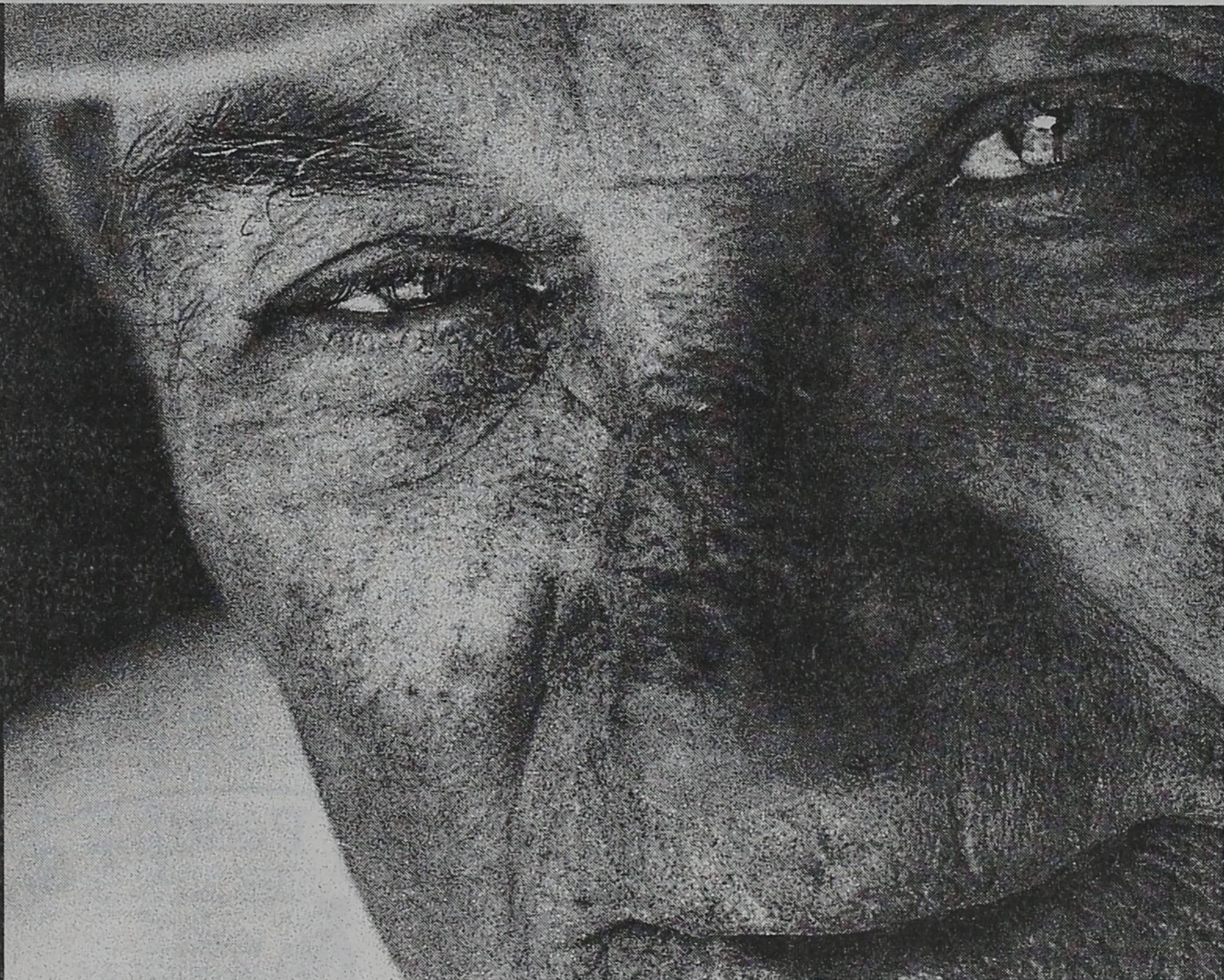
"Don't squat with your spurs on."

Eugene Shipp worked maintenance for an electric coop for twenty-eight years. During an ice storm in '78, he worked thirty-eight hours straight, fixing downed lines and restoring power. He retired two years ago to spend more time on his ranch, working his own hours. He uses coop power; he knows he can count on it.

Eugene belongs to a Smart Choice cooperative. What's "Smart Choice?" We're a coalition of West Texas cooperatives committed to making the right decision on electric deregulation.

The goal of deregulation is to bring the benefits of retail competition to the power industry. But so far, in states such as California and Pennsylvania, reality has fallen short of the promise, often bringing higher rates and even power shortages. The Texas Legislature gives cooperatives an opportunity to wait and see how deregulation will affect Texans. We intend to take advantage of that time to be sure deregulation is right for our member-owners.

Texas electric cooperatives have been providing power to Texans since 1937. As co-ops, we are non-profit and member-owned. To learn more about deregulation visit us at our web site, or call your local Smart Choice cooperative.



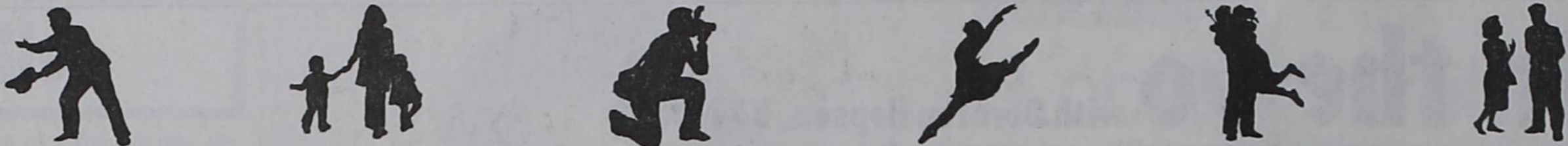
the smart choice.

Your Smart Choice Electric Cooperatives.

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- Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Comanche Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.smartchoicecoops.com

People



Red Cross hopes to raise \$25,000 during the month

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is dedicated to being prepared in times of disaster, but the group needs your help to do so.

During the month of March, the chapter has established a fund raising goal, hoping to earn \$25,000 to help with its disaster preparedness programs.

Local businesses have agreed to place a "March is Red Cross Month" bank on their counters, and donations can be made in these designated "banks." Donations also may be sent to the Tri-County Branch, PO Box 1371, Hereford 79045.

The money raised will be used to purchase materials, supplies and for training people to work in times of disaster. A donation toward Red Cross will help fund these items.

The National Weather Service has indicated that we can expect several severe weather systems to pass across the Texas Panhandle this year, and the Red Cross hopes to be prepared in the event that a disaster happens.

"When a disaster strikes, we need to have the ability to respond quickly. With your help we can reach that goal," said a Red Cross spokesperson.

Porter installed to Phi Sigma Theta

Brittany Porter, daughter of Randy and Paula Johnson of Dimmitt, has been initiated into the Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society at Texas Tech University.

Induction ceremonies were held Feb. 1 on the Texas Tech campus.

Porter, a 2000 graduate of Dimmitt High School, is majoring in nursing at Texas Tech.



Earlene and Pete Steiert

Steiert's will celebrate 55th wedding anniversary

Pete and Earlene Steiert will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on March 26 and their family will join them in observing the occasion with a dinner at their home near Hart on Sunday.

Pete Steiert married the former Earlene Goodman on March 26, 1946, at Holy Family Church in Nazareth. Both are descendants of pioneering Hart-area families and have been longtime family farmers in the Hart and Nazareth area.

The Steiert's have four children

including Janis McAdams of Ropesville, Jim Steiert of Hereford, Theresa Fleischman of Wisconsin and Patrick Steiert of DeSoto. The couple has seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Interact will collect recycled phone books until Friday

Interact, a Dimmitt High School club, is gathering old phone books for a recycling contest and club members will be accepting the books until Friday.

If you would like to contribute to the collection, you may drop phone books off at one of the following sites: Dimmitt High School, Thriftway Supermarket, Dimmitt Market, the courthouse, First United Bank, Hereford Federal Credit Union, Medical Center of Dimmitt, Richardson Elementary School, the Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Hart Church of Christ or First Assembly of God Church.

For assistance or more information please call Ashley at 647-5753 or 647-5110; Molly at 647-4756; or Jenna at 647-5329.

Auxiliary plan 'Enlistment Tea'

Plains Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will sponsor an "Enlistment Tea" on Thursday, April 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the hospital's Solarium.

The public is invited to attend the event.

Volunteers are needed for the auxiliary's gift shop and annual bake sale, and those who wish to offer their support and time should plan to attend the tea.

Loudder, Conway are married Saturday in double-ring ceremony

Lacy Loudder and Justin Conway were united in marriage Saturday afternoon in the First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt.

The bride is the daughter of Lance and Terri Loudder of Dimmitt. Tom and Janice Conway of Cheyenne, Okla., are the parents of the groom.

Dr. William R. Fleming of Lubbock, grandfather of the bride, officiated in the traditional double-ring ceremony and he was assisted by Rev. Rusty Dickerson, pastor of the First United Methodist Church.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a candlelight matte satin two-piece wedding gown by Exclusives. The princess-style strapless bodice featured a Basque waistline and was made of floral embossed matte satin. The top of the bodice was enhanced with a three-inch band of crystal bugle beads and small crystal beads outlining the floral design of the satin embossing and edged at the top and bottom with narrow bands of satin. The back of the bodice was laced with satin streamers.

The skirt was made of bouffant matte satin and flowed into a semi-cathedral train. Two pairs of wide satin streamers with embossed panels and angled tips draped from the back waistline of the skirt. A band of the embossed satin, similar to the band at the top of the bodice, decorated the bottom of the skirt and train.

