

Floydada Band shares Christmas songs Sunday

FLOYDADA--This Sunday afternoon, December 13, at 2:30, the Floydada Schools will present their annual Christmas Band concert. Participating in the concert will be the Sixth Grade Beginner Band, the Junior High Seventh and Eighth Grade Band, Junior High UIL Band, and the High School Band. The Bands are under the direction of Band Directors John M. Odom and Nelson Dotson.

The Sixth Grade Band will perform three selections which include Beethoven's Ninth, Parade of the Bells and Needle in the Haystack. This year the Junior High Bands have been separated into two groups. One Band is made up of students who will participate in UIL Concert contest in the spring. The Seventh and Eighth Grade

Band will play *Christmas Chimes*, *The Little Drummer Boy* and *Jingle Bells Around the World*, and the UIL Band will perform *Winter Wonderland*, *Silent Night* and *Jingle Bell Rock*.

The High School Band will close the concert with four selections of their own. The selection, *Kitchen Fiesta*, will feature three celebrity soloists for the Band. The Band will then feature a Dixieland combo with the song *Santa Does Dixie*. The High School Band will close the concert with *Sleigh Ride* and *A Christmas Finale*.

There is no admission charge for the concert and everyone in the community is invited to attend an afternoon of fun music and entertainment.

Sen Shapiro to introduce drug testing bill for schools

If a bill being introduced in the State Senate, by Senator Florence Shapiro, is approved by the Texas legislature drug testing in schools may become commonplace.

Senate Bill No. 42 will be introduced into the next legislative session, January 12, 1999, by Sen. Shapiro of District 8 in Plano.

The bill will authorize school districts to offer volunteer drug testing programs.

The bill reads in part: "A school district may provide a drug testing program under which a student, at the request of the student's parent, is randomly tested for the presence in the student's body of marijuana or a controlled substance."

"A school district that provides a program under this section shall charge the parent of a student participating in the program a fee to cover the costs of administering the program and conducting the drug tests."

"Results of the drug test conducted under this section are confidential and, unless required by court order, may be disclosed only to the student and the student's parent. A school district providing a program under this section shall ensure that the student's parent receives test results directly from the lab analyzing the test or from an appropriate person who is not employed by the district."

If enacted this Act would begin with the 1999-2000 school year.

Thornberry named to House Budget Committee

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (TX-13) has named to the House Budget Committee for the upcoming 106th Congress.

The House Budget Committee is responsible for overseeing the federal budget and the process by which the federal budget is adopted. Chaired by Congressman John Kasich of Ohio, the Budget Committee played a major role in drafting the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, which eliminated the Nation's budget deficit for the first time in nearly 30 years.

"As someone who ran on the platform of balancing our Nation's budget," Thornberry said, "I think it's a real honor to serve on the committee that actually helped bring it about. But it's also an opportunity. For even though we have a budget surplus for the first time since 1969, the fact remains that Washington is still spending too much of our money, and is still taking too much money out of our pockets in the form of high taxes."

"The Budget Committee is on the front line of cutting taxes and scaling back the size and scope of government. For a fiscal conservative like myself, it's an ideal place to serve and make sure we don't spend the surplus on new federal programs or bigger government. But beyond that, it's also an ideal place to continue the larger debate our country needs to have about the size and role of government in our society."

Thornberry is the author of two key bills geared toward cutting taxes and letting people keep more of what they earn. The first bill would repeal the

inheritance and gift tax. The second measure, called *The Better Bracket Act*, would lower taxes on millions of middle income Americans by lowering their income tax rate from 28 to 15 percent. His efforts to cut taxes and reduce government spending have earned him recognition from a wide range of pro-taxpayer, small government organizations, including Americans for Tax Reform, Citizens for a Sound Economy, and the National Taxpayers Union, which last year ranked him 37th out of 435 House members for his work in this area.

He said his priorities on the Budget Committee will continue to be geared around lower taxes and smaller, smarter government, but will also include reforming the congressional budget process, itself. "We've got to quit putting members of Congress in a position of having to vote on huge spending bills that seem to include just about everything under the sun," he stated, making specific reference to the 40 pound, 4,000 page omnibus appropriations bill which was signed into law last month.

"Whether that involves going to a two year budget cycle or some other plan that makes things less unwieldy, I'm not sure. But it's something we've got to look at, and something I plan to push for on the Committee next year."

Thornberry gave up his seat on the joint Economic Committee for his appointment to the House Budget Committee. His other assignments on the National Security Committee and the Committee on Resources remain unchanged.

Thanks for reading *The Hesperian-Beacon!*

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- Sunday Noon Buffet - Delicious!
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304 E. Houston Floydada 983-3464



SHARE THE WARMTH--For her 4-H Clothing Project, Bonnie Dunlap, has chosen to collect donated coats which will be passed out to those in need. All sizes of coats are being collected. They can be dropped off at the 4-H Extension Office. Please have the coats in soon so the coats can be distributed by Christmas. Helping Bonnie with the project are: (back, l-r) Molly Long, Bonnie Dunlap, Melissa Dunlap; (front, l-r) Allison Griggs, and Katie Beth Crossland. Staff Photo

Fire Department to cook your Christmas turkey

For a \$5.00 donation, the Floydada Fire Department will smoke your Christmas ham, turkey, or other other choice cut of meat on Monday, December 21 or Tuesday, Dec. 22.

Call Floydada City Hall, 983-2834 to reserve a spot.

Lockney Band prepares for Christmas concert

LOCKNEY--The Lockney 6th grade, junior high and high school bands will hold their Christmas concert Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Longhorn Gym.

Band Director Keith Riley invites everyone to come and enjoy the Christmas music.

The Sixth Grade Band will play *Deck The Halls*, *All Through the Night*, *Auld Lang Syne* and *Jolly Old*

St. Nick.

Members of the Junior High 7 & 8 Grade Band will play *Silver Bells*, *Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow*, *A Childhood Hymn*, and *The STORMQuest!*

The High School Band will perform *It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas*, *Silent Night*, *Truefire!* and *Dvorak's 9th Symphony (The New World Symphony)*.

Commissioners approve new J.P. in special meeting

By Darwin Robinson
The Floyd County Commissioners convened Friday morning, December 4th, at 9:00 a.m. for a special meeting approving the appointment of Carolyn Jackson as the Justice of Peace of Floyd County until the end of the year.

Due to the death of Dorothy Stansell, the appointment was necessary to finish out this year with a Justice of Peace for the county.

Judge William D. Hardin made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Lennie Gilroy. Commissioners Jon Jones and George Taylor voted in favor of the motion making it unanimous. Commissioner Ray Nell Bearden was absent due to being out of town.

The meeting was adjourned and Carolyn Jackson was sworn into office about an hour later.

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Open House

1-5 p.m.
Friday, December 11

Refreshments will be served

**Floyd County
Historical Museum**
105 East Missouri, Floydada

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10,000 FAMILIES

received free turkey dinners for the holidays during our Great Gobble Giveaway.

From the **LOWE'S** family to yours, we wish you Happy Holidays!



CANCER BOARD MEMBERS--Board members of the American Cancer Society stayed busy at the successful fund Christmas Brunch in the Heflin home December 5th. Helping serve were (l-r) Laura Turner, Sue Daniel, Brenda Heflin, Denise Holcombe and Martha Lotspeich.



FNB FLOYDADA ARTISTS OF THE MONTH--Joel Tardy and Lonnie Mason will display their artwork for the month of December.

Lockney Health and Rehab

By Rebecca Rodriguez A.D.
Hello to everyone from Lockney Health and Rehabilitation Center. Is everyone ready for Christmas, yet? We are working really hard on it right now!!

We would like to invite all of our residents' families to our home to celebrate Christmas for our residents on Saturday, December 12th, 10:00 a.m. "Grammy and Pop" will be our guest entertainers for the morning. Family members are asked to bring finger foods for the party. We hope to see you here!

I KNOW THAT HE LOVES ME

All the stars are twinkling in the sky above,
The moon softly beaming with rays of His love.
Though shadows are creeping, the night holds no fear
For angels surround me thus God is so near.
I bow down before Him as I kneel in prayer,
I give Him my burdens, each heartache and care.
I know I can trust Him, thus, with faith complete,
I know that in time, all my needs He will meet.
I know that He loves me, that heavenly One,
He proved it that day that he gave His only Son.
And so as my eyes close in sweet, peaceful sleep,
The angels will guard me and His watch He'll keep.

By Mary E. Herrington

This poem is dedicated in the memory of our loved one: James Hill.

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Thermogenic Fat Burner
12 Pure Herbs & Chromium Picolinate
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Floydada Rehab and Care Center

By Patricia Hill A.D.
Merry Christmas Floyd County from the resident's and staff at the Floydada Rehab and Care Center.

FRCC would like to thank Mr. Ballou and the young men from the PAC Center. They came out last week and helped put up the Christmas trees and all the decorations. That was a big help. Thanks so much from all of us.
Residents and Family have their Christmas party Tuesday, December 15th, at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions please call the facility at 983-3704.

December 17th is the resident's Birthday party at 3:00 p.m. Come out and enjoy cake and punch. Residents celebrating birthday's are, Minnie Gowens, December 17th; Mary Warren, December 19th and Wanda With-

ers, December 20th. Employee's birthday's are; Elvira Rodriguez, December 4; Jane Martinez, December 5th; Elizabeth Caballero, December 18th; Donna Thiebaud, December 7th; KiKi Wilcox, December 23rd and Patricia Hill, December 30th.

Resident of the Month is Pauline Benefield, Employee of the month is Dorothy Kerr.

You can still order your pies for the holidays from Dorothy, until Christmas. December 16th is the last day to buy your raffle tickets for the big screen TV.

That's all for now, God Bless until next time.

Thought for the Week:
Common-Looking people are the best in the world; that is the reason the Lord makes so many of them.

JOIN THE FIRM. EXERCISE.

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

HOLIDAY GIFT HEADQUARTERS

Fresh & Permanent Arrangement
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Precious Moment - Fenton Glass
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Floydada Senior Citizen News

By Margarette Word
FLOYDADA--The center is open Monday through Friday. If you are 60 years or older this center is for you. If you plan on eating lunch, please call 983-2032 by 10 a.m.

Deeota Odam went to Hale Center where her daughter Virginia Waits had 12 family members in for Thanksgiving Holiday dinner.

Last Saturday evening at the University Medical Center the Caprock Girl Scout Council presented the "Women of Distinction" scholarship banquet. From our community Billie Jordan was honored along with nine other area ladies. They have made a direct and powerful impact on the lives of others, particularly Girl Scouts, through their support of and belief in Girl Scouting. Those attending to support Mrs. Jordan were her family Dr. Jack Jordan, daughter Annette and her husband, Dr. Tommy Bonds and their children, Nikki and

Jordan from Muleshoe and Billie's sister, Pat Ferguson from Lawrenceville, Georgia.

Friends who use to live in Floydada, but now live in Lubbock, were Mildred Wylie and Peggy Dyess. Friends from Floydada were Ann Carthel, Martha Farris, Jane McCulley, Doris McLain, Rev. Ione and Vic Sedinger, Judge Bill and Roberta Hardin, Nell McClung, Louis and Janice Lloyd, Dr. Charles Craig, Alice Baker, Jane Bean, Edell and Lovene Moore, Amy Hollums, L.B. and Verna Lynn Stewart, Nathan and Kathy Mulder, Margie Fowler, Jo Wester, Elie Anderson, Geneile Evans, Carol Reese and Jim and Margarette Word.