The bride wore a fingertip ivory veil of tulle edged in satin ribbon that was gathered at the top onto a halo of gathered satin. A sheer ribbon bow centered with a knot of satin cording completed the look.

She wore baby blue tennis shoes covered in pearls and bridal lace. She wore diamond earrings which had been made from her great-grandmother's engagement ring. The earrings had been worn by the bride's mother in her own wedding.

She carried a bouquet of white calla lilies surrounded by cardinal red roses and white hydrangea blooms hand-tied with a red sheer ribbon. The bouquet and floral arrangements were created especially for the bride by her aunt, Peggy Loudder.

Serving as maid of honor was Katy Loudder, sister of the bride. Aspen Boyett, friend of the bride, served as a bridesmaid.

The bridal attendants were attired in red satin gowns, similar in design



MR. AND MRS. JUSTIN CONWAY
... She's the former Lacy Loudder

to the bride's gown. The attendants' gowns were fashioned with fitted bodices laced in the back with red satin streamers.

They carried ivory porcelain tussie musses filled with confetti roses.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with an ivory pleated shirt and red bow tie.

The best man was Chris Barton, friend of the groom. Brandon Drinnon, cousin of the groom, was a groomsman. The groomsmen wore tuxedos similar in design to the one worn by the groom.

The flower girl, Lindsey Loudder, daughter of Lane and Peggy Loudder, wore a princess-style gown with a bodice of candlelight embossed satin which was laced in the back by a strand of tiny ivory pearls. Her red satin skirt featured a band of the embossed candlelight satin at the base. She wore red tennis shoes covered in pearls and bridal lace.

Ring bearer was Jakotah John, son of Roger and Darla John. He carried the wedding rings on an ivory satin pillow topped with a sheer satin bow like the one on the bride's veil. He was also outfitted in a black tux.

Tosha Conway, sister of the groom registered guests. She wore a red satin gown.

The couple's parents and grandparents were seated to Irvin Berlin's *Always*. Following the chiming of the hour, David Jones performed the hymn, *Be Thou My Vision*, a *cappella* from the balcony of the church. Mr. Jones had also sung this hymn in the bride's parents' wedding.

The attendants proceeded down the aisle as Pachelbel's *Canon in D* was performed.

The bride entered the sanctuary on her father's arm as organist Marcella Jennings played Bach's *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*.

After the bride was given in marriage, the song *Brand New Family* was performed. The song was written and performed for the couple by the bride's mother.

As the couple lit the unity candle, Savannah and Shonnah Black, friends of the bride, and Katy Loudder, sister of the bride, sang *Quietly This Hour*, as they were accompanied on piano by Adeana Carlyle, the bride's high school choir director.

The bridal party exited the sanctuary to *The Wedding March* by Mendelssohn.

A reception honoring the couple was held in the church's Fellowship Hall following the wedding.

The couple will be making their home in Cheyenne, Okla.

If the Earth were made of ice, the heat from the Sun would melt it in 14,987 years.

School board candidate workshop set for today

Area school board candidates and interested citizens can learn more about the demands and rewards of school board service at a candidate workshop today (Thursday) from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Region 16 Education Service Center at 1601 S. Cleveland in Amarillo.

The workshop will provide interested community members and individuals thinking about running for the board with a better understanding of what is involved in being elected and serving as a trustee. Experienced school board members will explain board members' key responsibilities and outline the qualities necessary for effective service.

Topics to be covered include the school board's duties and responsibilities, important ethical practices during board service, how board members are accountable for the education of students, and keys to responsible campaigns. Participants also will view *A Call to Service*, a Texas Association of School Boards' video highlighting many aspects of board service and featuring several experienced school trustees.

The workshop is open to anyone. Admission is free. For more information about the workshop, call Brenda Canul at TASB, 512-467-0222 or 1-800-580-8272, ext. 6104.

Dr. Toby Brown
Therapeutic Optometrist

Office Hours 9-5 Monday-Friday
Appointments Available Mondays and Wednesdays

DIMMITT OFFICE 300 W. Bedford St. 647-4464
TULIA OFFICE 317 SW 2nd St. 995-4102

Great New Spring Fashions Are Here!

Forecast: Showers

We have individual tables of wedding gift selections for these couples:

Andrea Burkhalter and Blake Brown
Shawna Kenworthy and Travis Schulte
Heather Braddock and Chris Stanford
Stacey Kelley and Sam Griffin
Wendy Finke and Jimmy Ivey

The Village Shop
204 W. Bedford, Dimmitt 647-2450

You are invited to a **Baby Shower** honoring **Jackie Cornett** Saturday, March 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in the home of **Carla Schilling** 3-1/2 miles north of Dimmitt on Highway 385

(It's a girl)
Selections at Tots and Teens and Toys R Us

Country Peddler Show

Visit Peddler's Perfect Street of Shops

The Peddler's Perfect Street of Shops is coming soon to **LUBBOCK, TEXAS** **March 23-25, 2001**
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center ♥ 1501 Sixth Street
Take Avenue Q to 7th Street, turn east

Folk Art ♥ Pottery ♥ Gourmet Foods ♥ Candles

Show Hours
Friday 4 p.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Admission
Adults \$4.00
Seniors (65+) \$2.00
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For the safety of all, strollers are not recommended.

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HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

White credits seatbelt with saving a life

Curtis White, 17, of Tulsa, Okla., grandson of Noonan and Betty White of Dimmitt, can give a testimony about the life-saving power of seat belts.

He was in a crash Feb. 28 when his 1998 Isuzu Rodeo ran off an icy bridge about three miles from his home as he was driving to school.

White suffered compression fractures in three vertebrae in his back and had some severe bruising, according to his father, David White.

"The car became airborne, landed atop a guard rail, and slid to the end of the guard rail. The car then became airborne again and rolled three times down an embankment and landed upright," David White said, describing the crash. He said the car was destroyed—the frame rails were bent, breaking the frame cross members, engine, transmission, transfer case and gas tank mounts.

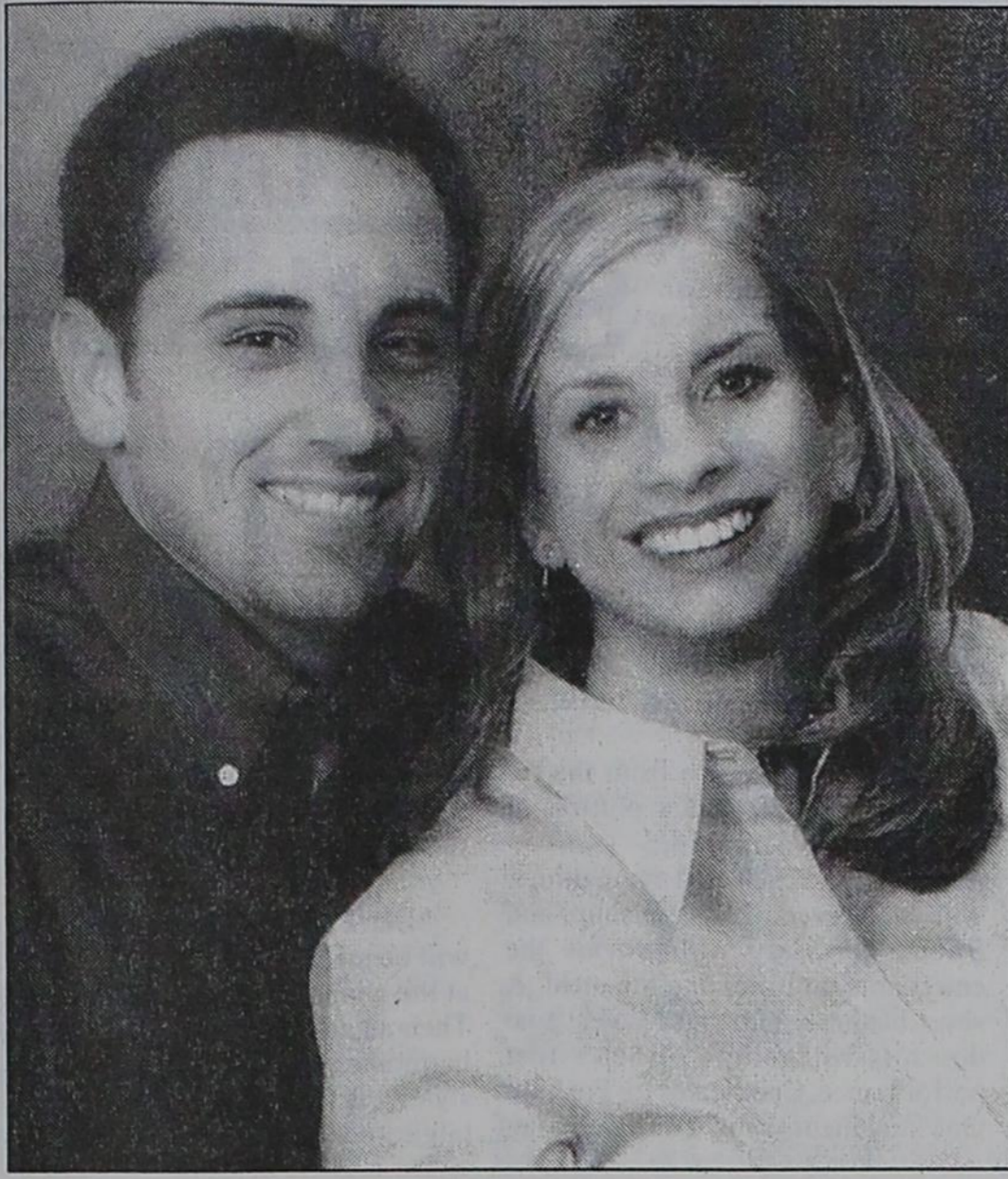
"The engine was still running and smoking badly. Fearing a post-crash fire, my son was unable to kill the engine because the key was broken off in the ignition," David White reported. "Curtis tried kicking the windshield out and eventually got into the back seat, where a person who witnessed the accident helped him get out. He was transported to the hospital in a private vehicle."

David White said the severe bruises Curtis suffered were from his seatbelt and shoulder strap.

"He does not remember buckling or unbuckling the belt," David White said. "He must wear a back brace for eight to nine weeks and is expected to recover fully. That is a relatively small price to pay considering the severity of the accident."

"It is hard to think about what my wife, daughter and I would be doing right now if it were not for those seatbelt bruises."

David and his wife, Janie, are former residents of Castro County.



Tory Bryant and Lee Scarborough

June wedding is planned

Jack and Cindy Scarborough of Lubbock announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Lee Scarborough, to Tory Bryant, son of Mike and Vicki Bryant of Graford, formerly of Plainview.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Jimmie Wilson and the late Pete Wilson, and J.B. and Betty Scarborough, all of Petersburg. The prospective groom is the grandson of Dale and Marie Winders of Dimmitt, Russell Bryant of Las Cruces, N.M., and the late Peggy Bryant of Muleshoe.

The couple will exchange wedding vows at 6 p.m. on June 16 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Lubbock.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Lubbock Monterey High School. She is majoring in computer information systems at West Texas A&M University in Canyon and expects to graduate in May with a bachelor of business administration degree. She is currently employed by Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center.

The prospective groom graduated from Plainview High School in 1994. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in exercise and sports science from Texas Tech University, graduating in May 1999. He is pursuing a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies at West Texas A&M University, and is slated to graduate in May. He currently works as an assistant women's basketball coach at West Texas A&M University.

Boozer and Curl exchange vows Saturday in Fort Worth

Karen Curl became the bride of Britt Boozer Saturday when the pair exchanged wedding vows at the First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth.

The bride is the daughter of Sam Curl of Stillwater, Okla., and Betty Curl of Belton. Parents of the groom are Monty and Sue Boozer of Dimmitt.

The Rev. Kent Kilbourne officiated at the formal evening ceremony. Flowers and candles decorated the church.

Music for the ceremony was provided by Jack Noble White, organist; and soloist Stacy Starkes.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. She wore a sleeveless ivory dress designed with a beaded top, tulle skirt and train.

She carried a bouquet of hydrangeas and ivory roses.

Maid of honor was Julia Curl and Jane Parker served as matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Susannah Mercer, Kristi Crader, Holly Wright and Stacy Starkes.

The bridal attendants were outfitted in ivory blouses and iridescent periwinkle taffeta skirts.

Each carried a bouquet of hydrangeas.

Best men were Robert Boozer and Bart Wyatt. Groomsmen were Terry Riley, Clay Henderson, Matt Bradley and Jon Bruegel.

Guests were seated by Kyle Shelton, Kevin Bruton and Robert Lightcap.

Following the wedding ceremony, a reception honoring the newlyweds was held at the City Club of Fort Worth. A string trio provided entertainment during the evening.

After a wedding trip to New Orleans, La., the couple will establish their home in Dimmitt.

The bride attended Texas Tech University and the groom studied at West Texas A&M University.



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Luncheon, style show highlight Junior League benefit March 30

The Junior League of Amarillo will present the Best of Texas 2001 event on March 30 at the Amarillo Civic Center Grand Plaza.

The Texas Tulip Luncheon and Style Show, sponsored by Duncan and Boyd Jewelers, will begin at 11 a.m. with silent auction shopping.

Deep in the Heart of Texas Gala kicks off at 7 p.m. with a CapRock wine tasting. The event will include a cocktail buffet, live and silent auctions, gaming tables and dancing to the music of Rambler.

Tickets for each event are \$20 per person and can be reserved by calling 374-0802.

Theme for Best of Texas is "Deep in the Heart of Texas," according to co-chairmen Paula Steele and Dee Dee Tiffany. "The committee looked 'Deep in the Heart of Texas' and to regions beyond for inspiration," Steele said.

The luncheon will be catered by Porter Crawford of Unlimited for You and the menu will be Tex-Mex cuisine.

A raffle will be held with the top prize being a David Yuman bracelet donated by Duncan and Boyd Jewelers. The winner will choose from two styles of the bracelet. Tickets are \$2 each or six for \$10.

The Deep in the Heart of Texas Gala will feature a buffet with food stations filled with favorite fair from Texas regions.

The live auction, conducted by Spanky Assiter, will include packages such as "Shop 'Till Your

Heart's Content" and a David Yurman "Quatrefoil Collection Suite" donated by Duncan and Boyd Jewelers.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Junior League's community trust fund.

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SEC plans shareholder's annual meeting

Swisher Electric Cooperative members will elect two directors next Thursday, March 29, at their 61st annual membership meeting.

The meeting and catered buffet supper will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Ezra Jones School Cafeteria in Tulia.

Registration will start at 6:30 and will be followed by the meal. A business meeting is slated to begin at 7:15 p.m.

During the business meeting, two director positions will be voted on by the members.

Incumbent director Jimmie Reed is opposed by Bryan Bishop for the seat in Position One.

Incumbent director Ross O'Daniel will be challenged by Brad Sharp in the other race.

Candidates for both positions were selected by a seven-member nominating committee in January.

This year's meeting centers around "The Smart Choice," when it comes to electric utility deregulation.

In an annual report to members, the cooperative's management explains that in the states where deregulation has been tried, it hasn't worked very well for most consumers.

The cooperative's position is that the smart choice is to "wait and see" how deregulation works in the rest of Texas before committing the cooperative to an irreversible course of action.

Drawings for door prizes will conclude the meeting.



MARCH IS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH—Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins (seated) is signing a proclamation declaring the special observance for Dimmitt, witnessed by Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava. Dimmitt is covered by the Tri-County Branch of the American Red Cross, which serves Castro, Deaf Smith and Parmer counties. Last year, the branch trained nearly 1,200 people in life-saving CPR and first aid, lifeguarding and water safety, HIV/AIDS education, and mission related caregiving. Photo by Linda Maxwell

Deaf Smith Electric sets meeting Tuesday

Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative members will receive capital credit refunds at the cooperative's annual meeting and dinner on Tuesday, starting at 5 p.m. in the Hereford Bull Barn.

The refunds will be from the remainder of 1989 and a portion of 1990, totaling \$1 million.

A fish, chicken and beef dinner will be served. Mike Bishop and Sweet 'N' Sassy will provide the entertainment following the meal. A short business meeting to elect two directors will follow Bishop's first performance. Candidates for Position One are incumbent Vick Christian and nominee Jerry Roach; and those vying for Position Two are incumbent Jerry Roberts and nominee Jared Blankenship.

Another highlight of the evening's activities will be drawings for attendance prizes totaling more than \$1,000, with a color television for the grand prize.

Mike Bishop and Sweet 'N' Sassy will be making their first appearance at the cooperative's annual meeting. Their act includes strong vocals, rich harmonies and a variety of musical styles, such as classic country, nostalgic rock and roll of the 50's and 60's, rhythm and blues, gospel and patriotic music.

"In addition to the music, the on-stage banter of Mike and his wife, Dale, is reminiscent of Lucy and Ricky Ricardo," according to information about the entertainers. They are joined by a group of multi-talented "hand-picked" musicians who perform on over a dozen instruments collectively and are each experienced entertainers in their own right.

"Mike Bishop and Sweet 'N' Sassy and the band always succeed in giving their audiences a show they won't soon forget," a spokesperson said.

Cotton talks

By SHAWN WADE

Plains Cotton Growers has finalized its lineup for its 44th annual meeting on April 6.

The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Texas Cotton Ginners Association's 94th annual meeting and trade show, April 5-6 in Lubbock.

Featured speakers at the PCG meeting will be John Maguire, vice president of Washington operations for the National Cotton Council; and Phillip C. Burnett, newly-announced chief executive officer of The Seam.

Maguire will be discussing the changing political climate influencing important agricultural issues in Washington. He also will update growers on the status of efforts to expand budget authority for agricultural programs and on prospects for approval of additional emergency aid to growers in 2001.

Burnett will introduce The Seam to growers and explain the role that organization hopes to play in the cotton marketing system. Burnett is a 30-year veteran of the cotton industry and he is a former chief executive officer of the National Cotton Council.

The Seam is described as a totally neutral electronic global marketplace for the buying and selling of cotton and related products. The Seam's vision is to be the comprehensive marketplace for the global textile fiber industry.

The Seam hopes to increase the profits of its users through improved transaction process efficiencies, expanded exposure to potential customers and suppliers, access to real-time market information, and guaranteed trades.

Other scheduled presentations include a president's address from PCG President Ronnie Hopper of Petersburg; an update on boll weevil eradication activities by Woody Anderson, chairman of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation's board of directors; and an update on research conducted by the Plains Cotton Improvement Program by Dale Swinburn, chairman of the committee.

Swinburn will also discuss a

recently-completed evaluation of the cotton breeding system in the United States commissioned by Cotton Incorporated. The report brings into focus the situation facing the industry in terms of yields and what potential exists for making further advancements in both yield and quality.

Following the annual meeting, the PCG board of directors will come together for its regular quarterly meeting. The PCG board will elect its 2001-02 executive committee.