Donations to help us keep the center open are still coming in and we truly appreciate your concern and the help you are giving the center. Making donations since I last reported was Guy Garrison. Those making memo-

rial donations were: in memory of Red Mooney by Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Collins; in memory of Myrtle Rainer were Delmas & Pauline McCormick and Mac & Charlene Smitherman; in memory of Neil Langely was Delmas & Pauline McCormick; in memory of Gladys Jones was Bernice Stapleton; in memory of Georgia Edwards was Mr. & Mrs. James Malett; in memory of Jack Jarrett were Jo Davis, "Dub" & Margaret Daniel, Ernestine Gilley, Bernice Stapleton, John & Geneva Cockrell, Margaret Saul, Roger & Bo Poage, Dr. Jack & Billie Jordan, Crawford Sandefur, Bill & Norma Feuerbacher and Deeota Odam.

"Thought For The Week"
Tolerance comes with age; I see no fault committed that I myself could not have committed at some time or other.

-- Goethe

MENU December 14-18

Monday: Brisket, scallop potatoes, fried okra, pickles, wheat roll, apricot cobbler

Tuesday: Chicken and Dumplings, baby limas, carrots, coleslaw, cornbread, oranges and bananas

Wednesday: Burritos Verdes, lime rice, south Texas squash casserole, lettuce and tomato salad, Chilean salad dressing, empanadas de calabaza

Thursday: Beef Pot Pie, Italian vegetable, tossed salad/Italian, garlic bread, banana pudding

Friday: Oven Fried Chicken, corn, spinach, tossed salad/French, hot roll, frosted spice cake

A Few Heart-Hitting Facts

Women

In every year since 1984, diseases of the heart and blood vessels have claimed the lives of more females than males, and the gap continues to widen. Heart disease and stroke kill more than half a million women in the United States every year — more than the next 16 causes of death combined, and almost twice as many as all forms of cancer, including breast cancer.

Black women are at even greater risk. The death rate from coronary heart disease is more than 35 percent higher for black women than for white women, and the death rate from stroke is 71 percent higher.

High Blood Pressure

The American Heart Association says that 35 percent of Americans who have high blood pressure don't know they have it.

According to the American Heart Association, the prevalence of high blood pressure increases with age, is greater for blacks than for whites, and in both races, is greater in less-educated than in more-educated people.

Smoking

Smokers have more than twice the risk of heart attack as nonsmokers, and smokers have a greater risk of stroke, says the American Heart Association. Chronic exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (passive smoking) increases the risk of heart disease and stroke in nonsmokers.

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Fall Sale...Just In Time For Christmas!

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1/2 ct \$249⁰⁰
3/4 ct \$695⁰⁰

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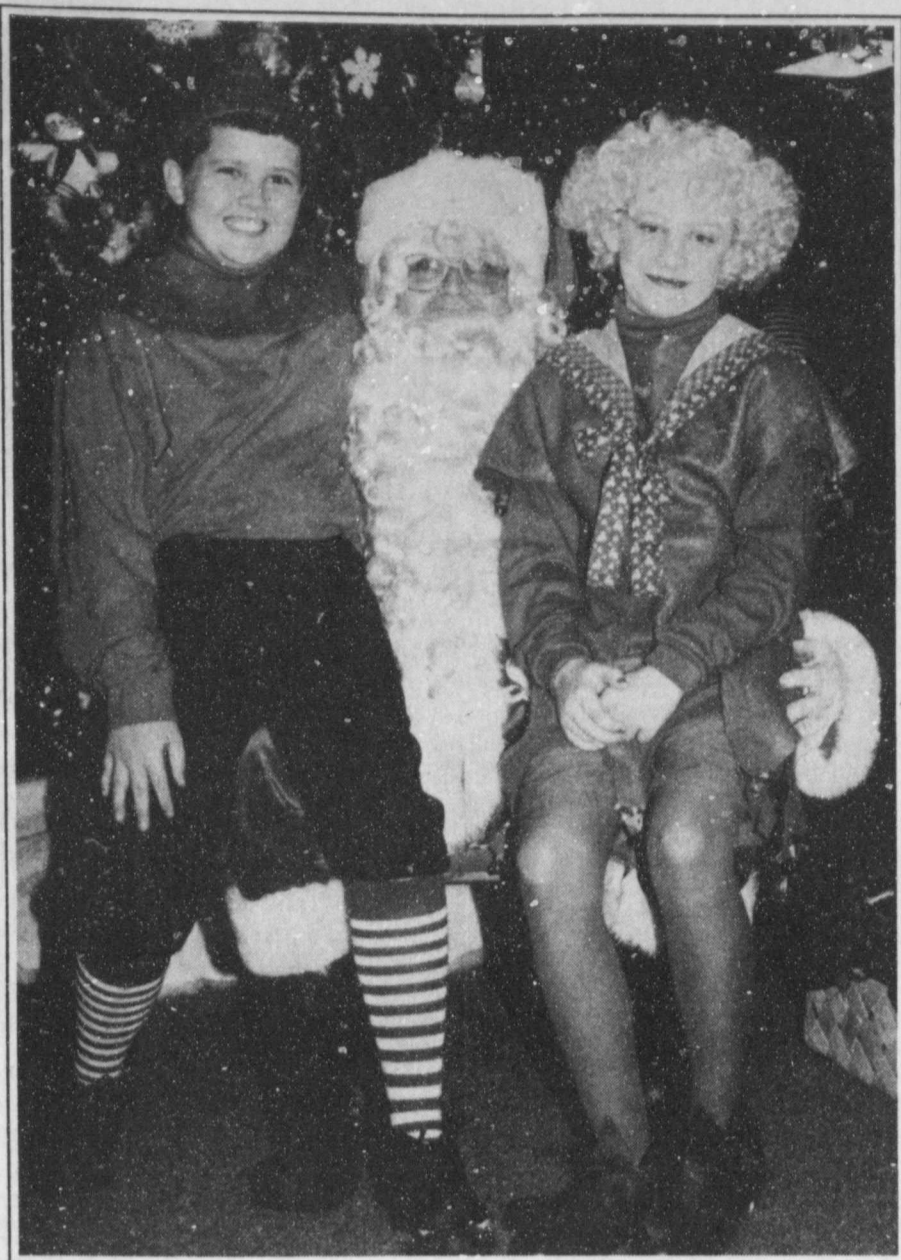
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SANTA AND HIS HELPERS--- Santa Claus (Clar Schacht) was helped by his elves (l-r) Spencer Schacht and Taylor Sue at Lockney's Holiday Affair December 3. Staff Photo

Floyd County Lifestyles

1950 Study Club hears "Bridging the Gap" program

By Carol Reese

The lovely decorated home of Sue Moore was the gathering place for the December 1st meeting of the 1950 Study Club. Vice-President Billie Jordan welcomed members and guests. Doris McLain, program hostess, introduced Julie Ellison, who presented the guest speakers, Kenzie and Tessa Stapp.

They shared with the club their presentation "Bridging the Gap - Volunteer Services for the Elderly." This is an ongoing program started two years ago by a group of Lockney High School students, with Mrs. Ellison serving as their advisor.

They do their volunteer work at the Lockney Care Center. Kenzie and Tessa have presented their program, about the group's services, to numerous audiences and have won local,

regional, state and national recognition. This is a very dedicated group of young people who share their time and talents - bridging the gap.

Club members brought gifts of lotion and body powder to be distributed to the residents of local nursing homes. After a brief business meeting, refreshments were served by Sue Moore and Shirley Morton. A time of visitation and fellowship was enjoyed by the three guests and members: Ellie Anderson, Joy Assiter, Nancy Bishop, Geneile Evans, Margie Fowler, Hope Gaussoin, Wanda Hickerson, Amy Hollums, Billie Jordan, Martha Lotspeich, Jane McCulley, Marge McElyea, Doris McLain, Lovene Moore, Sue Moore, Shirley Morton, Carol Reese, Roberta Russell, Joy Smitherman and Nettie Ruth Whittle.



JILL WARREN

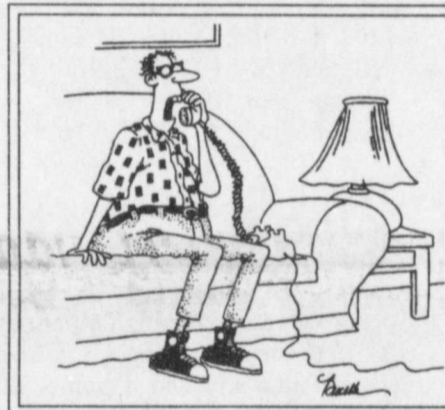
Warren to display art

FLOYDADA--American State Bank in Floydada would like to invite the public to a showing of original oil paintings and prints by local artist, Jill Warren, on Thursday, December 17.

Warren's paintings of familiar subjects elicit responses like: "Oh, my grandmother had a tablecloth like that." or "I've seen that very scene before!" At art shows, people often express gratitude for her realistic style to which they can relate.

Warren has been painting professionally for about fifteen years. Her paintings can be found in private and corporate collections in the U.S. and abroad. She is a member of the Women Artists of the West and Oil Painters of America.

Warren has recently printed six of her favorite paintings. She is glad to offer these limited edition, signed prints for those who enjoy her work. All of the prints represent what has become hallmarks of her work: attention to light and detail.



"This is the third date you've broken because you've been abducted by aliens, Marcia. Maybe you should move to another neighborhood."

Lockney Senior Citizen News

By Gladys Ragle

LOCKNEY--I think by the time you read this we will have experienced some cold weather - enough to make us believe that winter is coming.

Did you see the beautiful rainbow last Thursday afternoon about 5:30, after we had the good shower. I thought of God's promise in Genesis 10:13-15 that he would not destroy the world by flood again.

Lockney lost another good citizen and the Senior Center a good member with the death of James Hill. Our condolences go out to his family and those who were closely associated with him.

Johnnie Kellison was admitted to Mangold Memorial last Saturday. We hope she will soon be out and around Eddie Douglas remains in Lubbock Methodist Hospital. She had some additional surgery on Sunday and we hope this will help her recovery. We wish her well.

"Weekly Words of Wisdom" We lose love, not because of big mistakes but because of little neglects.

MENU
December 14-18
Monday - Salmon patties, vegetables, salad, dessert
Tuesday - Meat loaf, vegetables, salad, dessert
Wednesday - Chicken fried steak, vegetables, salad, dessert
Thursday - Chicken strips, vegetables, salad, dessert
Friday - Roast beef, vegetables, salad, dessert.

Have a Great Day!

Whirlwind Sams

By Darlynn Hambright

FLOYDADA--The Chapter Christmas party for the Whirlwind Sams was celebrated at the Plains Baptist Assembly, Saturday, December 5, 1998.

Welcome and introduction of guests was given by president, Randy Hollums. Paul Westbrook led the invocation.

The decorating committee, Carol Reese, Norma Feuerbacher, and Jo Payne was recognized as well as the staff at the encampment for the beautiful table arrangements and other decorations.

Members celebrating birthdays this month are Charlene Norrell, Don Chesshir, Bob Kendrick, Harold Norrell and Hollis Payne.

Those commemorating anniversaries are Claude and Frances Weathersbee, John and Christine Lyles, Harold and Carol Reese and Robert and Betty McPherson. Songs were sung in their honor, led by Boone Adams.

The appetizing meal, which was catered by the Assembly staff was brisket, potato casserole, broccoli, vegetable salad, fruit salad soup or chowder; hot rolls, cherry or apple cobbler, tea and coffee. It was served buffet style.

Randy Hollums expressed his appreciation to the other club officers and members for the cooperation and outstanding job each contributed for a successful year of travel and camps.