PCG officers are elected each year. Individuals are limited to serving a maximum of two consecutive terms in each of the three elected officer positions.

Steve Verett. "Just thinking about how much additional Market Loss Assistance, Cottonseed Assistance and Crop Loss Assistance has meant to this industry re-emphasizes our need to support the people that have made it all possible."

The 2001 CAC fundraising effort is also being pursued with the knowledge that mid-term elections are just around the corner. That, plus closely balanced representation in the House and Senate, makes building strong bi-partisan support for cotton initiatives imperative.

The months leading up to the mid-term elections also could see completion of the new farm bill, adding to the importance of CAC's efforts.

The next 12 to 18 months are critical and it will be important for CAC to have the ability to support old friends and develop new relationships that will strengthen support in the future.

The 2001 Committee for the Advancement of Cotton (CAC) fundraising campaign is gearing up and the timing is critical for growers and individuals involved in the cotton industry at every level.

The CAC is the industry's political action committee and its purpose is to help support legislators that have shown strong support for agriculture and cotton in the past, and to identify those legislators willing to support agriculture in the future.

The ability to cement relationships and help retain the industry's strongest congressional allies has never been more important than it is now.

With agriculture focused on surviving another bleak marketing year, the economics of farming are once again going to rely heavily on the approval of additional Federal aid.

That is where the CAC can and does make a tremendous difference. Contributions made to the CAC support the re-election funds of key members of congress that represent cotton production regions or who are strong supporters of agriculture in general.

"When we look back at the tremendous economic support provided through the effort of cotton's friends in the House of Representatives and the Senate and the need to I've a little back is painfully clear," said PCG Executive Vice President

Redistricting hearings set

The Texas House of Representatives Committee on Redistricting will hold public hearings in Austin to receive public input on redistricting for the Texas House, Congressional districts, and the State Board of Education.

Congressional and SBOE districts will be the subject of a hearing on April 5 at 4 p.m. in the Capitol Extension Auditorium in Austin. Texas gained two seats in the US House as a result of the 2000 Census, increasing the state's total to 32 Congressional districts.

Individuals and organizations interested in redistricting are encouraged to attend and testify at the hearing.

For more information, you may visit the Texas Legislative Council's web site: www.tlc.state.tx.us/tlc/research/redist/redist.htm.

Redrawing the 150 districts for the Texas House was to have been the focus of a session Wednesday.

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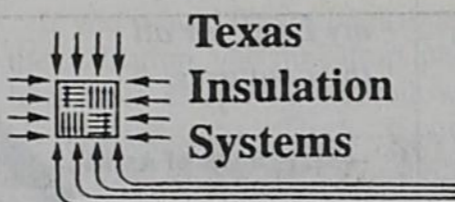
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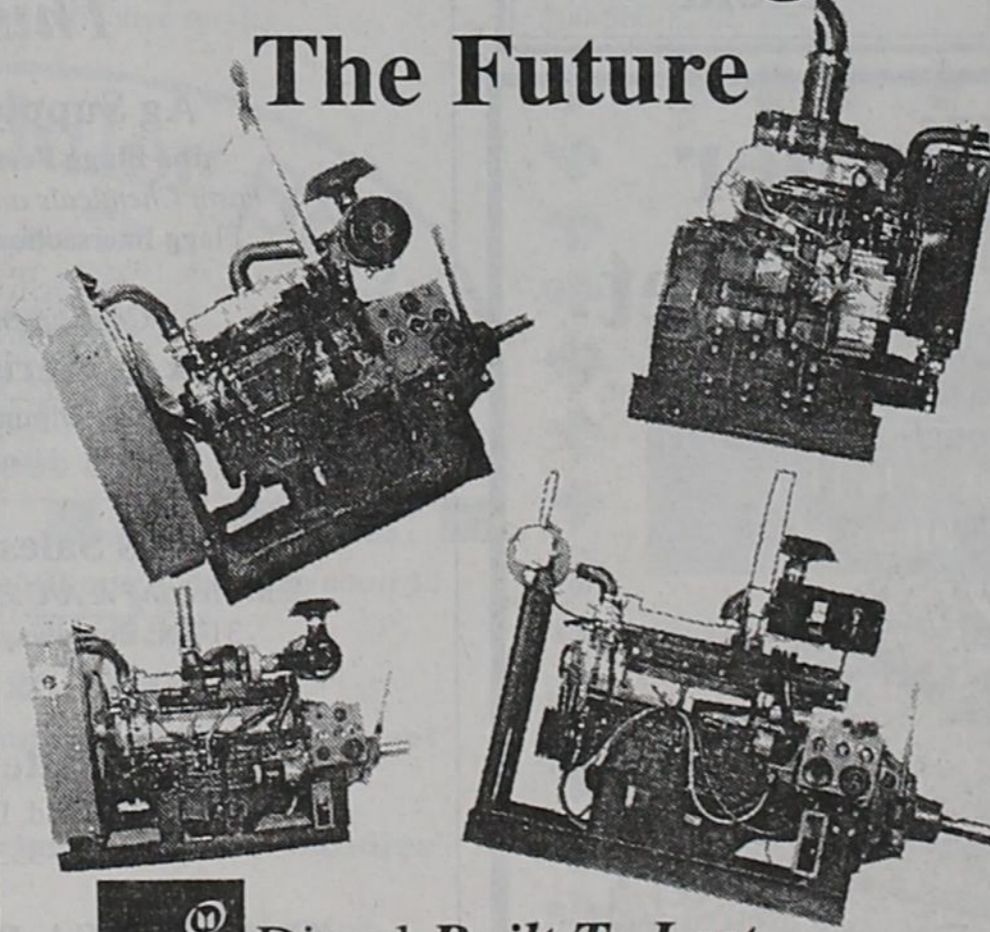
MORNING SHOW..... 7 to 8 a.m. daily
Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Good Neighbor

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Texas High Plains growers raise 20% of nation's cotton

The Texas High Plains is a critical link in the cotton production chain in the United States and nearly 20% of the total US production during the last decade has come from this region alone.

A number of critical factors must merge each season for producers to make a profit and produce the quantity and quality of cotton necessary to succeed in today's competitive market.

Cotton production is affected by factors including weather conditions, irrigation rates, fertilization methods and rates and variety selection. Researchers in the Cotton Economics Research Institute at Texas Tech University are analyzing the effect of these factors on lint yields and quality to help growers make good management decisions that benefit their bottom line.

Dr. Octavio Ramirez, a researcher in the Cotton Economics Research Institute, and researchers in other departments in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, have developed six production response functions that describe the relationships between weather conditions, critical management

decisions and cotton output, specifically lint and seed yield, micronaire, strength, staple and turnout.

According to Ramirez, both weather and management have a definite predictable impact on the quality and quantity of irrigated cotton a grower can produce.

"Profitability lies in the producer's ability to implement effective crop management practices given the changing weather conditions of this region," Ramirez said.

Predicting the weather is not an exact science, especially when making critical management decisions for a growing season.

"Our research shows that if we can get improved weather information, that is, better rainfall and temperature predictions, a typical producer using the production response function developed in this research could increase profitability between \$20 and \$25 per acre," Ramirez said.

The study also found that irrigation water and nitrogen and phosphorous fertilizer use have a considerable impact on lint quality. Different application rates of these inputs, combined with weather conditions and variety selection, may cause the

quality of the lint produced to vary significantly.

"The impact of changes in the amount of these inputs applied to the crop on lint quality is so substantial

that it could heavily affect the premiums and discounts obtained under current cotton pricing practices," Ramirez said.

"Our research suggests that if

producers make more informed management decisions that take into account these quality effects, they could improve the profitability between \$10 and \$20 per acre on average."

For more information, contact Dr. Octavio Ramirez at (806) 742-0277, Ext. 245; or e-mail him at octavio.ramirez@ttu.edu.

DPS expands qualifications for applicants

The Texas Dept. of Public Safety recently announced that the qualifications for applicants for trooper training have been expanded.

Correctional officers and jailers with two years of service now meet the experience qualifications to apply as a trooper trainee.

Jailer experience is defined as time spent as a full-time paid employee performing jailer duties in a

position that requires a license as a certified Texas jailer or its equivalent in another state. Correctional officer experience is defined as time spent as a full-time paid correctional officer for the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice, or the equivalent in another state. Applicants with at least 60 hours of college or two years law enforcement or military service also meet the minimum experience qualifications.

DPS will accept applications for the next six-month recruit school (which begins Sept. 3) until April 16 for out-of-state applicants and April 27 for in-state applicants. Anyone interested in applying should contact the nearest DPS office for more information and an application packet. Information also is available on the DPS web site: www.txdps.state.tx.us

An applicant must be a US citizen, at least 20 years of age by the time they are accepted for training, of good moral character, and must meet certain vision requirements.

A final conviction (including probation) for any driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence, family violence or felony will automatically disqualify an applicant. The screening process will include verification of written and oral statements and a thorough background investigation of the applicant. Written exams, physical agility, psychological and drug testing also are required.

After gaining experience, troopers may apply for a variety of assignments including promotion to super-

visory positions; and assignments such as aircraft, training, recruiting, and many criminal investigator positions, including the Texas Rangers.

"Diversity is a priority at DPS and we're encouraging minorities and

women to apply," said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., DPS Director. "This is a chance to make a difference by being part of a law enforcement agency known to be one of the best in the nation."

Texas Boll Weevil Foundation announces its new employees

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation recently announced the hiring of several supervisors who will help direct the eradication effort in Texas.