The program for the evening was opened by Randy reading a Christmas poem. Norma Feuerbacher rendered her version of "Twas the Night Before Christmas at the Wayne Russell RV Park. This was humorous for everyone. Teresa Hollums concluded the program with a guessing game associated with Christmas Carols. Dartha Westbrook, pianist; Mac McElyea, guitarist and Audrey Temple led the group in singing carols.

Claude Weathersbee installed the following slate of officers for 1999; Jerry Livingston, president; Harold Norrell, 2nd vice-president; Betty Miller, secretary; Glenda Livingston, treasurer; Gordon Hambright, wagonmaster. Darrell Mayo, vice president, was not present.

Yearbooks were distributed by Jerry and Glenda Livingston.

Marge McElyea presented past president, Randy and Teresa Hollums with a beautiful hand quilted friendship quilt.

Randy and Teresa Hollums gave each couple a canvas travel bag per-

sonalized with a smiley face and happy trails.

Jerry projected the Sams group would have another fine year of activities and camps. He also announced the Ladies Coffee, Thursday, December 10th at 9:30 a.m. at Pizze Gold.

Present for the Christmas party were: Boone and Ruth Adams, Don and Sue Chesshir, Bill and Norma Feuerbacher, J.W. and Betty Gilbreath, Gordon and Darlynn Hambright, Randy and Teresa Hollums, Jerry and Glenda Livingston, John and Christine Lyles, Mac and Marge McElyea, George and Betty Miller, Harold and Charlene Norrell, Dr. Keith and June Patzer, Hollis and Jo Payne, Wayne and Roberta Russell, Harold and Audrey Temple, Fred and Yvonne Thaxton, Herb and Esther Wallace and Paul and Dartha Westbrook. Associate members present were Claude and Frances Weathersbee and guests were included, Phil and Marian Almen of Plainview, T.W. and Hope Gaussoin and Paul and Brenda Parker all of Floydada.

The group sang "Happy Trails" led by Boone Adams to close the party.

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Christmas

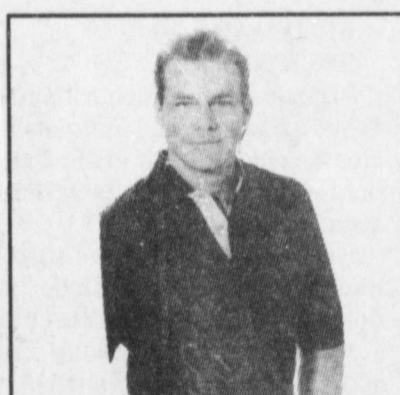
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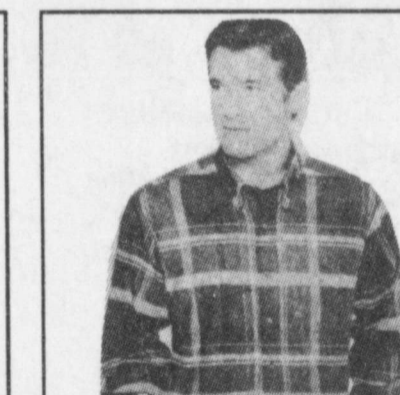
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KNIT SHIRTS
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\$4.99
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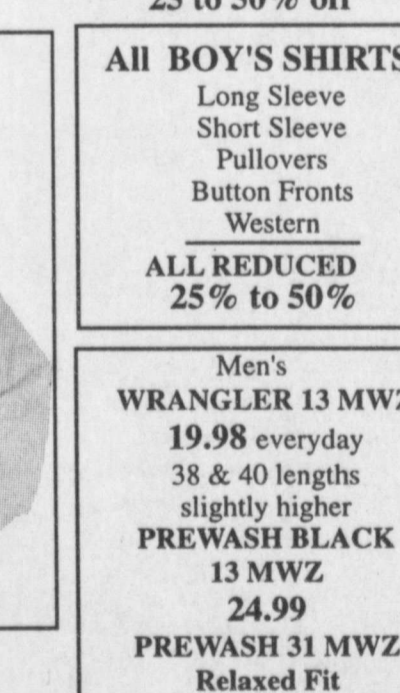
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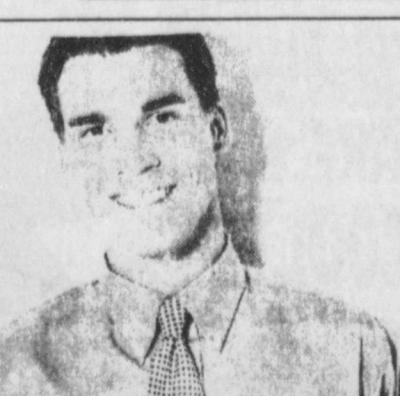
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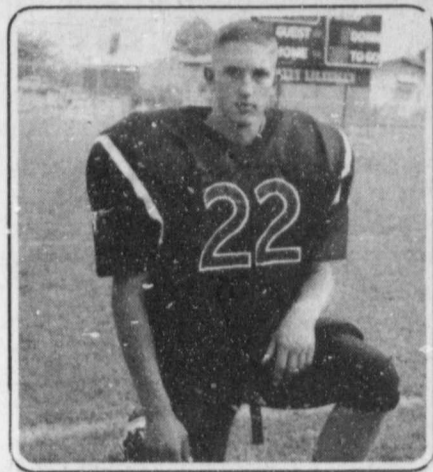
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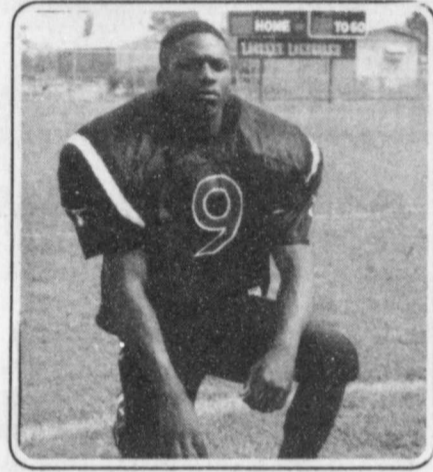
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SPORTS

LHS All-South Plains

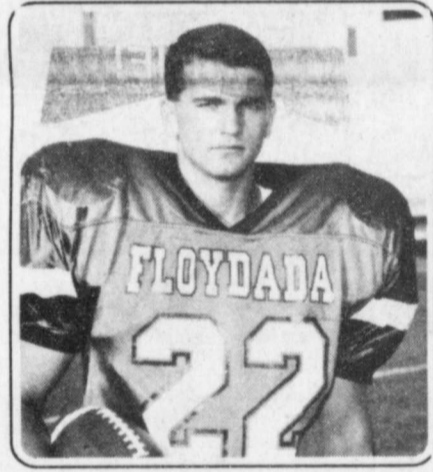


THAD LUSK
Senior
1st Team Offense
Tight End
1st Team Defense
Linebacker
Honorable Mention
All South Plains
Tight End & Linebacker

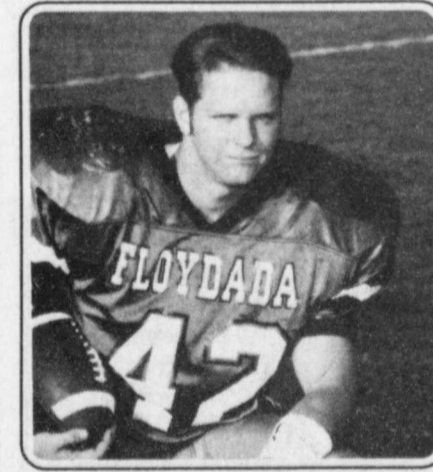


CALVIN COLLINS
Senior
1st Team Offense
Running Back
Honorable Mention
All South Plains
Running Back

FHS All-South Plains



JUSTIN MCGUIRE
Junior
Unanimous Selection
1st Team Offense
Running Back
1st Team Defense
Defensive Back
All South Plains
Defensive Back



DAVID LIGHTFOOT
Junior
1st Team Defense
Linebacker
Honorable Mention
All South Plains
Linebacker

Have a nice day!



YOU CAN'T GET AROUND ME--Cody Stovall (32) plays good defense against a Hale Center player in the Championship game of the 3rd Annual Floydada Classic on December 3-5. Dusty Anderson (25) and Darryl Henderson (23) keep their players blocked out of the action. Whirlwinds - 44, Hale Center - 53.
Photo by Rhonda Stovall

LOCKNEY--The Lockney Longhorns traveled to Friona December 3-5 to participate in their tournament. They played Elida, New Mexico, Trinity Christian, Friona and Canyon.

LOCKNEY 64
ELIDA 34
Lockney rolled over Elida, New Mexico 64-34 in the first game of the tourney.

Thad Lusk was the leading scorer for the Horns. He scored 13 points with 6 field goals and 1 free throw.

Josh Quebe scored 12 points with 1 three-point and 4 two-point field goals. He also hit 1 free throw. Jordan Lambert contributed 11 points with 5 field goals and 1 free throw.

Turning in 10 points with 5 field goals was Matthew Lerma. Calvin Collins made 3 field goals and 1 free throw for 7 points. Abel Rosales sank 2 field goals for 4. Three points each were made by Kevin Aufill and Ryan Graves. Aufill made a field goal and a free throw and Graves hit a three-pointer. Taurean McDonald added 2 with a field goal.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Lockney 14 30 44 65
Elida 10 10 8 6

LOCKNEY 44
TRINITY CHRISTIAN 101
Trinity Christian swamped the Longhorns as they turn cold. The score was 101-44 at the final buzzer.

Thad Lusk again put the most scores on the scoreboard. He sank 2 three-point and 5 two-point field goals for 16 points.

Matthew Lerma and Calvin Collins each racked up 6 points with 3 field goals apiece.

Ryan Graves scored 1 three-point and 1 two-pointer for 5 points. Jordan Lambert added 4 points with 2 field goals.

Kevin Aufill made two points with a field goal and Taurean McDonald 2 points with free throws. Eddie Amaya added 1 with a free throw.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Lockney 8 17 30 44
Trinity 22 54 77 101

LOCKNEY 46
FRIONA 62
The Friona Chiefs got off to a running start and led all four quarters of the game. The final score was Friona 62, Lockney 46.

Thad Lusk made 23 points for the Horns. He hit 1 three-point, 9 two-

point field goals and 2 free throws. Jordan Lambert contributed 8 points to the scoreboard with 4 field goals and 4 free throws. Matthew Lerma sank 3 field goals for 6 points and Calvin Collins 2 field goals for 4 points.

Kevin Aufill and Mo Collins added a field goal each for 2 points apiece. Ryan Graves made a free throw.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Lockney 7 20 33 46
Friona 13 33 48 62

LOCKNEY 21
CANYON 60
Lockney played the final game of the tourney against Canyon. They were cold in the first half but both teams played a fairly even last half.

Leading the scoring with 6 points was Thad Lusk. He made 3 field goals.

Taurean McDonald and Calvin Collins turned in 4 points apiece with 2 field goals each. Jordan Lambert made a field goal and 2 free throws for 3 points. Two points each were contributed by Josh Quebe and Matthew Lerma with field goals.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Lockney 5 11 15 24
Canyon 24 46 54 60

Horns vie at Friona Tourney

point field goals and 2 free throws. Jordan Lambert contributed 8 points to the scoreboard with 4 field goals and 4 free throws. Matthew Lerma sank 3 field goals for 6 points and Calvin Collins 2 field goals for 4 points.

Floydada Boys Basketball Report

FLOYDADA JV BOYS

By Coach Salazar
FLOYDADA 38
FRIONA 52
The FHS JV Boys opened the season with a match against Friona on November 20. The JV boys pulled ahead in the first quarter, then seemed to bog down, finally losing 52-38.

Leading scorer for the team was Sean Holster with 13 points. Also in double digits was Clay Horn with 12 points.

Other scorers included Amado Morales who made 6 points, Ed Porter with 4, and Todd Anderson with 2.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 10 10 9 9
Hale Center 9 20 7 16

FLOYDADA 9TH GRADE

By Coach Buchanan
RALLS JV TOURNAMENT
FLOYDADA 19
RALLS 50
The 9th grade boys competed in a junior varsity tournament at Ralls December 3-5. The team was unable to win any of their matches, but gained a lot from the experience.

Leading scorer for the first game, a 50-19 loss against Ralls, was Anthony Suarez with 5 points. Scoring 4 points each were Rocky Reyes and Aaron Hernandez. Justin Reeves, Brandon Marler and Jonathon Martinez each made 2 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 2 7 8 2
Ralls 15 13 8 14

FLOYDADA 8TH GRADE

By Coach Evans
IDLALOU TOURNAMENT
FLOYDADA - 39
HALE CENTER- 22
Floydada Breezers opened the season with a win over Hale Center. They started slow and continued to pickup the pace with a hard fought game.

Leading scorers were, Brady Rainwater, with 10 points and Andrew Arvizu, with 6 points.

Adding to the points were; Tyler Helms, 4 points; Dustin Covington, 2 points; David Rodriguez, 2 points; Larry McNew, 2 points and Daniel Ochoa, 1 point.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 2 9 10 18
Hale Center 2 6 2 12

FLOYDADA - 30

ABERNATHY- 40
8th grade Breezers came up short in the second game of the tournament. We started slow and did not recover through the whole game. It was a game we should have won, but we let too many chances slip by.

Covington was the high scorer for this game with 10 points.

Other points made were; Tyler Helms with 2, Andrew Arvizu with 3; Larry McNew with 3; Derrick Griggs with 4 and Ruddy Castenda with 2.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 5 12 4 7
Abernathy 14 10 8 3

FLOYDADA - 25

OLTON- 32
The Breezers dropped their second game at the Idalou Tournament with another close game. All the way the Breezers had many chances to take control, but couldn't. These players work very hard to win their games. As the season continues they will get stronger and better.

Leading scorers were, Dustin Covington with 15 points and Derrick Griggs with 7 points.

Adding to the score was, Tyler Helms with 5 points and Andrew Arvizu with 4 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 4 8 8 5
Olton 8 2 10 12

FLOYDADA - 45

IDLALOU TOURNAMENT
RALLS- 26
The Breezers dominated Ralls, from the start of the game to the last horn. Coach Evans stated that the Breezers are becoming stronger, each game.

The high scorers for this game were Larry McNew with 14 points and Brady Rainwater with 10 points.

Other scorers for this game were; Tyler Helms, 5 points; Dustin Covington, 5 points; Daniel Ochoa, 3 points; Ruddy Castenda, 2 points; Josh Van Hoose, 2 points; Jacob Morales, 2 points and Brice Bowley, 2 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 13 8 12 15
Ralls 5 7 9 5

FLOYDADA - 46

NEW DEAL- 24
The Breezers started slow falling behind by 2 points at half. The Breezers came out angry at half and dominated the game at both ends of the floor and pulled away with a 20 point victory.

Brady Rainwater was the high scorer with 15 points.

Adding to the score were, Tyler Helms with 6 points, Dustin Covington with 10 points, Brice Bowley with 4, Andrew Arvizu with 8 points and Larry McNew with 2 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 8 4 19 14
New Deal 7 7 4 6

FLOYDADA 7TH GRADE

By Coach Evans
IDLALOU TOURNAMENT
FLOYDADA 59
HALE CENTER 18
The 7th grade Breezers started the season off strong with a win over Hale Center to start the year. They continued the tradition of winning the Idalou Tournament like last year with wins over Hale Center, Abernathy and Olton. The group of young men show much promise for the future of the Whirlwind Basketball program.

Daniel Garcia with 16 points, Chris Wickware with 12 points and Ross Bennett with 12 points were the high scorers for this game.

Adding scores were, Luis Lopez with 2 points, D.J. Summers with 4 points, Blake Pope with 6 points and Gerald Henderson with 5 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 24 21 6 8
Hale Center 2 6 4 6

FLOYDADA 33

ABERNATHY 29
The Abernathy game was close and hard fought all the way. The Breezers had to overcome a height disadvantage to win the game. They played hard team defense to win the game. Blake Pope, Chris Wickware and Gerald Henderson played very hard as they had to stop Abernathy's main player who was 6'3 tall. This victory moved them into the championship game with Olton.

High scorers for this game were Daniel Garcia with 13 points and Ross Bennett with 9 points.

Also adding to the score were Chris Wickware with 4 points, Blake Pope with 2 points and Gerald Henderson with 5 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Floydada 7 10 5 11
Abernathy 8 6 6 9

FLOYDADA 25

OLTON 15
Olton came out in a 2-3 zone and tried to slow the game. The young Breezers showed patience in working the ball for good shots and took control of the game to slowly pull away and bring the trophy home.

Ross Bennett was the top scorer for this ballgame with 7 points.

Adding to the score were Daniel Garcia with 4 points, Chris Wickware with 6 points, Blake Pope with 6 points and Gerald Henderson with 2 points.

Continued On Page 8

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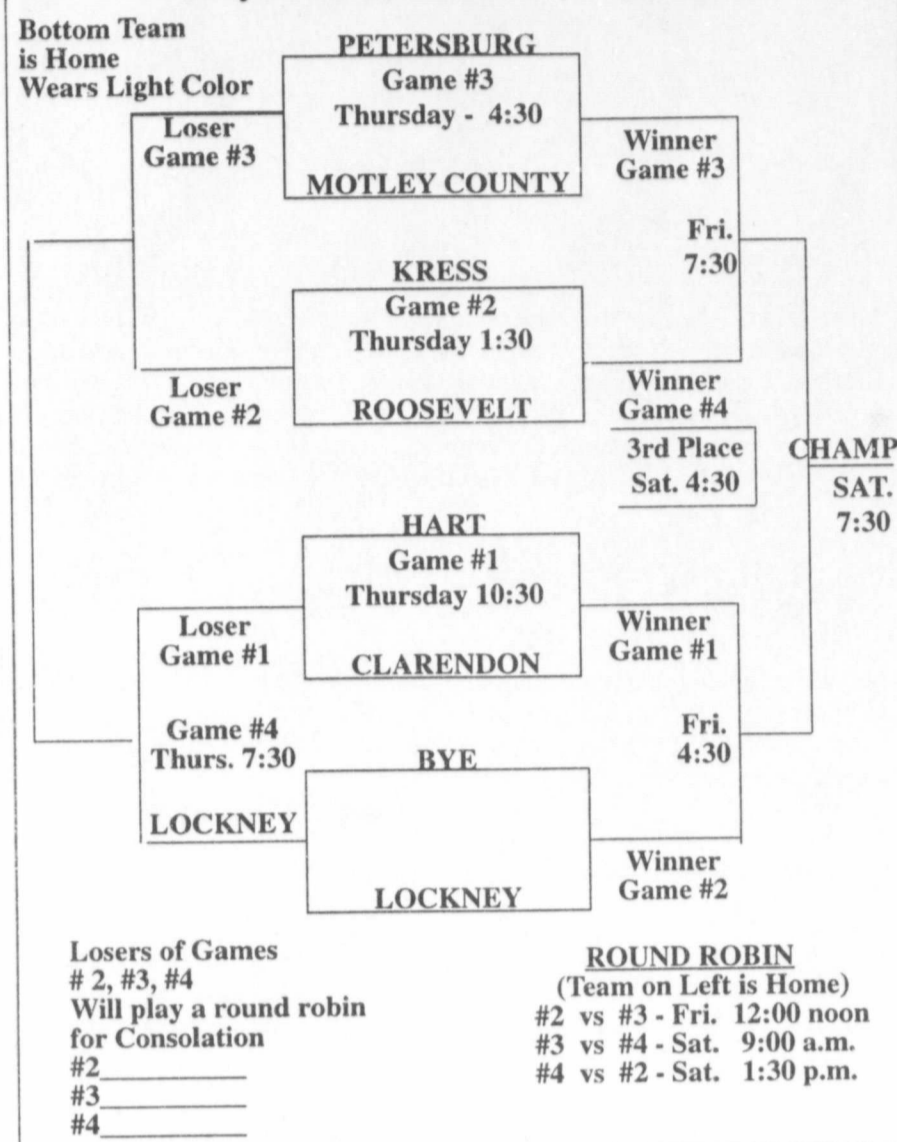
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SPORTS

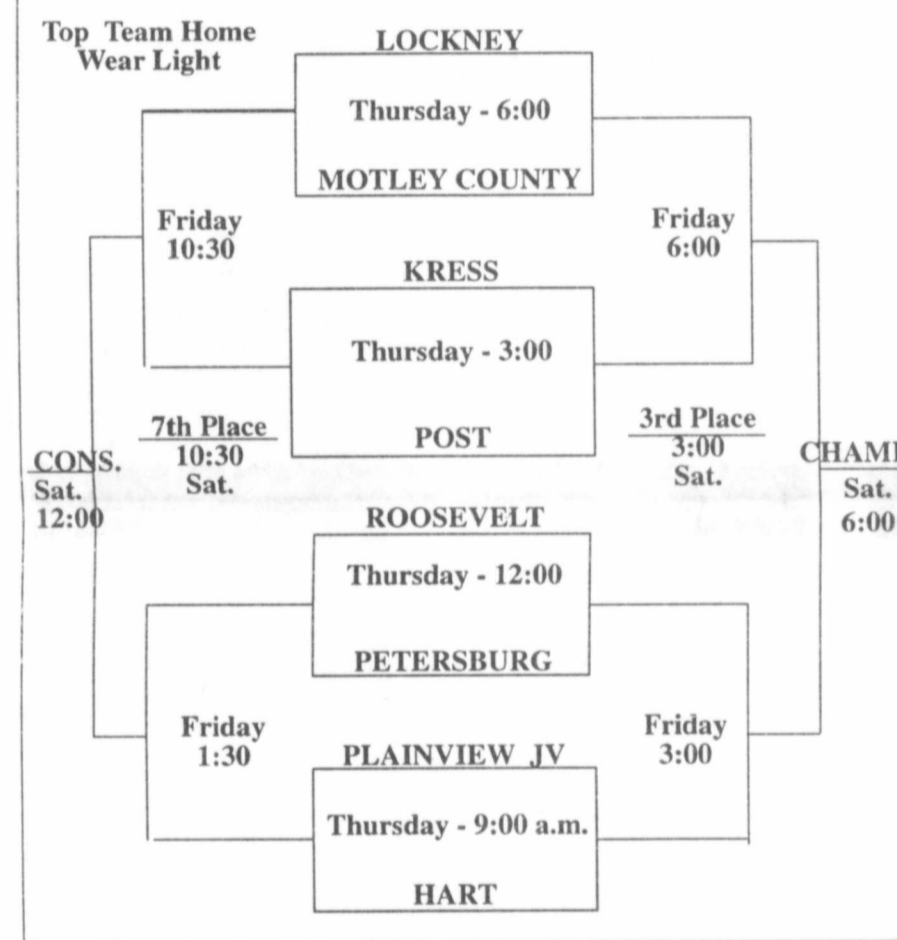
LOCKNEY CLASSIC

Boys - December 10, 11, 12



LOCKNEY CLASSIC

Girls - December 10, 11, 12



Floydada Boys Basketball Report

Continued From Page 6
points.