In the newly-created Northern High Plains Zone which encompasses Hale, Floyd, Swisher, Briscoe, Armstrong and Randall counties, Trent Parish was hired as the assistant zone manager. Wes Jones is the zone manager.

Parish, a fourth-generation farmer, grew up in Springlake. He joined the foundation in 1999 as a field unit supervisor and was promoted to district supervisor the next year. Parish will complete a degree in agricultural business administration at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview in May.

The Southern High Plains/Caprock Zone includes Cochran, Hockley, and Lubbock counties, most of Crosby County and the parts of Lynn and Garza counties located above the Caprock. This zone, which includes more than a million acres of cotton, has named two assistant managers to join one manager Patrick Burson in directing operations.

The two new assistants are Michael Hester and Charles Scarborough.

Hester, originally from Rochester, has been with the foundation since 1996, working as a field unit supervisor before becoming assistant zone manager in the Western High Plains Zone. He has an associate degree in farm and ranch management from Vernon College. He spent several

years working on a cotton farm, and worked in a variety of agricultural-related businesses before joining the foundation.

Scarborough is part of a management team that oversees farm operations in Floyd and Hale counties. He is co-owner of a seed business. Born in Lubbock, he was raised in Petersburg. He obtained a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Texas Tech University in 1967.

Scarborough also worked for Texas Instruments for 18 years in production and financial planning.

Barbara Jones has been named zone manager for the Northern Rolling Plains Zone, replacing Joey Hogan who is the zone manager of the newly-created Blacklands Zone.

Jones is a Childress native who has farmed cotton for 30 years. She joined the foundation in 1999.

Joining Hogan as assistant zone manager in the Southern Blacklands Zone will be Michael Marugg of Stamford.

Marugg joined the foundation in 1996, working part-time as a ground observer. He became an environmental monitoring specialist the next year and also has worked as a field unit supervisor and a field unit manager. He grew up on a farm and has worked with a chemical application business. He received a degree in agricultural business from Tarleton State University in 1993.

The Southern Blacklands Zone covers 65 counties in central and east Texas.

Master Marketer program is planned for ag lenders

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service will offer a four-day Master Marketer for Ag Lenders program in June at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo.

"This is an in-depth risk management education program specifically designed for ag lenders who work with producers and agribusinesses," said Jackie Smith, Extension economist based in Lubbock. "We will focus on understanding price risk, and the best tools available to manage that risk."

"Government farm programs are changing and commodity markets are highly volatile. Producers and agribusinesses who can manage the risks of this environment stand a better chance of surviving and thriving in the future. Lenders who know and understand risk management tools and technology can help their clients make better credit decisions, reduce their credit risk and remain in business."

The four-day course will occur in two sessions: June 13-14 and June 27-28. The first session will focus on marketing plans, basic marketing strategies, crop insurance, lender liability, weather's impact on production and markets, special contracts, legal issues, and supply-demand analysis for feed grains and livestock.

Session two will focus on cotton supply-demand analysis, basics of technical analysis, new farm policy legislation and new and creative ways for lenders to help clients adjust to changing times.

Several expert instructors will lead these sessions including Carl Anderson, Wayne Hayenga, Danny Klinefelter and Abner Womack of Texas A&M University; Alan Brugler of DTN director of research and commodity strategy; John Huffake, attorney with Gibson, Oschner and Adkins in Amarillo; and Randall Reeder and Robert Wisner, Iowa State University econ-

omists.

Extension economists Smith, Steve Amosson, Stan Bevers and Mark Waller will also teach segments of these sessions.

Registration for the program is \$750 per person and registration deadline is April 15. Checks should be made payable to Texas Extension Education Foundation.

An optional introduction to futures and options workshop will be held on June 12, and is open to anyone who wants to refresh or increase their understanding of these tools.

"Lenders who sign up for this four-day program will receive a letter confirming their registration and additional details about the sessions," Smith said.

Registration forms or more information on this event are available by calling Smith at (806) 746-6101; Danny Klinefelter at 979-845-7171 or Joe Pena at 830-278-9151.

Two-Cylinder Club sets tractor show

The Texas Plains Two-Cylinder Club will host the annual Ollie Limer Antique Tractor Show Saturday and Sunday at the Ollie Limer Center in Plainview.

Exhibits will begin arriving on Friday and the show hours will be 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted.

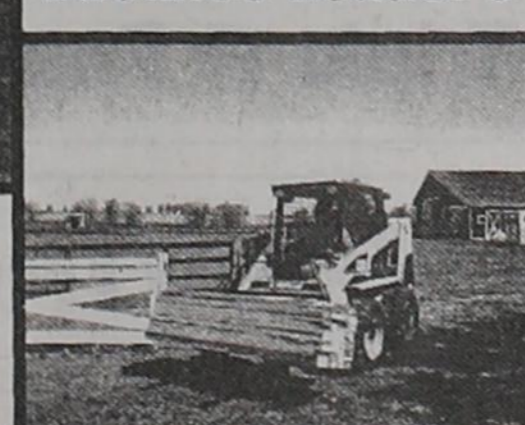
The show will include antique tractors, antique farm machinery, stationary engines, miniature replicas, and much more. Activities will include a parade of the tractors each day at 2 p.m.

Concessions will be available courtesy of the Hale County Farm and Ranch Museum Association.

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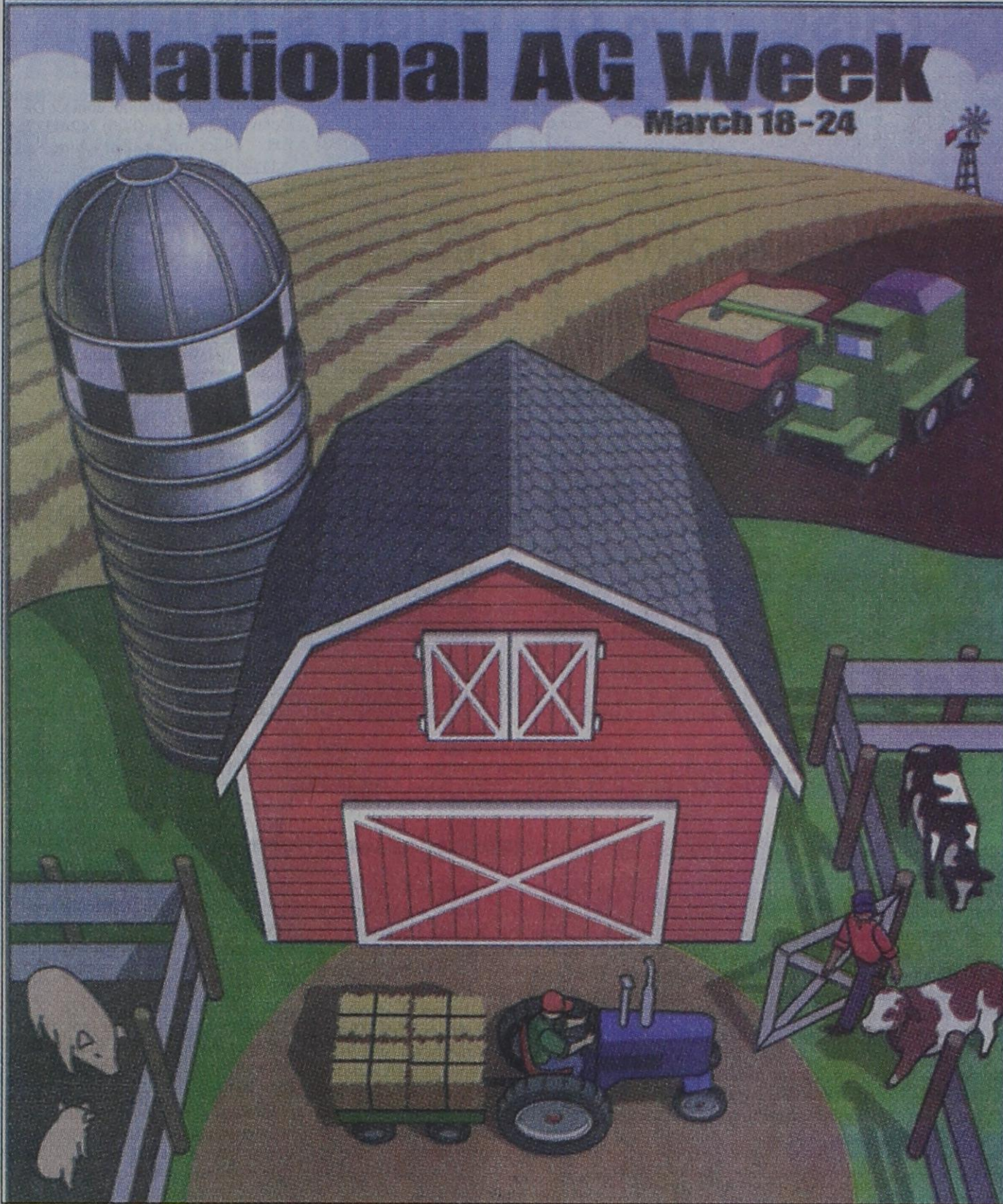
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Thursday, March 29

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To learn the "Smart Choice"
Attendance and door prizes**

Registration - 6:30 p.m.
Buffet Supper - 6:30 p.m.
Business meeting - 7:15 p.m.

Ezra Jones School Cafeteria
501 N.E. 4th Street, Tulia



Celebrate American Agriculture

Forty-two percent of the United States total land area is farmland (945.5 million acres.) Nearly two million people farm or ranch and more than 15 percent of our population is employed in farm or farm-related jobs. That's why, during National Agriculture Week, we'd like to acknowledge our farmers and ranchers for the tough job they do, and the many contributions they make in improving the quality of our daily lives.