SCORES BY QUARTER

Floydada	2	11	0	12
Olton	2	4	3	6

FLOYDADA 61 NEW DEAL 33

The 7th grade Breezers opened district with a solid win over New Deal. Defense dominated the game leading the way to easy baskets. Gerald Henderson and Chris Wickware dominated the board.

High scorers for the team were Daniel Garcia with 19 points and Chris Wickware and Gerald Henderson scoring 10 points each.

Also adding to the score were, Luis Lopez with 2 points, Ross Bennett with 6 points, D.J. Summers with 8 points and Blake Pope with 4 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS

Floydada	13	16	16	7
New Deal	4	8	14	7

FLOYDADA 55
RALLS 19

The Breezers took their second straight game in district by shutting down Ralls offense. They started strong with pressure and finished the game strong. This group of young men are worth the price of a ticket. They play hard and fast.

Chris Wickware was the top scorer for this ballgame with 20 points.

Adding to the scoreboard were, Jeremy Lloyd with 2 points, David Garcia with 6 points, Ross Bennett with 7 points, D.J. Summers with 2 points, Blake Pope with 8 points and Gerald Henderson with 6 points.

SCORES BY QUARTERS

Floydada	10	12	14	12
Ralls	8	0	6	5



MAYBE I'LL FIND IT UNDER THE TREE -- These youngsters visited the toy display at Yolanda's Craft Shop during the Holiday Affair at Lockney. -- Staff Photo

LHS students decorate care center doors

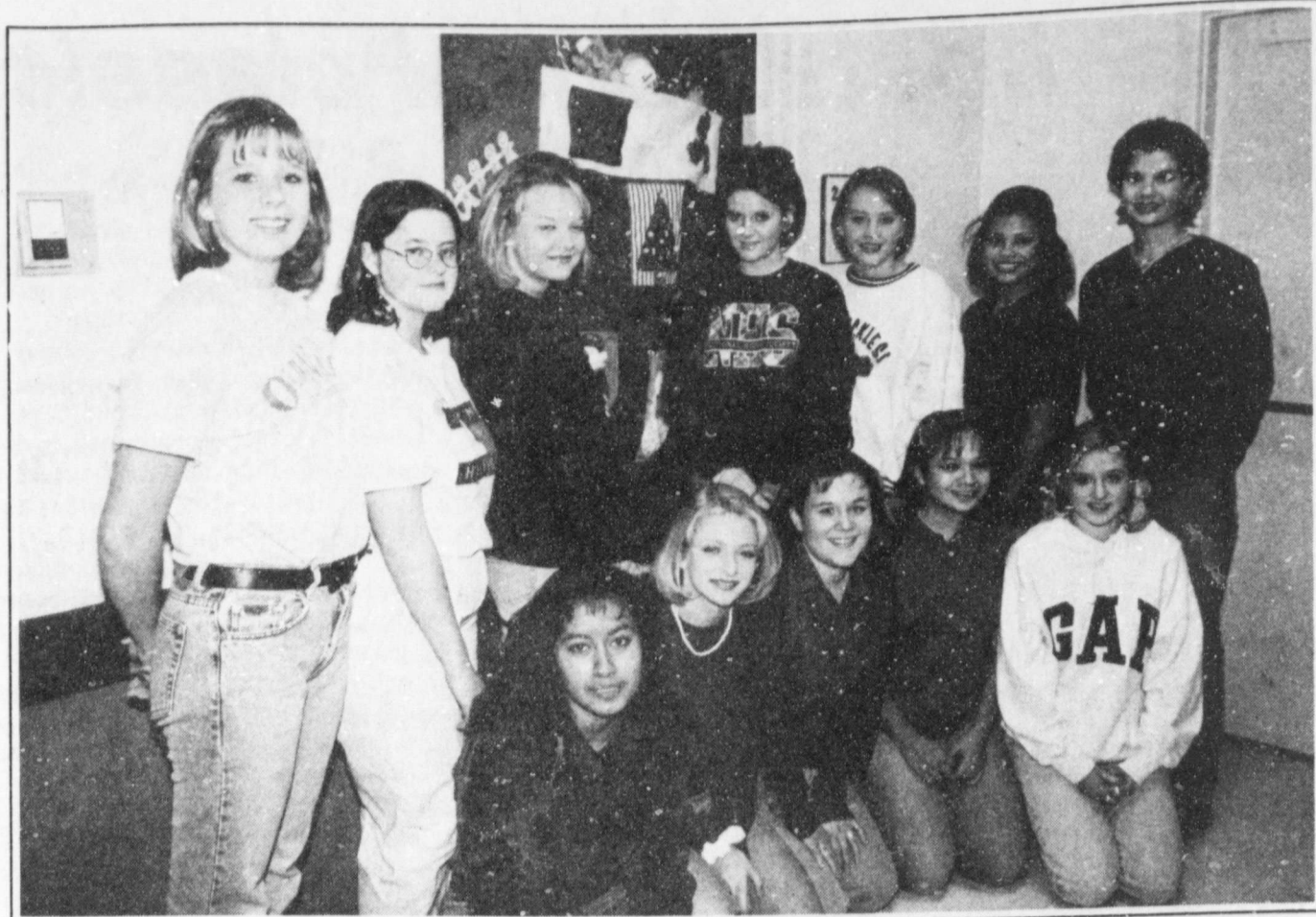
By Brandi Wright

LOCKNEY-Mrs. Treena Aston's Early Child Professions (ECP) class and Individual Family Life (IFL) classes gave the residents at the Lockney Care Center gifts, that were not from a box, but from the heart. The residents did not receive individual gifts but on the doors to their room, the students decorated for Christmas. The decoration themes ranged from Christmas trees, snowmen, fireplace scenes, gingerbread houses, the simplest being just "Merry Christmas" and a picture of Santa Claus.

The students did this to give those residents less fortunate a Merry Christmas. The ECP students were assigned this project as their semester test project. They were graded on neatness, creativity, and time consumption. As the students did their project, they learned the gift of giving and the meaning of self discipline.

The response was astounding! The residents loved the scenic halls and doorways, as did their friends and family. The doorways show everyone that the students still care for those in the older generation.

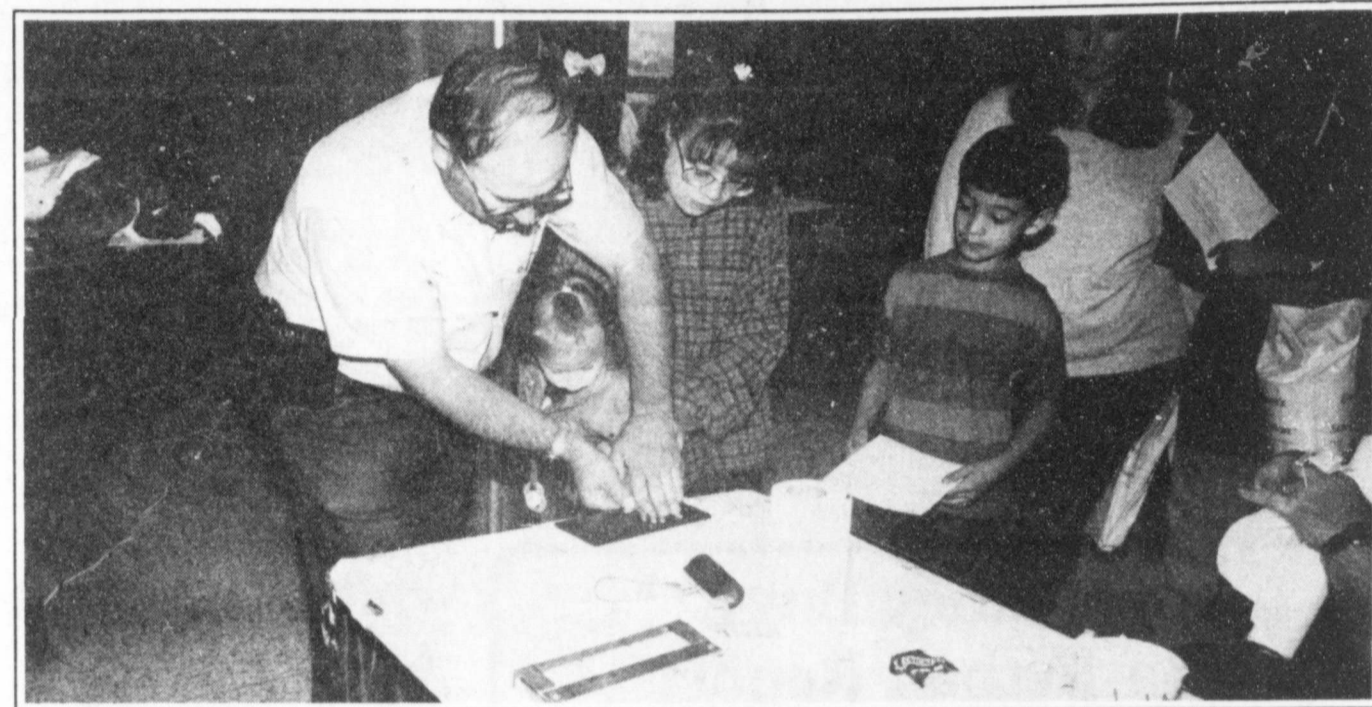
If you want to see a festive Christmas, go down to the Lockney Care Center and see the decorations and meet some very sweet and special people.



LHS STUDENTS DECORATE DOORS--Members of the Lockney High School Future Homemakers decorated doors with a Christmas theme for the residents at the Lockney Care Center. Several of the students who worked on the project are shown in front of one of the doors. -- Staff Photo

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KIDCARE ID--Ray Gacha fingerprints youngsters for KidCare ID's at Mangold General Hospital's Health Fair last Saturday in Lockney. -- Staff Photo



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"Poor" is a Relative Term

By Edwin Feulner

Talk about exaggeration. Earlier this fall the U.S. Census Bureau issued a report claiming there are more than 30 million Americans living "in poverty." But a closer look at these "poor" people shows them to be far less impoverished than you might think.

According to government data collected by my colleague Robert Rector, 97 percent of the households labeled "poor" by the Census Bureau own color televisions, nearly three-quarters have video cassette recorders, and 70 percent own cars.

A lot of the poor also own their own homes, 41 percent to be exact. And these homes aren't small. The average poor person in America has 440 square feet of living space, more than the typical middle-class resident of Paris, London or Vienna.

Very few poor people go hungry either. A 1989 survey by the Department of Health and Human Services found just 3 percent of Americans saying they "sometimes" do not have enough to eat. On the contrary, the chief nutritional problem facing the poor is obesity.

No one would deny that some Americans are truly needy. But 35.6 million of them? Only if you accept the Census Bureau's bizarre definition of poverty. For example, in determining whether someone is "poor," the Census Bureau counts only current income, ignoring assets accumulated in prior years. So if Bill Gates had a bad year and made no income he could be labeled poor, despite his accumulated billions. This helps explain why more than 200,000 "poor" people own homes worth more than \$300,000.

The Census Bureau also misses a lot of income. In 1996, the Department of Commerce determined that the aggregate personal income of Americans was \$6.8 trillion. Yet the Census Bureau counted only \$4.8 trillion.

Where did the extra \$2 trillion go? A significant portion went to the poor. In 1995 the Census Bureau said the income of the poorest 20 percent of U.S. households averaged only \$8,350. Yet the Labor Department claimed these same households spent \$14,607. In other words, the average "poor" household spent \$6,257 more than the Census Bureau said it makes. And these figures don't even include the value of government housing and health-care assistance.