American farmers and ranchers are independent business people who provide for their families by growing and producing food and fiber. They use modern production techniques to increase the quality and quantity of the food they produce. Farmers and ranchers are producing meat lower in fat and cholesterol which result in retail cuts that are 15 percent leaner. One farmer can

supply enough food to feed 129 people everyday. Our farmers account for 42.7 percent of the world's production of soybeans and 34.4 percent of the world's production of corn.

The efficiency of the American farmers benefits the United States consumer in the pocketbook. U.S. consumers spend approximately nine percent of their income on food compared with 11 percent in the United Kingdom, 17 percent in Japan, 27 percent in South Africa and 53 percent in India.

Each year during the week surrounding the first day of spring, there are plenty of opportunities to celebrate American agriculture. Take some time to think about what American agriculture is doing for your tomorrows.

National Agriculture Week Is March 18-24, 2001

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Agro Distribution, L.L.C.	Dimmitt Consumers, Inc.	Hereford TX Federal Credit Union
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C & S Battery, Inc.	First Ag Credit, FCS-Dimmitt	Pro-Ag, Inc.
Cargill Grain Division <small>Hart</small>	FIRST BANK OF MULESHOE <small>DIMMITT BRANCH</small>	Tidwell Spraying Service
Castro Co-op Gin, Inc.	First United Bank of Dimmitt <small>Member FDIC</small>	Triple A Pump Co., Inc.
Castro County Farm Bureau	AG SUPPLY LTD	Westway Feed Products
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Bobcats' confidence building as district race begins

The Dimmitt Bobcats have played four close games this season, and although they came up on the short end in three of those four outings, their confidence has grown and now they're ready to test their skills in the games that count—District 2-AAA play.

Dimmitt opened the season with a big 12-10 win over Tulia before dropping its next three games to Friona, 11-12; New Deal, 5-7; and Friona, 6-9.

"The guys are having a lot of fun. We have three losses, but they've all been close games," said Dimmitt Coach Jesus Quiroz, who is in his third year as the Bobcats' manager. "We've been right in the hunt in every one of the games we've lost. Those losses could easily have been our wins."

The Bobcats opened district play Tuesday night at Shallowater and will continue with conference games against Muleshoe, Lubbock Cooper,

Littlefield and Lubbock Roosevelt.

The district is a tough one and the team to beat, according to Quiroz, is Lubbock Cooper, currently ranked second in the state.

"Cooper will be tough. They're ranked second in the state and they've been beating 5A and 4A schools. With them, we're going to have to play sound, solid defense, have good hitting and good pitching," Quiroz said.

"The rest of the district is pretty well matched up. Shallowater has one good pitcher and Littlefield has a good pitcher. As a whole, I think the other teams are pretty balanced. The No. 2 and 3 spots in district will go to whoever wants it the most."

Dimmitt has a legitimate shot at earning one of those playoff berths, and the Bobcats are loaded with experienced players who have the desire.

"We have everybody back from

last year. We were a little nervous last year, but now we're more confident," Quiroz said.

Quiroz will use a three-man rotation on the mound through district, starting off with senior Tanner Griffitt. Seniors B.J. Hill and Wesley Harkins will figure into the rotation. Junior Brent Josselet and Hill will also see time in a relief role.

"We seem to be a lot more comfortable on the mound this season," Quiroz said. "Harkins pitched against Friona when we lost 11-12, and he had an 11-10 lead going into the seventh. But we had a couple of errors in that inning and allowed them to come back and beat us."

"B.J. Hill has been a surprise with his pitching. I pitched him the entire game against New Deal and he averaged about 16 pitches per inning. That's not bad at all. I'm going to try and use him some as a closer. He'll start some and relieve some. He shows a lot of control out there."

Outfield starters will be junior Thomas Brockman in center field, senior Daniel Proffitt in left field and either junior Matthew Wright or senior Jeremy Furr in right.

Furr has been playing the early games because Wright was still involved in basketball, but Quiroz has been encouraged by what he's seen from Wright in practice.

"Right field is really wide open now. Matthew Wright's back and he's doing a good job. It's still open though and I'm going to have to make a choice pretty soon. It's just going to come down to who works harder in practice and shows me more during games—basically, who wants it more."

The infield starting lineup is set, with Harkins at third, senior Bobby Hill at shortstop, Josselet at second base, senior Jonathan Stevens at first base and B.J. Hill at catcher.

Griffitt could also see quite a bit of time at catcher and Wright could cover second base on occasion.

Other Bobcats on the varsity roster



THE 2001 DIMMITT BOBCATS are ready for District 2-AAA foes and hope to claim one of the three available playoff spots. Team members include (kneeling, from left) Bobby Hill, Jonathan Stevens, Thomas Brockman, Jeremy Furr and Albert

Campos; and (standing, from left) Head Coach Jesus Quiroz, manager Mary Bradley, Wesley Harkins, B.J. Hill, Tanner Griffitt, Matthew Wright, Daniel Proffitt, Brent Josselet, Tanner Self and manager Caitlin Buckley.

Photo by Don Nelson

Hunter safety class set in Tulia this weekend

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept. will sponsor a hunter safety class on Friday and Saturday at the Courthouse Annex in Tulia.

Class space is limited to the first 30 who sign up, so those interested are encouraged to register as soon as possible by calling Game Warden Audie Hamm at 668-4437.

Those wanting their hunter safety certification must attend both sections of the class, with instruction from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. The cost is \$15 per person, with lunch included free on Saturday. Also, prizes will be given to the participants who have the top three scores on the end-of-course exam.

All hunters who were born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, are required to complete a hunter safety course. The minimum age for the course is 12.

The penalty for hunting without safety certification is a minimum fine of \$25 plus court costs, ranging up to \$500 plus court costs.

Hamm said that four or five instructors from four counties will be leading the course. Areas of instruction will include hunting ethics, hunting safety and responsibility, firearm responsibility and handling, muzzle loader (black powder) firearms, archery, survival, first aid, conservation and wildlife management, lease preparation, and how to obtain a lease.

"This will be hunters' only other option for a hunter safety course in this area, unless they go to Amarillo or Lubbock," Hamm said.

include sophomore catcher/outfielder Freddy Flores, junior outfielder Albert Campos, sophomore first baseman Caleb Dickerson and sophomore second baseman Harold Casas.

The Bobcats have the potential to score a lot of runs in games, but Quiroz said the team's hitting is still not where he would like it to be at this point in the season.

"I think in every game we've lost we've left the bases loaded in at least one inning," Quiroz said. "We can get on base, we just need to find a guy who can handle the pressure and bring them on in."

"We've had a couple of games where we've hit in the first half of the game, then we die out in the last half. Or we start off flat and then wind up hitting well at the end. If we can just put together a full game and swing the bats well every inning, we'll be okay."

"We just have to make the guys believe they can finish the job."

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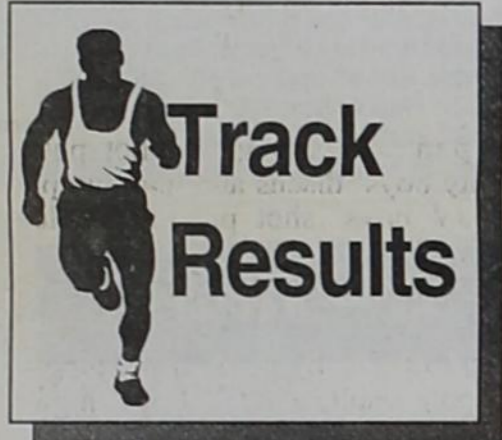
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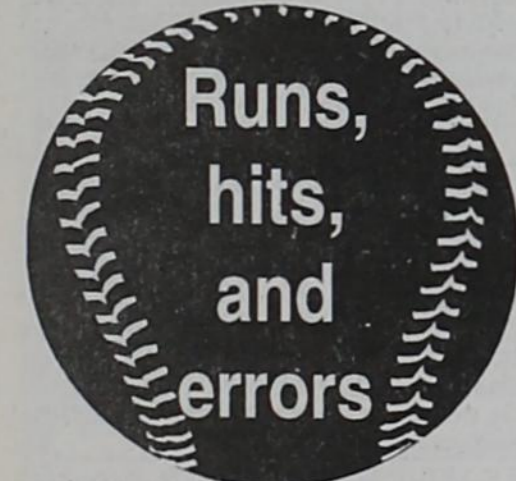
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HALLMARK INVITATIONAL
at Lockney High School
Meet was shortened due to adverse weather conditions.

GIRLS
Team Totals: 1. Lockney 94, 2. Crosbyton 70, 3. Friona 61, 4. (Tie) Farwell and Nazareth 53, 5. Tulia 18, 6. Valley 11.
400: 1. Thiel, Nazareth, 1:05.46; 3. Brockman, Nazareth 1:08.84.
300 Hurdles: 2. Black, Nazareth, 49.79.
Triple Jump: 2. M. Black, Nazareth, 32-4 1/4; 3. W. Black, Nazareth, 32-3.

BOYS
Team Totals: 1. Tulia 81, 2. Hart 61, 3. Friona 49, 4. Boys Ranch 49, 5. Crosbyton 39, 6. Farwell 35, 7. (Tie) Lockney and Sundown 28, 8. Nazareth 10, 9. Ralls 8, 10. Highland Park 6, 11. Valley 1.
Discus: 1. Castillo, Hart, 131-2.
Shot Put: 1. Castillo, Hart, 46-7; 2. Diaz, Hart, 44-5.
400 Relay: 3. Hart, 45.91.
200: 2. Wilcox, Nazareth, 24.09.