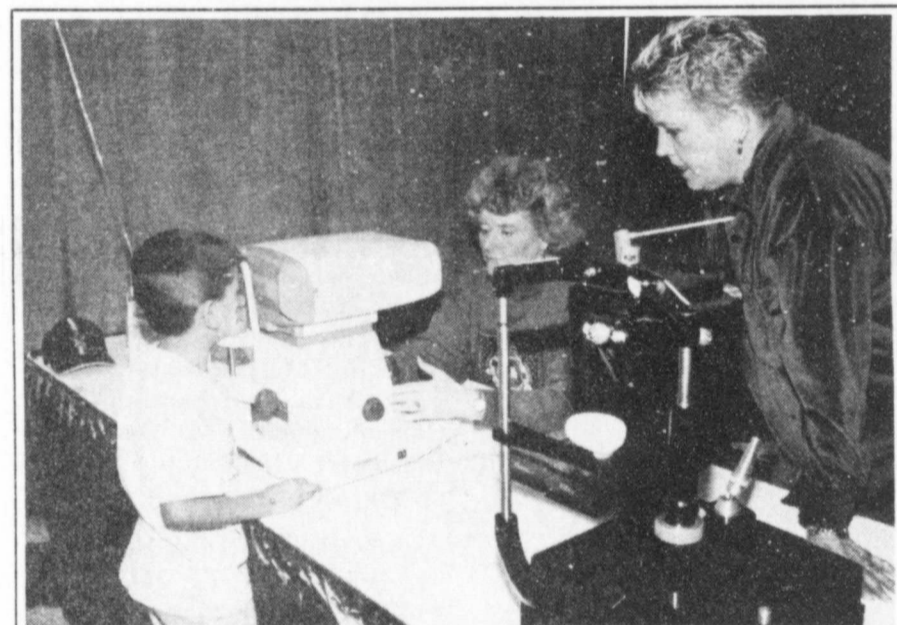
The annual Census poverty report was created as a public relations gimmick to push President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty." The goal was to enlarge the apparent number of the poor, thus building support for Johnson's welfare policies.

Those policies did raise incomes in poor communities, by transferring money from those who work to those who don't—or won't. But these same policies destroyed many families. When the War on Poverty began, 7.7 percent of children were born out of wedlock. Today, due in large measure to welfare programs that discourage marriage, the illegitimacy rate is 32 percent.

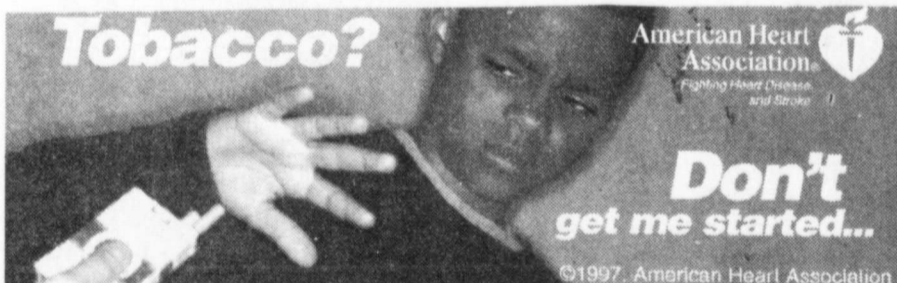
By undermining hard work, self control and marital stability, the War on Poverty has harmed those it intended to help. The Census poverty report contributes to these misguided policies by inflating the population of the poor, giving liberals ammunition to push for more social spending.

It would be bad enough if the Census poverty report were just inaccurate. It's unconscionable that it is used to promote the same programs that spawned urban decay in the first place. The next time you hear inflated estimates of how many poor people there are in America, take them with a grain of salt—or better yet, a whole salt shaker.

Note: Edwin Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation (www.heritage.org), a Washington-based public policy research institute.



GETTING YOUR EYES CHECKED -- One of many free health checks available at the Mangold Hospital Health Fair was eye exams at Dr. Stewart Webb's booth. -- Staff Photo



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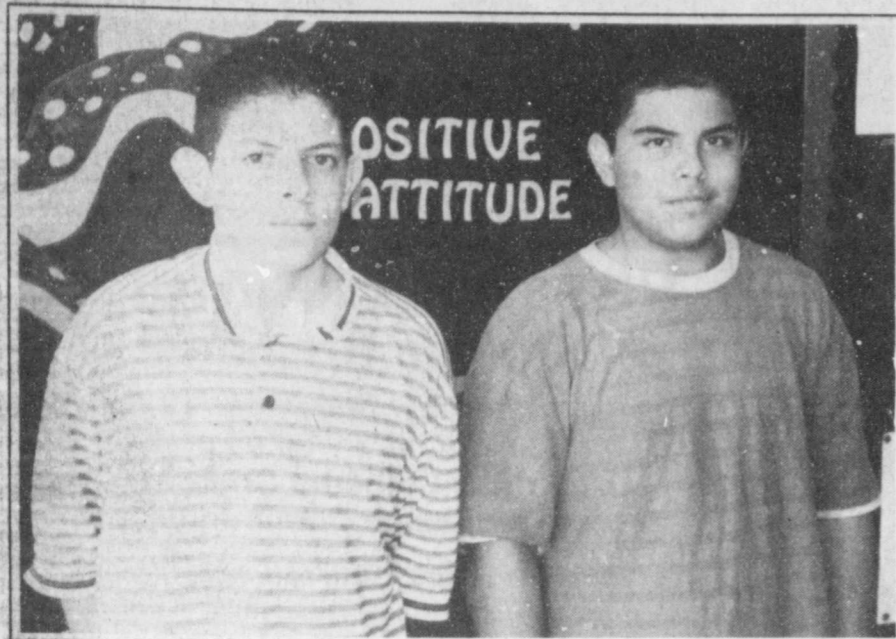
LOCKNEY - FLOYDADA - LOCKNEY - FLOYDADA - LOCKNEY - FLOYDADA - LOCKNEY -

FLOYDADA -

THROUGH THE HALLS

LOCKNEY -

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FLOYDADA TMSCA TEAM PLACES IN TOP TEN-- David Rodriguez (left) placed 5th in the 9th grade science division at a recent TMSCA meet. Stephen Cuevas (right) placed 8th in the 9th grade number sense contest. -- Staff Photo

TMSCA team places 4th at Seminole meet

LOCKNEY--The Math/Science team at Lockney High School traveled to Seminole December 5th and competed in a Math/Science meet. They placed fourth for sweepstakes.

Students and their places are as follows:
 Jessie Ledesma: 7th in Calculator.
 David Martinez: 6th in Calculator and 2nd in Number Sense.
 Melissa Schaeffer: 5th in Math and 6th in Calculator.
 Brandon Hennagan: 6th in Science and 10th in Number Sense.
 Holli Carthel: 9th in Math and 8th in Calculator.
 Kacie Young: 4th in Calculator.
 Amber Wood: 7th in Calculator and 5th in Number Sense.
 Melanie Huggins: 5th in Calculator and 5th in Math.

Hepatitis B immunizations available for nominal fee

By Connie Barnett
 Lockney School Nurse
 LOCKNEY--The Health Department has been working with our community to see that our children are immunized against Hepatitis B. This is usually offered to children between the ages of 11 and 19 for a very small fee, usually \$5.00 to \$10.00. Those of you that have started the series of three shots need to finish them. The lower prices are available for children under age 11 also. These immunizations will increase in price once your child passes the age

of 19. They will be about \$180.00. So save some money and possibly save your child. Get him or her immunized. You can obtain these immunizations from your family physician, the Health Department, or from Danny Clark at Clark's Pharmacy. There is no cure for Hepatitis B.

Support those who support your Community--
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ROLF SHERMAN

Rolf Sherman is certified as private pilot

LOCKNEY--Rolf Sherman, seventeen year old junior at Kress High School, was a very happy young man recently when he became a Certified Private Pilot, which means that he can fly almost anywhere and carry passengers along with him.

Rolf began working toward earning his license in 1992 when he was eleven years old. Joe Vaughn of Kress was his first flight instructor but Floydada resident, Mark Thompson of Miller Flying Service in Plainview, was his instructor when he earned his license. He soloed for the first time last January. To earn his license, Rolf passed a written exam last July and then an oral exam that lasted about four hours, as well as an extensive two hour flight test. His next step is to obtain his instrument rating and commercial license soon after his 18th birthday.

Rolf comes by wanting to fly naturally since his father, Tommy, owns and operates Sherman Aviation in Lockney. His mother, June, is a teacher at Plainview High School. When Tommy and Rolf bought a Bellanca Scott together recently, it enabled him to be able to put in more flight time. Rolf stated, "I have wanted to fly an airplane all my life." Now his dream has come true, due to his hard work and determination.

Thad Lusk and Lacey Aston named 1998-99 Mr. and Miss LHS

LOCKNEY--Thad Lusk and Lacey Aston were named Mr. and Miss LHS for 1998-99 during an awards ceremony held Saturday November 7.

Also nominated for Miss LHS were Amy Davis, Sarah Martin, Dana Martinez, Lindi Miller, and Tessa Stapp.

Daniel Banda, Calvin Collins, Ryan Graves, Hank Henderson, and Brett McQuhae were nominees for Mr. LHS.

Miss Aston is a senior and the daughter of Ronnie and Trina Aston. Lusk is a senior and the son of Raymond and Martha Sue Lusk.

Also honored were Class Favorites, Most Studious, Most Dependable, Most Courteous, Class Clown, and Most Attractive.

CLASS FAVORITE

Seniors: Lacey Aston, Thad Lusk; Juniors: Nicole Mosley, Jordan Lambert; Sophomores: Karlon Hooten, Chase Graves; Freshmen: Jenna Ford, Jared Lambert.

MOST STUDIOUS

Seniors: Lindi Miller, Brett McQuhae; Juniors: Nicole Mosley, Danny Huggins; Sophomores: Melissa Schaeffer, Jeffery Hunter; Freshmen: Melanie Huggins, Wade Miller.

MOST DEPENDABLE

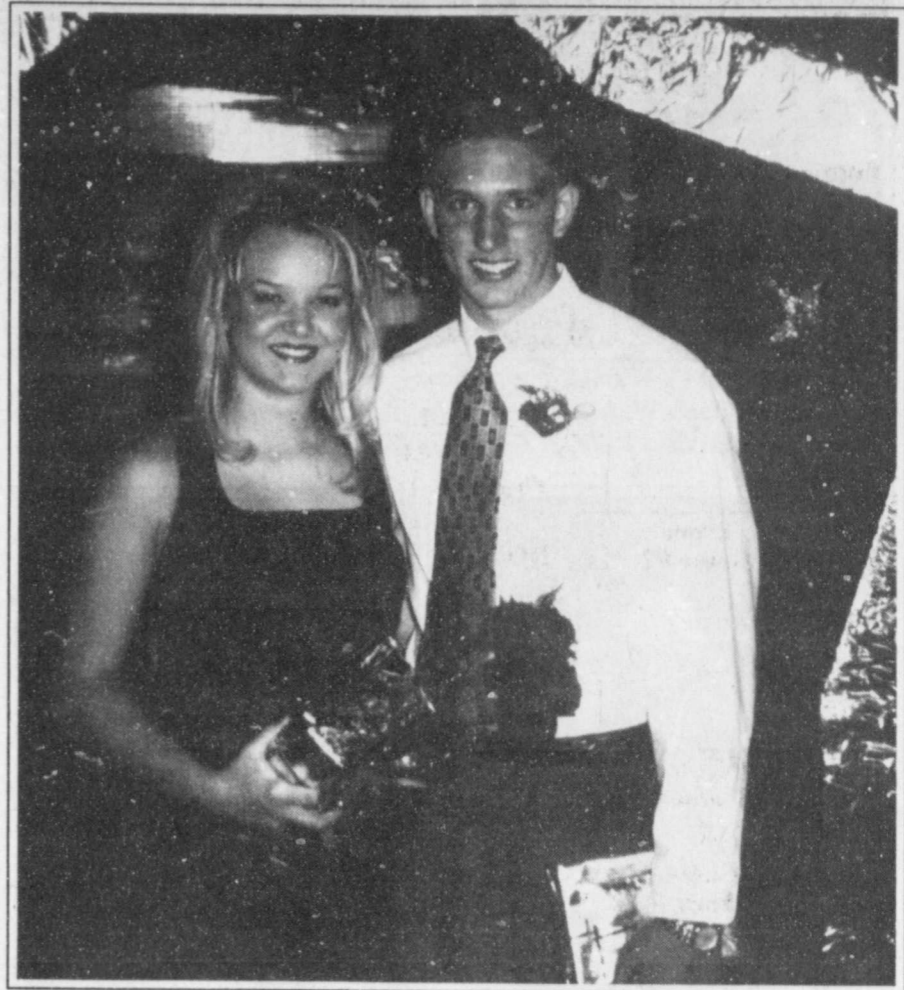
Seniors: Ana Zavala, Calvin Collins; Juniors: Fany Cruz, Jessie Ledesma; Sophomores: Lexi Jones, Jeffery Hunter; Freshmen: Alana Gallaway, Wade Miller.