FRIDAY
Swifts 8, Tulia JV 7
Nazareth 041 03 —8 4 2
Tulia 600 10 —7 6 4
Nick Bermea, Blake Birkenfeld (2), Adam Acker (3), Eric Schilling (5) and Daryl Pohlmeier for Nazareth; J. Garza and Gore for Tulia. WP: Schilling (1-0). LP: Garza. 2B: Reece Hales and Evan Huseman for Nazareth; Burrow, Rosalez and Guead for Tulia. Record: Naz 1-0.

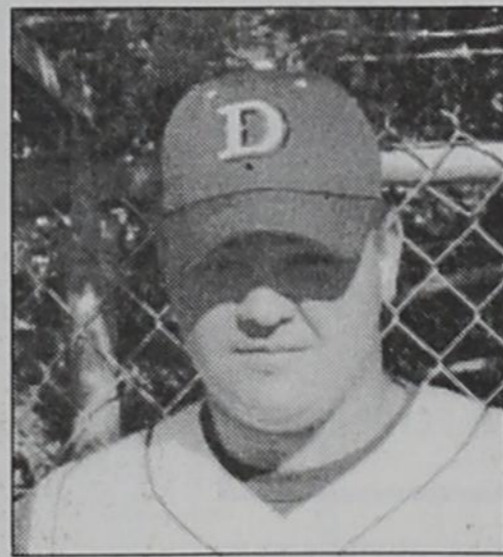
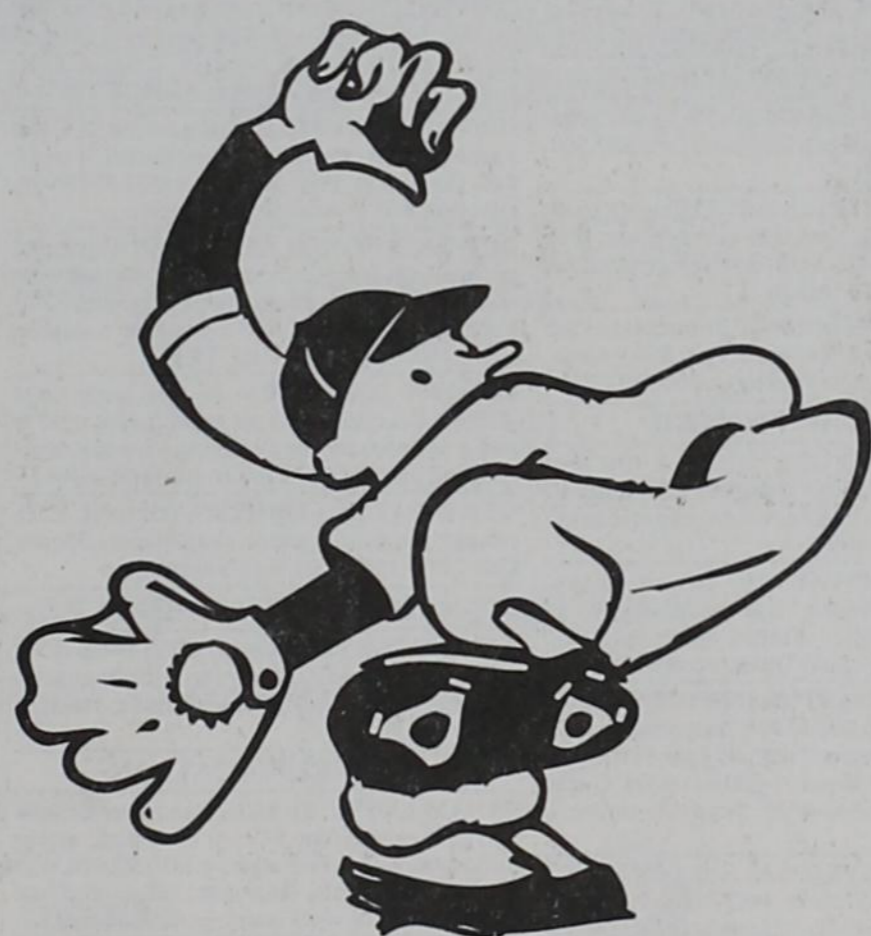
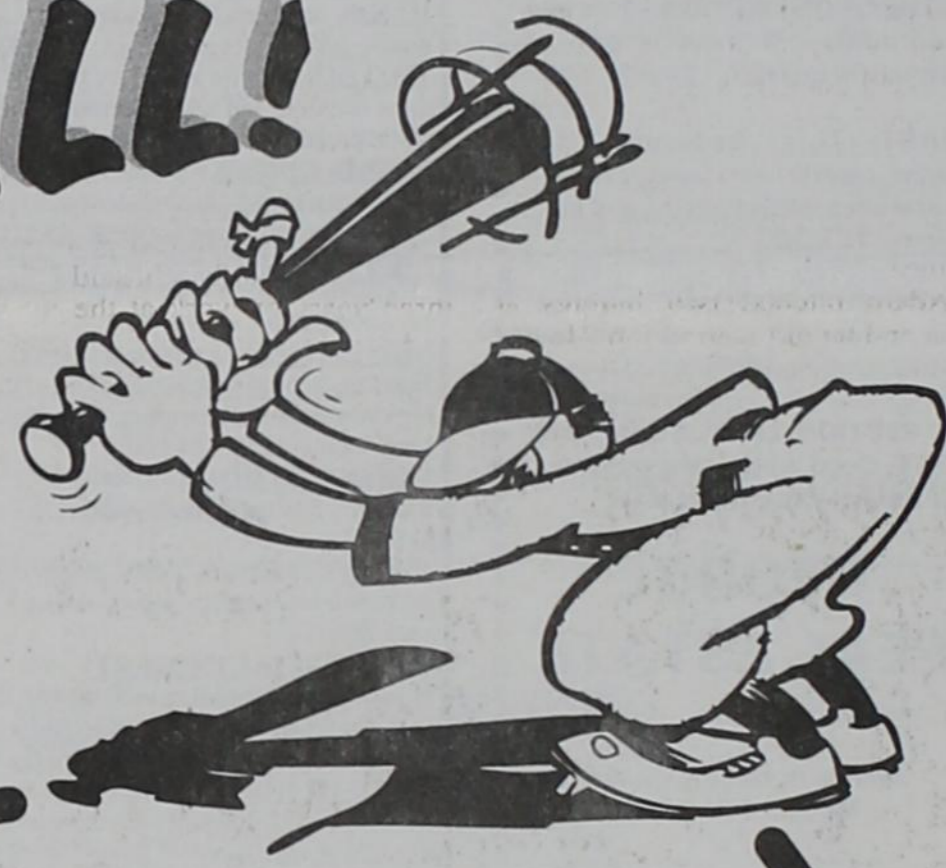
TUESDAY
Swifts 5, Amherst 0
Amherst 000 000 0 —0 4 9
Nazareth 310 010 x —5 5 0
Harmon and Mata for Amherst; Blake Birkenfeld and Daryl Pohlmeier for Nazareth. WP: Birkenfeld (1-0). LP: Harmon. 2B: Pohlmeier. 3B: Pohlmeier. Record: Nazareth 2-0, 1-0.

Bobcats 3, Shallowater 4
Dimmitt 000 102 0 —3 2 2
Shallowater 200 101 x —4 3 2
Tanner Griffitt and B.J. Hill for Dimmitt; John Bewley and Tayon Reeves for Shallowater. WP: Reeves. LP: Griffitt. HR: Kiel Kitchens. Record: Dimmitt 1-4, 0-1.

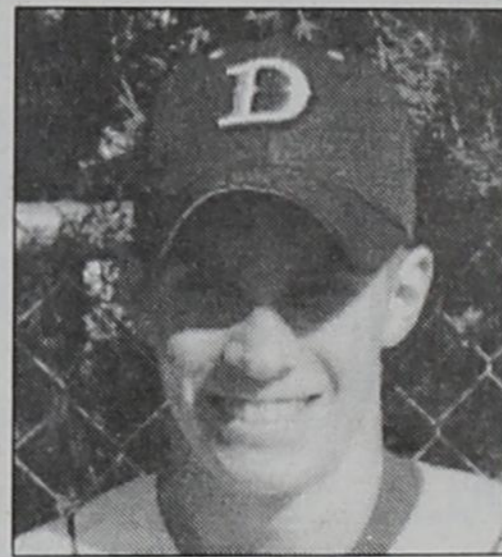
LET'S PLAY BALL!

Good Luck, Bobcats

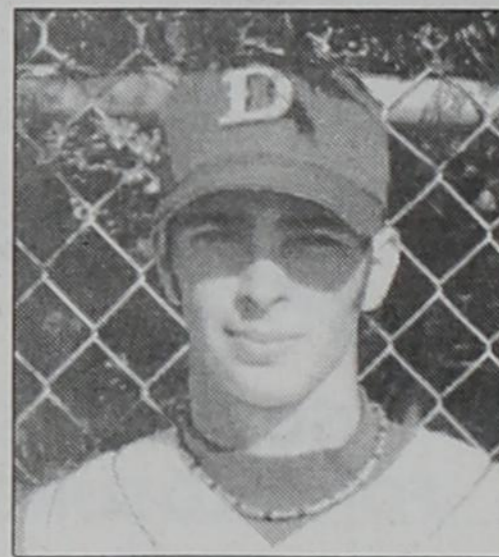
as you take on
Muleshoe, Friday, 5 p.m., Here
and
Lubbock Cooper, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Here



TANNER GRIFFITT
Senior Pitcher/Infield



DANIEL PROFFITT
Senior Left Field



WESLEY HARKINS
Senior Third Base/Pitcher

SCHEDULE and SCORES

12, Tulia 10	March 27—*Lub. Cooper, There, 7:30	April 19—*Littlefield, Here, 5:30
11, Friona 12	March 31—*Littlefield, There, 1:00	April 24—*Roosevelt, Here, 5:30
5, New Deal 7	April 3—*Roosevelt, There, 5:30	* District Game
6, Friona 9	April 7—*Shallowater, Here, 1:00	
3, *Shallowater 4	April 10—*Muleshoe, There, 6:00	Season Record: 1-5
March 23—*Muleshoe, Here, 5:00	April 13—*Cooper, Here, 1:00	District Record: 0-1

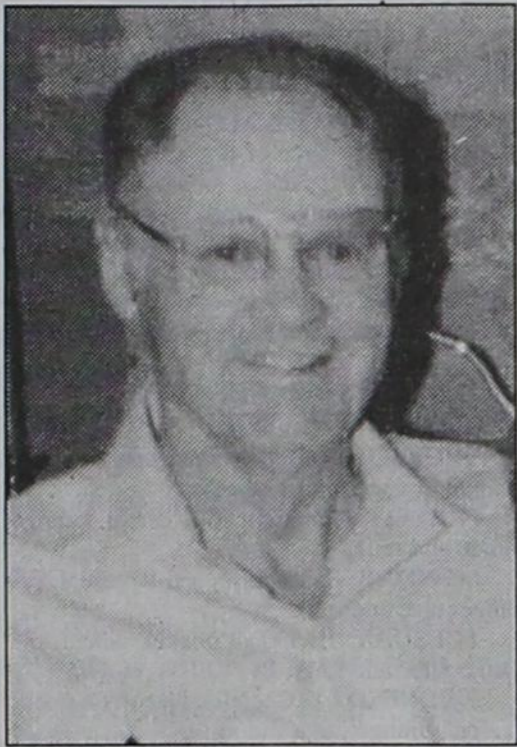
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- Tam Anne Cattle Feeders
- Tidwell Spraying Service
- Town & Country Insurance
- Westway Feed Products

Obituaries



Bradley K. Klein

Bradley K. Klein, 32, of Nazareth, died at 8:45 p.m. on Saturday at his home.

A rosary was recited Tuesday evening and a vigil service was conducted Wednesday evening at Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. today (Thursday) at Holy Family Catholic Church with Father Peter Otto, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in Holy Family Cemetery under the direction of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home of Dimmitt.

Mr. Klein was born Nov. 21, 1968, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He moved to Nazareth in 1980 from Walnut, Iowa. He graduated from Nazareth High School in 1987. He attended Central Methodist College in Fayetteville, Mo., then transferred to Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Okla., where he graduated.

He was a graduate assistant at Eastern New Mexico State University and Texas Tech University. He played football in high school and at Central Methodist College. He was a student and worked at Bartlett Cattle Feeders and the Veterans' Hospital in Lubbock.

Survivors include his parents, Bill and Bertha Klein of Nazareth; three brothers, Brian Klein and B.J. Klein, both of Nazareth, and Eric Klein of Duncomb, Iowa; a sister, Wendy Will of Ogden, Iowa; and his maternal grandmother, Maria Vargas of Mexico.

The family requests memorials be sent to Hospice Cares, 112 W. Jones, Dimmitt.

R.N. Carpenter

R.N. Carpenter, 85, of Dimmitt, died at 4:15 a.m. Sunday in Dimmitt.

Services were held Tuesday morning at the Fourth and Bedford Street Church of Christ in Dimmitt with Ronnie Parker, retired minister, officiating. Burial followed in Westlawn Memorial Park under the direction of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home of Dimmitt.

Mr. Carpenter was born Aug. 29, 1915, in Roby. He married Anna Phares in 1931, in Clovis, N.M.

He was raised in Littlefield, where he attended high school. In 1936 he moved to El Paso, where he drove a bus for American Continental Bus Lines. He moved to Dimmitt in 1958 from El Paso and he began to farm with his son. He continued farming until his retirement in 1976. He was a member of the Church of Christ for over 30 years.

Survivors include his wife, a son, Don Carpenter of Dimmitt; a brother, Cal Carpenter of Santa Rosa, Calif.; six sisters, Jewel Watkins of Houston, Faye Shearer of Plainview, Opal Purvis and Oma Carpenter, both of Santa Rosa, Pat Howington of Amarillo and Lillian James of Plainview; five grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

The family suggests memorials be to Smithlawn Home, 711 76th Street, Lubbock.

Pallbearers were his grandsons, Dustan Buckley, Derek Buckley, Deacon Buckley, J.R. McLean, Jordan McLean, Isaac Walker, Beau Bradley and Lee Cejna.

Honorary pallbearers were Dan Nelson, Gary Webb, Carroll Webb, Carl King, J.H. Myatt, Elvis Barker and Bill Harman.

This will give you an idea of how large a blue whale is: the largest dinosaur, along with an elephant and a man could stand on a blue whale with plenty of room to spare.

There are two times in a man's life when he should not speculate: when he can't afford it and when he can.

-Mark Twain

Cats edged by a run in district opener

Dimmitt rallied in the top of the sixth inning, erasing a 3-1 deficit to tie Shallowater, but the Mustangs answered with a run of their own in the bottom of the inning and that was enough for the win.

The Bobcats suffered their first

District 2-AAA loss Tuesday in Shallowater, 3-4, but the game was a good one from the opening pitch.

Tanner Griffitt was on the mound for the Bobcats and he gave up just three hits while striking out nine.

One of those hits, though, was a solo homer by Shallowater's Kiel Kitchens in the fourth inning. That put the Mustangs up 3-1.

Dimmitt struggled at the plate for three innings against Shallowater hurler John Bewley. Bewley struck out nine of the Bobcats first 10 hitters as the Mustangs took a 2-0 lead after three.

Tanner Self gave the Bobcats a lead-off runner when walked in the fourth inning. He was able to score after a couple of passed balls and errors by the Mustangs, and that pulled the Bobcats within a run, 1-2.

Kitchens' home run in the fourth gave Shallowater a little thicker cushion at 3-1, and that's the way the

score would stay until the sixth.

Lead-off hitter Wesley Harkins walked to start the inning, then made it to third on a pair of passed balls.

After striking out Self, Bewley walked Bobby Hill, then gave up a single to Griffitt that brought home Dimmitt's second run.

A deep sacrifice fly ball to right field by Jonathan Stevens scored Hill to tie the game at third.

Shallowater took a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the sixth when Jerrod Kerr walked, then made his way around the diamond on passed balls. He scored on a single by Kitchens.

Bewley struck out Dimmitt's seventh, eighth and ninth hitters in the top of the seventh to preserve the win.

Birkenfeld pitches shutout; Swifts open district with win

Blake Birkenfeld of Nazareth struck out 10 and allowed Amherst just four singles as the Swifts opened district play with a 5-0 shutout of the Bulldogs in Nazareth Tuesday night.

The win was Birkenfeld's first of the season in as many outings and improved the Swifts' overall record to 2-0.

Amherst pitcher Harmon was charged with the loss after going the distance for the Bulldogs.

Nazareth batters picked up five hits in the game, two of which came from the hot bat of catcher Daryl Pohlmeier.

Pohlmeier tagged a 2-2 pitch deep to left field for a two-RBI double, then reached third on a throwing error by the left fielder in the first inning.

Nazareth would plate three runners in the first and that would be all the Swifts would need.

Pohlmeier's hit scored Birkenfeld and Eric Schilling. He would score himself on a fielder's choice shot by Evan Huseman.

The Swifts added runs in the second and fifth innings, taking advantage of Amherst errors, wild pitches and passed balls to add to their lead.

Nazareth took a 4-0 lead in the second when Adam Acker scored on a wild pitch. He reached on an error, then advanced to second on a passed ball. A pair of wild pitches brought him home.

In the fifth inning, Nazareth got another run when Pohlmeier nailed a shot up the middle that sent Amherst outfielders racing toward the fence. Before the ball was back in the infield, Pohlmeier was safely on second. Another wild pitch by Harmon allowed Pohlmeier to pick up his second run of the game.

More about 1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

Completing his ensemble were a red bow tie on a red elastic neckband, a matching red cummerbund and a confetti rose boutonniere.

Best man was Chris Barton, and the groomsmen were Brandon Drinnon. Jakotah John was the ring bearer. They wore black denim boot-cut jeans and ivory shirts of pure cotton with pleated front panels and wingtip collars, and red bow ties. Black roper boots completed their ensembles.

Accompanying the ring bearer down the aisle was the flower girl, Lindsey Loudder, who wore a red dress.

The maid of honor, Katy Loudder, sister of the bride, and the bridesmaid, Aspen Boyett, wore red also.

While the organist and pianist

performed "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," the bride was escorted down the aisle by her father. He was attired in a tuxedo ensemble identical to that of the bridegroom.

The bride wore the customary white dress.

Following their wedding trip, the couple will be at home in Cheyenne, Okla., where the groom is an oilfield worker on a promising career track with H&P Oil Co. in nearby Chickasha.

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\$34,000 of Golden Spread Electric Co-op Capital Credits will also be returned to members

PLUS... A short business meeting!

PLUS... A meal of beef, fish and chicken!

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