MOST COURTEOUS

Seniors: Sarah Martin, Calvin Collins; Juniors: Leticia Garcia, Jessie Ledesma; Sophomores: Lexi Jones, Jeffery Hunter; Freshmen: Jenna Ford, Wade Miller.

CLASS CLOWN

Seniors: Lilia Mondragon, Chris Mayo; Juniors: Brooke Hooten, Josh



SENIORS RECOGNIZED-- Lacey Aston was named 1998 Miss LHS and Thad Lusk Mr. LHS in ceremonies recognizing class favorites. Photo Courtesy LHS Annual Staff

Quebe; Sophomores: Lexi Jones, Chase Graves; Freshmen: Vanessa Walker, Chas Westbrook.

MOST ATTRACTIVE

Seniors: Lacey Aston, Sarah Martin, Tessa Stapp, Thad Lusk, Ryan Graves, Marc Wilson;

Juniors: Ally Clark, Courtney Cummings, Nicole Mosley, Kaci McLain, Jordan Lambert, Jessie Ledesma, David Martinez.

Sophomores: Karlon Hooten, Lexi Jones, Desha Smith, Chase Graves, Kelsey Hooten, Kelsey Schumacher. Freshmen: Jenna Ford, Alana Gallaway, Jessica Gilly, Jamie Cerda, Frankie Gonzales, Jared Lambert, Tyler Snow.

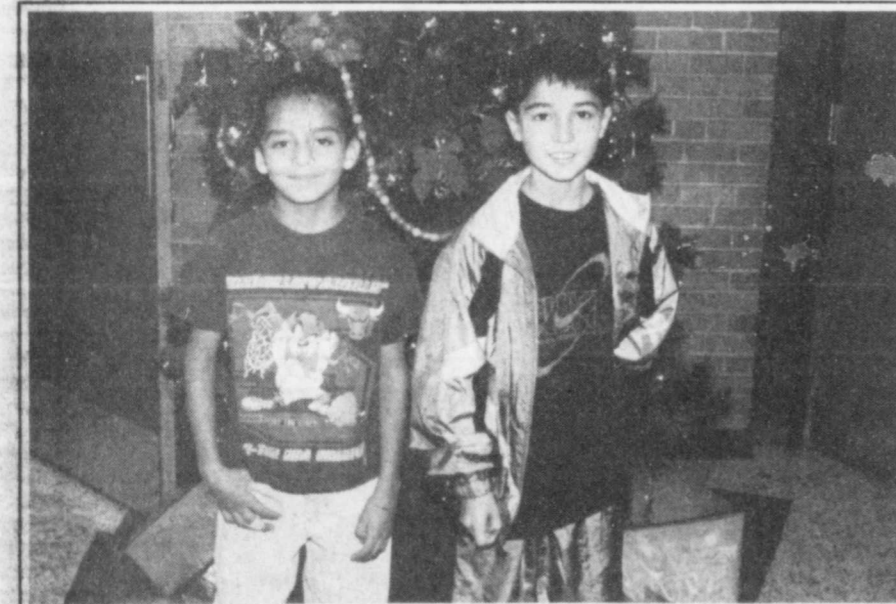
A dance was held following the ceremony. The theme for the program and dance was "Magic Time Machine."



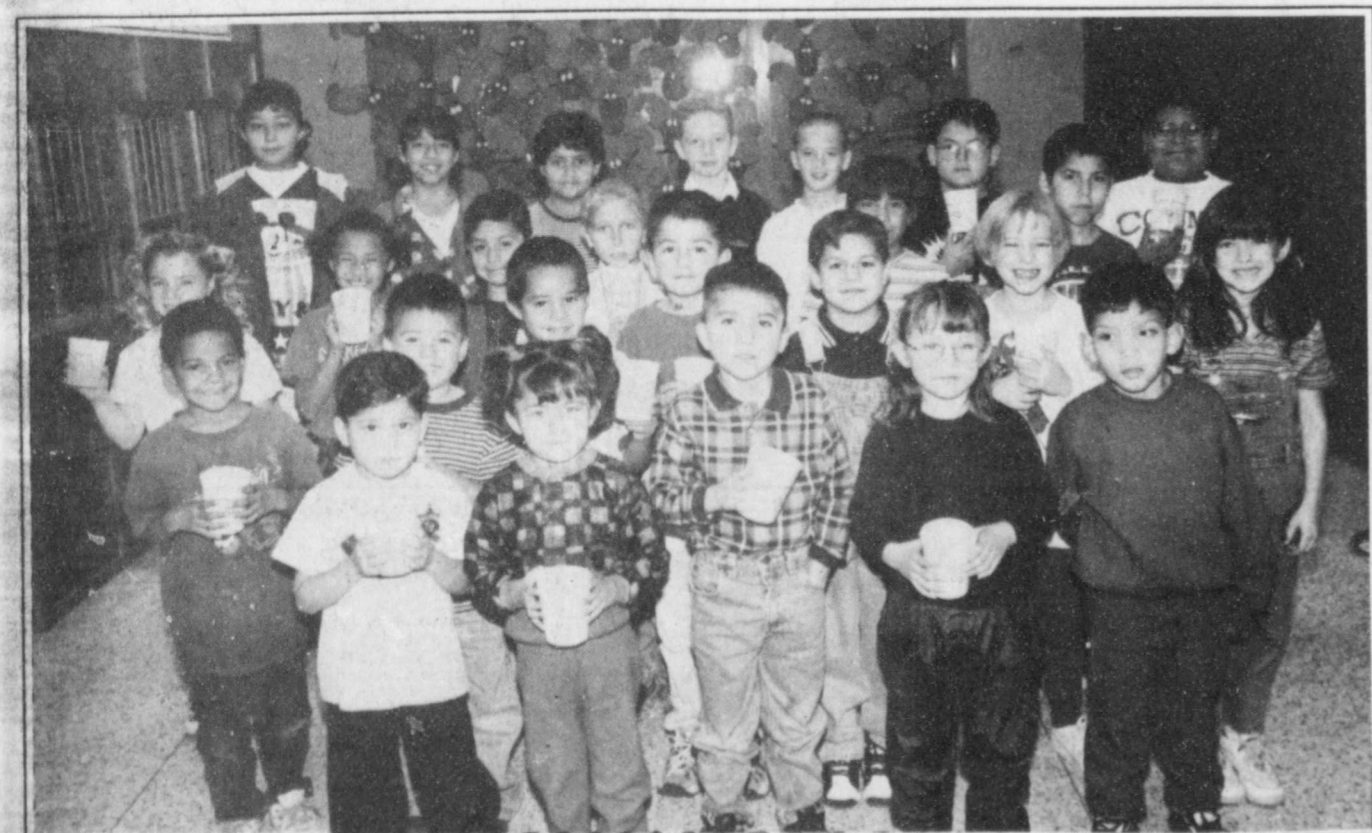
MR. AND MISS LHS NOMINEES--Students nominated were (l-r, back row) Daniel Banda, Calvin Collins, Ryan Graves, Thad Lusk, Hank Henderson, Brett McQuhae; (l-r, front) Amy Davis, Sarah Martin, Lacey Aston, Lindi Miller, Tessa Stapp, Dana Martinez. Photo Courtesy LHS Annual Staff



LAB PALS SELECTED--Students selected as C.E.I. Computer Lab Pals for the week of December 7-11 at Lockney Elementary School are (l-r) Martin Mendoza and Cameron Gonzales. Staff Photo



LAB PALS CHOSEN--Students selected as C.E.I. Computer Lab Pals for the week of November 30 to December 4 at Lockney Elementary School are (l-r) Daniel Atkinson and Carlos Arce. Staff Photo



LITTLE LONGHORNS NAMED--Selected as Little Longhorns for the week of December 7 to 11 at Lockney Elementary School were (l-r, back row) Denice Muniz, Tania Pesina, Lydia Mendoza, Rion Afill, James Rockwell, Miguel Duron, Mario Comacho; (l-r, row 3) Lexi Terrell, Polly Gomez, Lorenzo Salazar, Ryker Cabler, Amando Gonzales, Greg Gonzales; (l-r, row 2) Saul Gomez, Rico Rodriguez, Adam Contreras, James Mercado, Jessie Perales, Caitlann Wiley, Danetta McCullough; (l-r, front row) Reon Raissez, Scarlett Hernandez, Christopher Rodriguez, Jasmin Rodriguez, Nathan Mendez. Staff Photo

Floydada School Menu

December 14-18
Monday
 Breakfast- Juice, cinnamon toast, milk
 Lunch- Chicken Fried Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, hot roll, milk
Tuesday
 Breakfast- Juice, toast, jelly, milk
 Lunch- Frito pie, pinto beans, spinach, peaches, cornbread, milk
Wednesday
 Breakfast- Juice, scrambled eggs, toast, milk
 Lunch- Pizza, corn, pickle spears, cake, milk
Thursday
 Breakfast- Juice, pancakes, syrup, milk
 Lunch- Burrito with taco sauce, spanish rice, tossed salad, jello with fruit, tostada rounds, milk
Friday
 Breakfast- Juice, cereal, graham crackers, milk
 Lunch- Hamburger, french fries, lettuce, tomato, pickles, milk

Lockney School Menu

December 14-18
MONDAY
 Breakfast - Donut, cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch - Steak fingers/PBJ sandwich, mashed potatoes, salad, fruit, hot rolls, milk
TUESDAY
 Breakfast - Sausage, cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch - Sloppy Joe/ham & cheese on bun, french fries, fruit, corn, milk
WEDNESDAY
 Breakfast - Rice, cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch - Turkey & Dressing/ham, green beans, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, fruit, hot rolls, milk
THURSDAY
 Breakfast - Ham, toast, cereals, juice, milk
 Lunch - Pizza/corn dog, salad, fruit, milk
FRIDAY
 Breakfast - Cinnamon rolls, cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch - Hot pocket, fruit, milk, pickle spear, fruit, milk

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Perez completes course in electronic security systems

LOCKNEY--Air Force Airman Roger L. Perez has completed the electronic security systems assessment apprentice course at Goodfellow Air Force Base, San Angelo. The student was taught the fundamentals of communications systems, communication systems monitoring, and other basic applications of Department of Defense and U.S. Air Force information security programs. Perez will be assigned to Hurlburt Field, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. He is the son of Julio and Josie Perez of Floydada. The airman is a 1995 graduate of Lockney High School and a 1996 graduate of American Commercial College of Lubbock.

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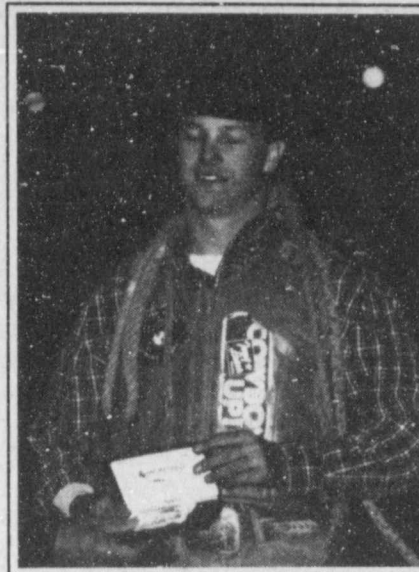
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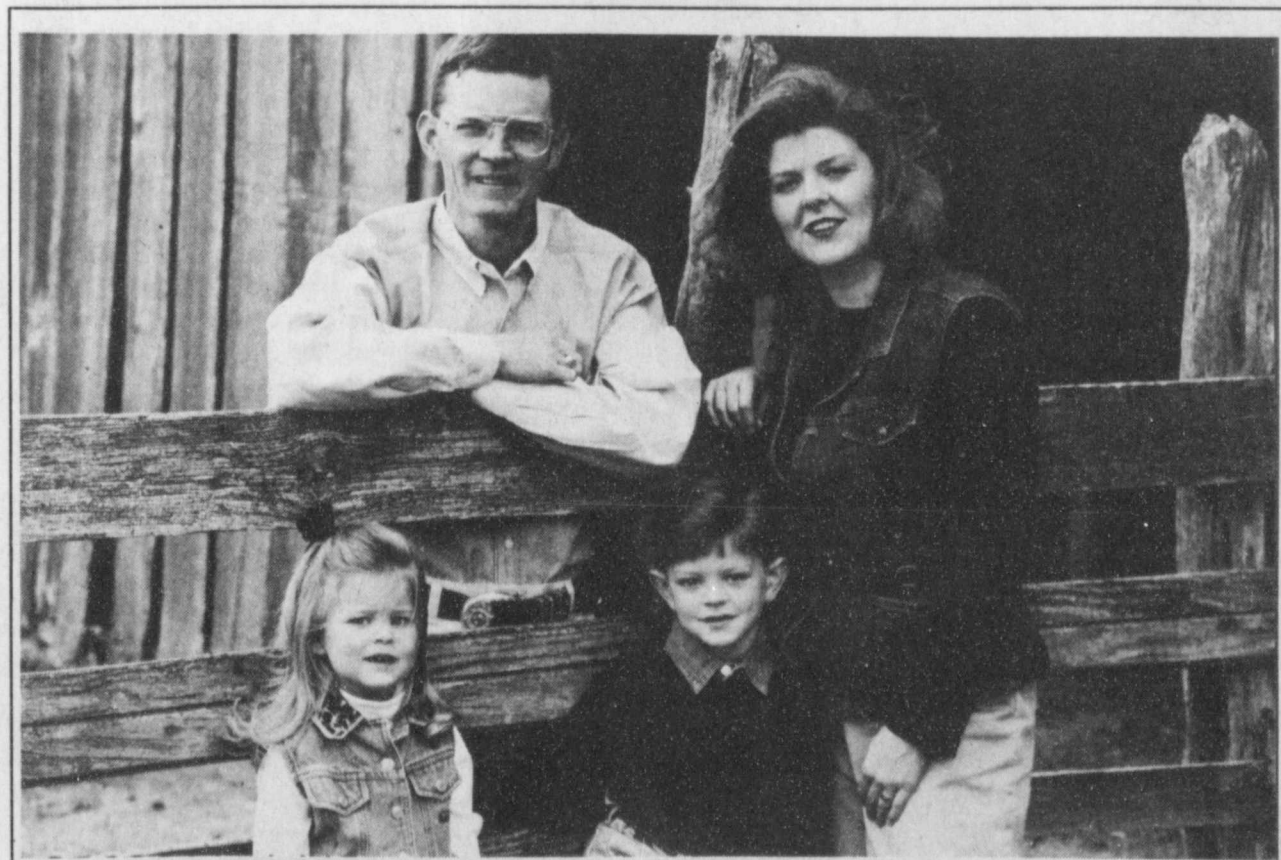


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FLOYD COUNTY NEWS



CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



TEXANS SOUND OFF ON DROUGHT RELIEF EFFORTS

Late last summer this column included a list of questions seeking readers' opinions about issues currently in the forefront of public debate. As has been the case in previous years, your answers were overwhelming, and I would like to thank this newspaper for allowing me to communicate with you this way.

The next several columns will address both the questions asked, and the responses you provided.

The first set of questions I posed to Texans was:

1) This summer's drought has taken a dreadful toll on Texas, particularly the agricultural sector of our state economy. Much of my work this summer has focused on getting federal assistance to those who desperately need it. Are you satisfied that both federal and state agencies have worked together as efficiently as possible to get drought relief to Texas?

Yes ___ No ___ What would you have done differently?

Forty-nine percent of you responded that you were satisfied with efforts to get federal assistance to those who needed it; 51 percent saw room for improvement.

And boy, did I get number of hot answers to this one. Here are some of your comments on this issue:

From La Porte: "Speed up the application process!"

From Hempstead: "Relief was too long in filtering down to those who need it."

From San Saba: "The process for getting this aid needs to be more streamlined, and with less bureaucratic red tape."

From Brookston: "Assistance is restricted to those with 'X' number of acres or more. It doesn't help the little man, who needs help the most. I have a small acreage and try to raise bottle calves. This assistance won't help me, so in essence I'm out of business."

From Manvel: "The ranchers are complaining that they got the help too late for their herds. The hay was a welcome sight, but not nearly sufficient."

From Atlanta: "They should have used the National Guard to deliver hay and other feed. It would give them practice in logistics."

From Rockwall: "The government should have given cash assistance right away."

From DeKalb: "I suggest setting up grants for next year's planting based on this year's losses."

From Crockett: "Federal government should have worked closer with the county agricultural agents."

From Clarksville: "Cattlemen need more assistance. Farmers have a need for better crop insurance. Both need higher prices."

From Romayor: "We need a new program to build up stock ponds and another dam on the Trinity River in Anderson County for flood control, and to impound the water."

From Pettus: "I wouldn't do anything differently. They did a good job."

From Crockett: "The only thing that would help us is rain."

From San Antonio: "The federal government should be engaged in long-term water development projects."

A reader from South Texas more resigned to fate wrote: "Drought is a part of life. We have to live it."

Regardless of how we earn our livings, we all have a stake in Texas agriculture. Last summer's drought, and our efforts to respond to it constructively, have taught us lessons in how to deal with such disasters. I intend to work for quicker, more responsive drought relief measures when they are needed in the future—as inevitably they will be.

Schweitzer saddle search in progress

By **Marisue Potts**

From what began as a quest for information about his own Schweitzer saddle, writer Bruce McGinnis of Amarillo has been drawn into documenting the life and times of a Matador saddle maker, H.H. Schweitzer.

An intensive search for information and whereabouts of all the saddles crafted by Houston Schweitzer from 1922 to 1956 is underway by the long time Amarillo College professor. McGinnis, the author of *Fences, Sweet Cane, and Reflections in Dark Glass, the Life and Times of John Wesley Hardin*, is currently writing a book about the famed saddle maker and his accomplishments.

According to McGinnis, there is a certain mystique about the reputation of Schweitzer, that far surpasses even the fine workmanship of the self taught craftsman who began by restringing and repairing saddles for Matador Ranch cowboys. "When people start talking about H.H. Schweitzer, there is an awe, a sense of reverence, that comes into their voices," he said.

Indeed, after Schweitzer was featured with a full page in a 1940 Life Magazine article about the Matador Ranch, he became something of a celebrity, as well as a lonely hearts go between. Young women wrote scores of letters to the only name and place mentioned in the text, H.H. Schweitzer, Matador, Texas, in hopes that they might exchange letters and possibly meet a real live cowboy. McGinnis is curious. Which cowboys on the Matador Ranch received such letters lead to a match?

Through material provided by the family and interviews with Bert Schweitzer, who worked with his father for several years under the stamp of H.H. Schweitzer & Son, McGinnis is well along in his research on the book. However, many concrete facts about Schweitzer's life remain elusive.

"Exactly when in 1924, did he open his shop in the tin building in Matador, and exactly when did he move into the brick building behind the Masonic Lodge?" he asks. "When was the Poinsettia tooling first used? Where are Catalogs 3,4,6,8 and 9? And were is the final order book? How many cowboys from ranches in surrounding counties ordered Schweitzers? How widespread was his reputation?"

Perhaps one of the most challenging tasks McGinnis has set out for himself is trying to match as many of the existing saddles of the 1600's made with their original handwritten notation in the order book. To this end, he hopes to interview as many people as possible and get photographs of them with their saddles.

Since most of the Schweitzer saddles were made for working cowboys, of special interest are the rare, fancy saddles made for customers such as C.R. Wilson of Paducah. The Wilson saddle, completed in 1947, was hand tooled with a floral design set off with silver and gold trimmings for the then fantastic sum of \$450.00. The owner's name, C.R. Wilson, was carved into the front of the cantle and on the back, his brand. After Wilson's death, the saddle was sold, but the

family has no recollection to whom. Naturally, McGinnis would like very much to locate this saddle and feature it in his publication.

Meanwhile, on weekends and during college breaks, McGinnis continues his search for any clues about Schweitzer and his artistry. People who have Schweitzer saddles or any information on the whereabouts of the saddles and other leather goods, or anecdotes about the saddle maker are urged to contact Bruce McGinnis, 3401 S. Lipscomb, Amarillo, Texas 79109, (806) 359-1007, after 6 p.m., or Marisue Potts of the Motley County Museum, Route 4, Box 115, Floydada, Texas 79235, (806) 983-1372.

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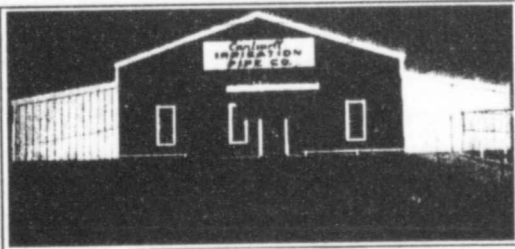
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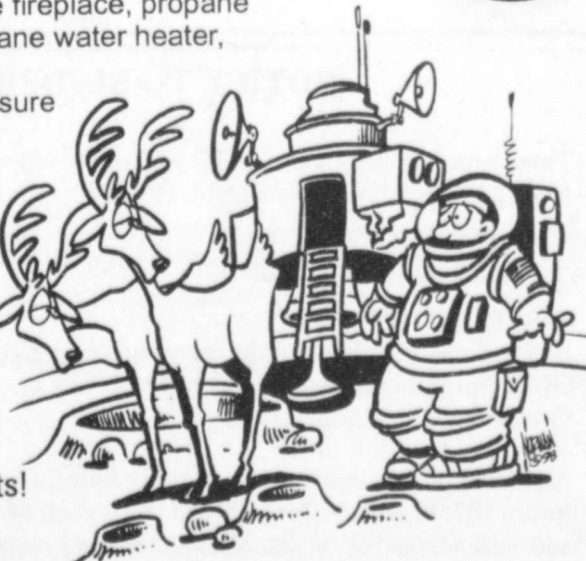
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